



**Superintendent's Compendium**  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements  
and Other Restrictions Imposed Under  
Discretionary Authority.

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Approved:

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**Joseph P. Sánchez**, Superintendent

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In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following regulatory provisions are established for the proper management, protection, government and public use of those portions of Petroglyph National Monument under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

**I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES**

**(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the Petroglyph National Monument to all public use or to a certain use or activity without a permit:**

**Visiting Hours:**

Las Imágenes Visitor Center, Access Road, and Parking Area: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Rinconada Canyon Parking Area: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Volcanoes Day Use Parking Area: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Public use of all other NPS-administered areas of the national monument shall be limited from 30-minutes prior to sunrise to 30-minutes after sunset. (Times for sunrise and sunset as published for Albuquerque, New Mexico in area newspapers).

**Reason for the Determination:**

Petroglyph National Monument does not maintain staffing, including law enforcement and maintenance, on a 24-hour basis. Lack of artificial lighting on park trails and primitive roadways throughout the national monument may foster an unsafe environment during the evening hours leading to visitor injuries. The national monument has a documented history of vandalism including graffiti and gun shot damage to the petroglyphs: the national monument's primary resource. This damage has commonly occurred during hours of darkness when the park is unstaffed and illegal activity is unlikely to be witnessed by other visitors.

**Why Less Restrictive Measures Won't Suffice:**

Due to limited staffing and resources, the park cannot provide 24-hour law enforcement coverage. The lack of patrol coverage during the closure hours presents a threat to the safety of individuals within the national monument. There are no facilities such as restrooms or telephones available during these hours. This closure is also consistent with current City of Albuquerque Open Space Ordinances prohibiting remaining on Open Space managed lands within the national monument after dark.

## **SPECIAL CLOSURES**

### **Rock climbing or scrambling whether technical (aided) or free (unaided) is prohibited in all NPS-administered areas of the monument.**

#### **Reason for the Determination:**

Allowing rock climbing in any NPS-administered areas of the monument would be contrary to the reasons for the establishment of Petroglyph National Monument and the national monument's General Management Plan. Rock climbing, even on a limited basis, could result in unacceptable damage to natural and cultural resources. Specifically, petroglyphs, other archeological sites, and raptor habitat are located in close proximity to several areas attractive to climbers including Mesa Prieta at the south end of the monument.

#### **Why Less Restrictive Measures Won't Suffice:**

The Monument contains an estimated 20,000 petroglyph images. Not all the images have been catalogued and while concentrated in several key areas, may be present throughout the national monument's entire rock escarpment. Petroglyphs are vulnerable to intentional and unintentional destruction. Unintentional damage may be caused by climbers touching or rubbing the petroglyphs. Petroglyphs are vulnerable to oils from human hands and people climbing on them (which erode the patina). In addition, future scientific study of the rocks and the petroglyphs may be impeded because of the accumulation of oils from human hands.

### **Hot air balloon landings are prohibited in all National Park Service (NPS) - Administered areas of Petroglyph National Monument.**

#### **Reason for the Determination:**

Hot air balloon landings in any NPS-administered areas of the national monument would be contrary to the reasons for the establishment of the national monument as well as the national monument's General Management Plan. Balloon landings are unpredictable and destructive to fragile desert grass lands and archeological sites and structures. The landing of hot air balloons may cause unacceptable damage to natural and cultural resources.

#### **Why Less Restrictive Measures Won't Suffice:**

Allowing balloon landings in any of the NPS - Administered areas of the national monument will indiscriminately damage fragile archeological sites. Petroglyph National Monument lands contain significant archeological sites which are either listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. More than 350 archeological sites and over 20,000 petroglyphs are located within the national monument boundaries.

Many of these sites are fragile in nature and easily impacted by unauthorized uses. Unauthorized landings can endanger persons, property and archeological structures and also impair the visitor experience. There is also a danger of wildland fire due to the nature of park grass habitat and high fuel loads being ignited by the fuel used to produce hot air for balloon flight. It is imperative that land disturbing activities be minimized. Hot air balloon landings shall not be permitted.

**I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES**

**(a)(2) The following areas have been designated for a specific use or activity, under the conditions and/or restrictions as noted:**

Horses and Pack Animals:

- Please refer to §2.16 of this compendium.

