



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Joshua Tree National Park
74485 National Park Drive
Twentynine Palms, California 92277-3597

February 17, 2021

Memorandum

To: File

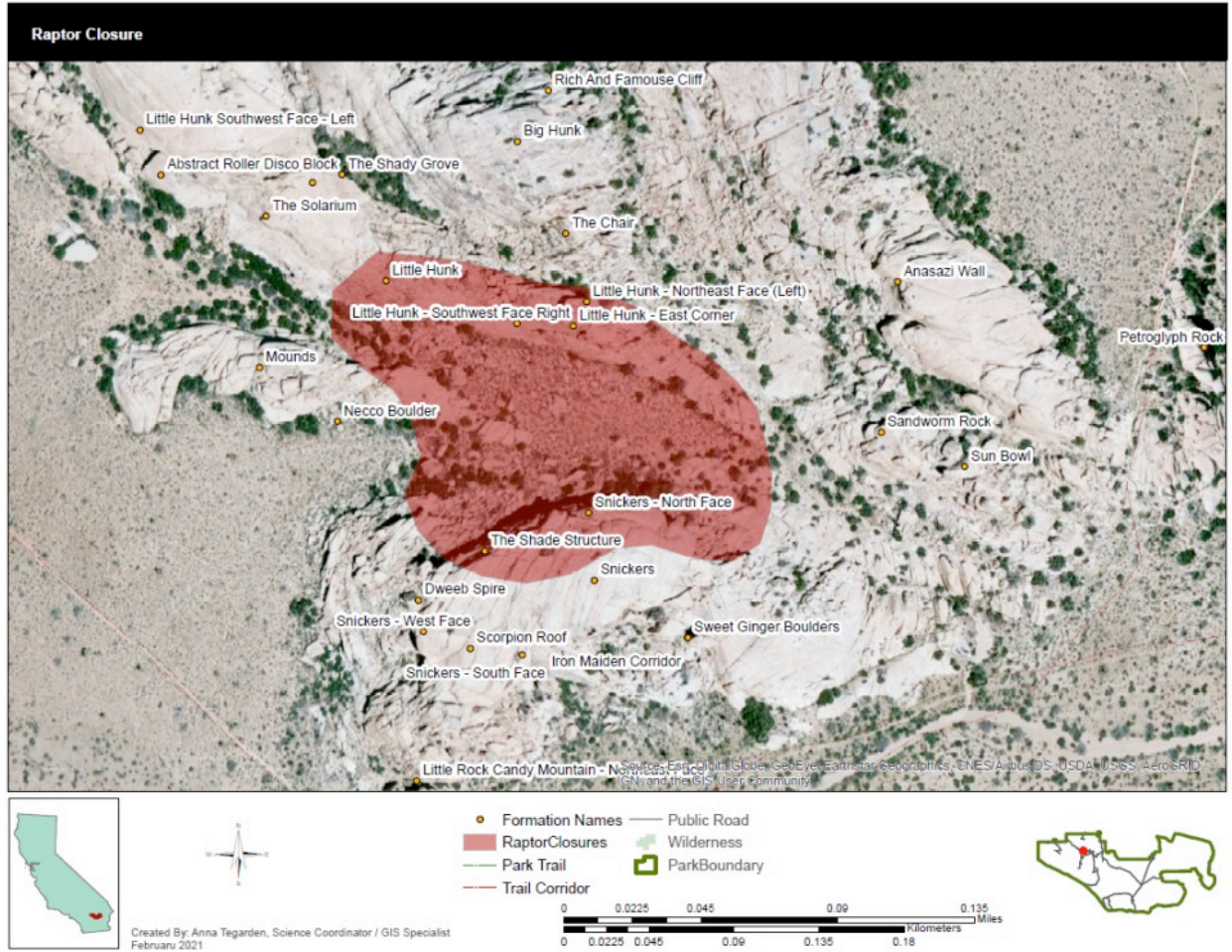
From: David Smith, Superintendent

Subject: Temporary Emergency Closure for Nesting Raptors

By the authority vested in me under Title 36 C.F.R. section 1.5 (a) (1), I hereby order the climbing area described as “Little Hunk” and “Snickers” (just east of Echo Cove) and all lands shown below closed to all public entry and public use activities. This is designated as an emergency situation for the protection of natural resources.

Specifically, the presence of a pair of Prairie Falcons (*Falco mexicanus*) nesting in very close proximity to a variety of climbing and bouldering areas (Climbing areas include: The Shade Structure, Snickers - North Face, Little Hunk, Little Hunk - Southwest Face Right, Little Hunk - East Corner, Little Hunk - Northeast Face (Left)) requires closure until the nest has been abandoned to ensure the protection of the species for the duration of the nesting activities. This action is described as an emergency closure as the pair of raptors in question are exhibiting nesting behaviors.

This closure will be in effect from February 18, 2021 until June 15, 2021; or until the nest has been abandoned.



Checklist

LE Ranger Consult _____ Name _____

Closure Approved by Superintendent _____

Document Sent to Division Chiefs _____

Public Notification (PIO) _____

Signage Installed _____ Name _____ Location(s) _____