

**1/10/2019**

## **PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TEMPORARY CLOSURE NO LONGER NECESSARY**

**JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK, Twentynine Palms, Calif.** – By immediately utilizing revenue generated by recreation fees, National Park Service officials have been able to avert a temporary closure of Joshua Tree National Park that had been previously scheduled for January 10. In addition, recently closed areas of the park will once again be accessible to visitors starting January 10. Some visitor services, including campgrounds and entrance stations, will reopen utilizing recreation fee revenue.

All areas that have been recently closed will be accessible to park visitors starting on Thursday, January 10, including:

- All campgrounds
- Stirrup Tank Road
- Lost Horse Mine Road and Trail
- Key's View Road
- Rattlesnake Canyon Picnic Area and Road

National Park Service officials have determined that by using Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds to immediately bring back park maintenance crews to address sanitation issues, the park will be able to maintain some visitor services, including reopening the campgrounds. The park will also bring on additional staff to ensure the protection of park resources and mitigate some of the damage that has occurred during the lapse of appropriations.

Outdoor areas of the park will remain accessible. Most facilities will remain closed with the exception of the Joshua Tree Visitor Center at 6554 Park Boulevard, owned and operated by the Joshua Tree National Park Association. The four National Park Service visitor centers will remain closed for the duration of the lapse in appropriations.

Entrance stations will be open to provide safety and resource protection messages to arriving visitors, but entrance fees and camping fees will not be collected.

The park expresses its appreciation for the contributions of local volunteers, who provided basic sanitation at campgrounds and other closed areas during the lapse in appropriations. Their efforts have contributed significantly to the reopening of campgrounds and restoring access to other closed areas of Joshua Tree National Park.

**CONTACT**  
NPS