Skating, Skateboards, and Similar Devices:

- Please refer to §2.20 of this compendium.

Livestock Use and Agriculture:

- Please refer to §2.60 of this compendium.

Bicycles:

- Please refer to §4.30 of this compendium.

**II. 36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT**

All inquiries related to permitted activities and/or requests for permits should be directed to:

Superintendent  
Petroglyph National Monument  
6001 Unser Blvd. NW  
Albuquerque, NM. 87120

Phone: 505-899-0205

Fax: 505-899-0207

**(f) The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the Superintendent is required:**

- §1.5(d) The following activities related to Public Use Limits:

Vehicle parking before and/or after established visiting hours.

Las Imágenes Visitor Center, Access Road, and Parking Area: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Rinconada Canyon Parking Area: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Volcanoes Day Use Parking Area: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

- §2.4(d) Carrying or possessing a weapon, trap, or net.
- §2.5(a) Specimen collecting (take plants, fish, wildlife, rocks or minerals).
- §2.12 Audio Disturbances:
  - (a)(2) Operating a chain saw in developed areas.
  - (a)(3) Operation of any type of portable motor or engine, or device powered by a portable motor or engine in non-developed areas.
  - (a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51.

- §2.17 Aircraft & Air Delivery
  - (a)(3) Delivery or retrieval of a person or object by parachute, helicopter or other airborne means.
  - (c)(1) Removal of a downed aircraft.
- §2.23 Recreation Fees.
- §2.37 Noncommercial soliciting or demanding gifts, money goods or services.
- §2.38 Explosives:
  - (a) Use, possess, store, transport explosives, blasting agents
  - (b) Using or possessing fireworks or firecrackers
- §2.50(a) Conducting a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony and similar events.
- §2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views.
- §2.52(c) Sale or distribution of printer matter that is not solely commercial advertising.
- §2.60(b) Livestock use.
- §2.61(a) Residing on federal lands.
- §2.62(b) Memorialization - (Scattering ashes from human cremation).
- §4.11(a) Exceeding of established vehicle load, weight and size limits.
- §5.1 Advertisements - (Display, posting or distribution).
- §5.2(b) Sale of intoxicants in certain park areas.
- §5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business (requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).
- §5.4(a) Commercial transportation of passengers by motor vehicles within specific parks. (See chapter for applicable parks).
- §5.5 Commercial Photography/Filming:
  - (a) Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television.
  - (b) Still photography of vehicles, or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising.
- §5.6(c) Use of commercial vehicles on park area roads.
- §5.7 Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, roads, boat docks, path, structure, etc.
- §5.10(a) Operation of eating, drinking, or lodging establishments in certain park areas (see chapter for detail).
- §6.9(a) Operation of a solid waste disposal site.
- Part 14 Rights-Of-Way.
- Part 17 Conveyance of Freehold and Leasehold Interests on NPS Lands.

### **III. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

#### **36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

**(a)(5) The following conditions are in effect for walking, climbing, entering, ascending or traversing the listed archeological or cultural resource, monuments or statues:**

**(b) Hiking or pedestrian traffic is restricted to the trail tread or walkway on the following trails/walkways:**

- Rinconada Canyon Trail. Closures and or restrictions will be posted once a formal visitor use plan or trail plan is implemented. Closures will be posted where damage to resources is obvious and/or which may pose an obvious danger to trail users, and/or once a trail system has been established and created as a written document for the Monument.

#### **36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING and FOOD STORAGE**

There are no designated camping areas within the NPS-administered areas of the monument.

#### **36 CFR 2.13 – FIRES**

There are no designated areas or receptacles for lighting or maintaining a fire within the NPS-administered areas of the monument.

**(a)(2) The following restrictions are in effect for the use of stoves or lanterns:**

- The use of a propane, gas, or any other fuel powered “Coleman” type stove or lantern is limited to the Las Imágenes Visitor Center Parking Lot, Rinconada Canyon Parking Lot, and the Volcano Day Use Parking Lot.

**(c) High fire danger closures will be in effect as noted:**

- All use of lanterns or stoves will be prohibited if fire danger dictates.

