

Cottonwood Day Hikes

National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Joshua Tree National Park

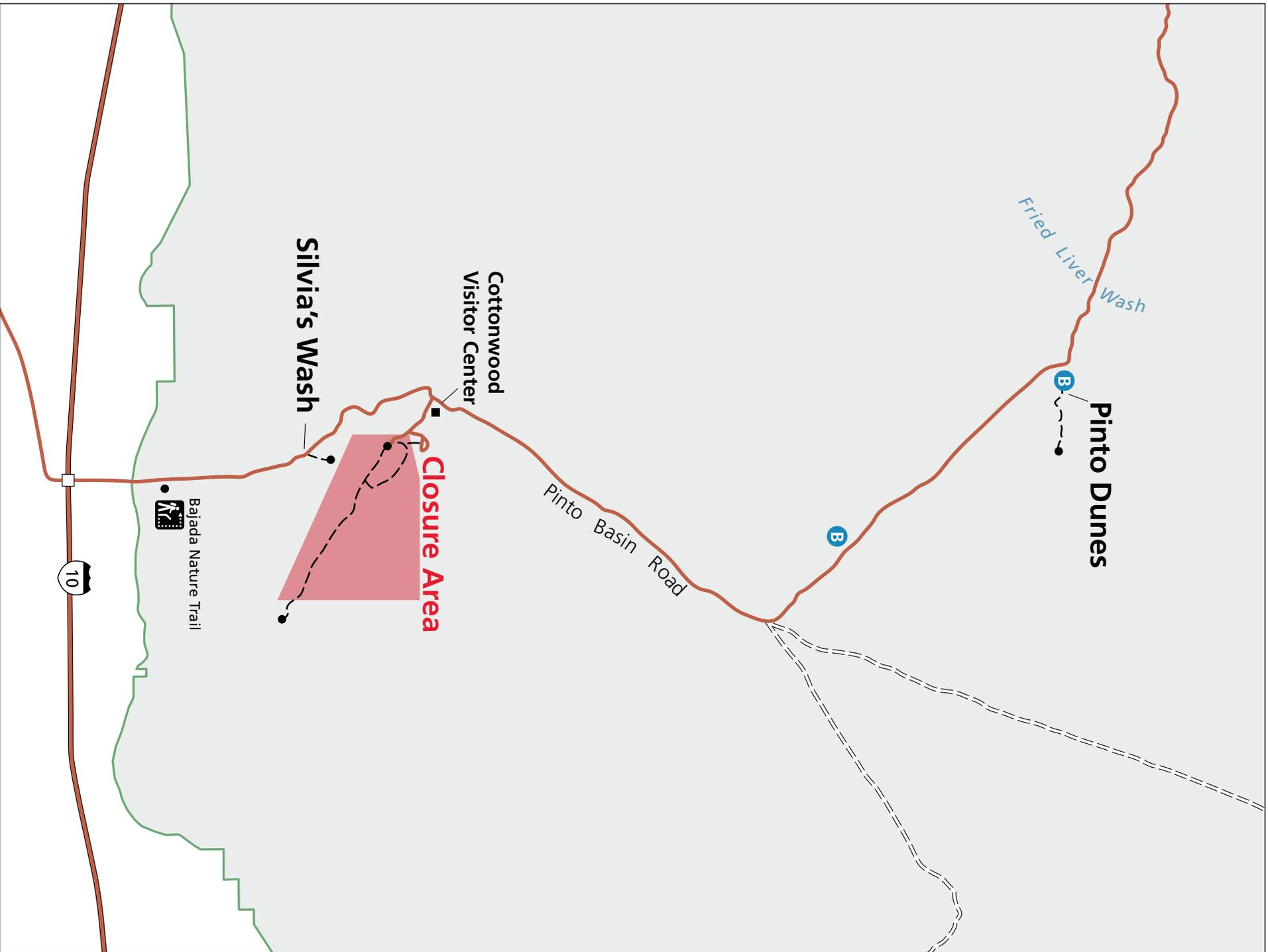


Since trail access remains closed to Cottonwood Spring Oasis, Lost Palms Oasis, and Mastodon Peak, here are some alternate hiking opportunities in the area.

Hike	Distance Round Trip	Starting Point	Description
Bajada All-Access Trail	.25-mile loop	South of Cottonwood, one-half mile from the southern entrance to the park.	Accessible; plants of the Colorado Desert
Silvia's Wash	1.5 miles	Park in the east-side pullout 2.6 miles south of Cottonwood Visitor Center at mile marker 33.	The mouth of the wash is large, flat, and sandy. Walk to a rocky shelf and boulders leading to a "cave." Easy with some rock scrambling.
Barrow Pit	.5 miles	Park in the east-side pullout 2.4 miles north of Cottonwood Visitor Center. It is about a tenth of a mile north of mile marker 28.	Follow the almost-erased trail .25 miles to a former barrow pit (where gravel was "borrowed" for road building). Easy.
Pinto Dunes	2 miles	Park at the Turkey Flats backcountry board 13.8 miles north of Cottonwood Visitor Center.	Head east to the low ridge of sand dunes that are visible from the parking area. Look for dune primrose and desert lily in Spring. Easy. Be extremely cautious of burrows and collapsing holes.

Most of these hikes are not developed trails: there are no signs or arrows. Carefully note landmarks, compass bearings, or GPS points so that you can get back to your car! Do not walk in washes if rain threatens.

Backcountry hikes to the Eagle Mountains and to Pinto Mountain, as well as the hike to Conejo Well, require topo maps, compass skills, and specialized knowledge. Stop at Cottonwood Visitor Center for planning help.



Pinto Dunes

Fried Liver Wash

Pinto Basin Road

Cottonwood Visitor Center

Silvia's Wash

Bajada Nature Trail

Closure Area

10

B

B