#### **36 CFR §2.14 – SANITATION and REFUSE**

**(a)(2) The use of government refuse receptacles or facilities for dumping household, commercial or industrial refuse, brought as such from private or municipal property are prohibited.**

**(b) Conditions for the disposal, containerization, or carryout of human body waste have been established for the following:**

- Pit toilets have been established at designated trailheads and the visitor center.

#### **36 CFR §2.15 – PETS**

**(a)(1) Pets are allowed only in designated areas.**

- Closures will be posted once a formal visitor use plan or trail plan is implemented. Closures will be posted where damage to resources is obvious and/or which may pose an obvious danger to trail users, and/or once a trail system has been established and created as a written document for the Monument.

**(a)(3) Pets may be left tied to an object under the following conditions:**

- Life threatening emergencies.

**(a)(5) Pet excrement must be disposed of whenever the pet is within the boundary of the national monument, no exceptions.**

- Garbage cans will be available for pet excrement at Volcanoes Trail Head, Rinconada Canyon Trail Head, Visitor Center and park headquarters.

### **36 CFR §2.16 – HORSES and PACK ANIMALS**

**(a) The following animals are designated as pack animals:**

- Horses
- Mules
- Burros
- Llamas

**(b)** The use of horses or pack animals is permitted only on mesa top trails. Horses or pack animals may cross the escarpment only where designated. Closures will be posted once a formal visitor use plan or trail plan is implemented. Closures will be posted where damage to resources is obvious and/or which may pose an obvious danger to trail users, and/or once a trail system has been established and created as a written document for the Monument.

**(c)** The use of horses or pack animals is prohibited from all paved park roadways unless expressly permitted by the Superintendent.

**(d)** Free trailing or loose-herding is not permitted.

### **36 CFR §2.17 – AIRCRAFT and AIR DELIVERY**

(c)(1) The owner(s) of a downed aircraft must provide the superintendent's office with written notice at least two days before entering the national monument to remove the aircraft. In accordance with 36 C.F.R. subsection 2.17(c), at that time the Superintendent may specify additional procedures for removing the aircraft.

(d) The use of aircraft shall be in accordance with regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration. Such regulations, including but not limited to the following, are adopted as a part of these regulations.

- **14CFR Part 91 §91.119 – Minimum safe altitudes: General.**

**Except when necessary for takeoff or landing, no person may operate an aircraft below the following altitudes:**

- (a) Anywhere. An altitude allowing, if a power unit fails, an emergency landing without due hazard to persons or property on the surface.**
- (b) Over congested areas. Over any congested area of a city, town, or settlement, or over any open air assembly of persons, an altitude of 1,000 feet above the highest obstacle within a horizontal radius of 2,000 feet of the aircraft.**
- (c) Over other than congested areas. An altitude of 500 feet above the surface, except over open water or sparsely populated areas. In those cases, the aircraft may not be operated closer than 500 feet to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure.**
- (d) Helicopters. Helicopters may be operated at less than the minimums prescribed in paragraph (b) or (c) of this section if the operation is conducted without hazard to persons or property on the surface. In addition, each person operating a helicopter shall comply with any routes or altitudes specifically prescribed for helicopters by the Administrator.**

NOTE: Reference Page 2: Special Closures. Unauthorized landings can endanger persons, property and archaeological structures and also impair the visitor experience.

### **36 CFR §2.20 – SKATING, SKATEBOARDS and SIMILAR DEVICES**

The use of roller skates, skateboards, roller skis, coasting vehicles, or similar devices are prohibited in all NPS-administered areas.

### **36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING**

**(a) The following portions of the park, or all or portions of buildings, structures or facilities are closed to smoking:**

- All buildings open to the visiting public.
- Any areas outside the perimeter of a designated parking area.

### **36 CFR §2.23 – RECREATION FEES**

**(b) Recreation fees, in accordance with 36 CFR part 71, are established for the following entrance fee areas, and/or for the use of the following specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or for participation in the following group activity, recreation events or specialized recreation uses:**

#### **Daily Site Use Fee Areas:**

All usage of the Visitor Center or Visitor Center's conference room is subject to the Superintendent's decision to charge a special fees for usage of that facility.

1. Any overtime required to manage the incident will be paid by the permit holder.
2. An administrative fee of \$50.00 for processing of the permit will be required 7 working days prior to the scheduled date.
3. Persons requesting a special use permit in less than 7 working days will be charged an additional \$15.00 fee.

### **36 CFR §2.35 –ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES and CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

**(a)(3)(i) All of the public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the national monument are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages. This includes the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed. In accordance with 36 C.F.R. subsection 4.14, this closure does not apply to an open container of an alcoholic beverage that is stored in compliance.**

#### **Reason for the Determination.**

Allowing the public consumption of alcohol within the national monument is contrary to the reasons for the establishment of the national monument and the national monument's General Management Plan. Petroglyph National Monument does not maintain staffing, including law enforcement and maintenance, on a 24-hour basis. Public consumption of alcohol on trails, escarpment rocks, open public land, primitive roadways, and parking lots throughout the national monument may foster an unsafe environment during the day and evening hours, leading to visitor injuries. The national monument has a documented history of sanitation and refuse violations which are alcohol related. Incidents of graffiti and illegal firearm use related to alcohol and/or controlled substances threaten petroglyphs and public safety. This public use of alcohol also commonly occurs during hours of darkness when the park is unstaffed and illegal activity and accidents are unlikely to be witnessed.

#### **Why Less Restrictive Measures Won't Suffice:**

Due to limited staffing and resources, the park cannot provide 24-hour law enforcement coverage. The majority of visitors drive to and from the day use areas of the national monument. There are no overnight facilities such as campsites or lodging accommodations and public transportation is limited. Restricting alcohol use reduces the probability of driving under the influence incidents. This restriction is also consistent with current City of Albuquerque Open Space Ordinances.

### **36 CFR §2.37 – NONCOMMERCIAL SOLICITING**

**The solicitation or demand for gifts, money, goods or services requires a permit under §2.50, §2.51, or §2.52, and is subject to the terms and conditions specified therein.**

All activities of solicitation will be administered by permit. If a permit has not been obtained the action will be deemed illegal.

### **36 CFR §2.60 – LIVESTOCK USE AND AGRICULTURE**

(a) Absent a permit, the running-at-large, herding, driving across, allowing on, pasturing or grazing of livestock of any kind in a park area for agricultural purposes is prohibited.

### **36 CFR §2.61 – RESIDING ON FEDERAL LAND**

Absent a permit, lease or contract, residing in park areas on other than private land, is prohibited.

### **36 CFR §2.62 – MEMORIALIZATION**

(a) Authorization from the Director of the National Park Service is required to install a monument, memorial, tablet, structure, or other commemorative installation in a park area.

(b) A permit is required for the scattering of ashes from cremated human remains in the following areas, and/or according to the following terms and conditions:

- The scattering of human ashes from cremation is allowed pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit as outlined below:
  - The remains to be scattered must have been cremated and pulverized.
  - The scattering of remains by persons on the ground is to be performed at least 100 yards from any trail, road, developed facility, or body of water.
  - The scattering of remains from the air is to be performed at a minimum altitude of 2000 feet above the ground.
  - No scattering of remains from the air is to be performed over developed areas, facilities, or bodies of water.

### **36 CFR §4.10 – TRAVEL ON PARK ROADS AND ROUTES**

(a) Park roads, open for travel by motor vehicle are those indicated in the following publications:

- The park newspaper.
- The park map.

### **36 CFR §4.21 – SPEED LIMITS**

(b) The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:

- The entrance to the visitor center is posted at 25 mph.
- All other park roads are posted at speeds limits at 15 mph.
- Parking Lot speed limits as posted.

### **36 CFR §4.30 – BICYCLES**

(a) Bicycle use is permitted on park roads and parking areas indicated.

- Bicycle use is prohibited in the Petroglyph viewing areas as posted.
- Bicycle use is permitted on trails unless otherwise prohibited and signed. Closures will be posted once a trail system has been established and created as written document for the monument.

Except where prohibitions are designated, bicycle use is permitted on all other existing trails and roads of Petroglyph National Monument until such time that a formal visitor use plan or trail plan is implemented. Closures will be posted where damage to resources is obvious and/or which may pose an obvious danger to bicyclists, and/or once a trail system has been established and created as a written document for the Monument.