

## United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Joshua Tree National Park 74485 National Park Highway Twentynine Palms, California 92277



## Dear Inholder,

The road leading to your property is within the boundaries of Joshua Tree National Park and classified as a National Park Service (NPS) administrative road, which means it is closed to public motor vehicle use. Access for these roads is restricted solely to NPS administrative activities. To comply with Department of Interior regulations regarding our management responsibilities, and to ensure the protection of environmental and scenic values and natural and cultural resources, Joshua Tree National Park is unable to authorize motor vehicle access for non-NPS personnel without a Special Use Permit (SUP).

Inholding property owners seeking continued access to their property with their personal motor vehicles should apply for an SUP by March 30, 2025, and will receive a response from NPS by April 15, 2025. SUPs for owners' personal, non-commercial access to their private property may be obtained at no cost. Pursuant to Department of Interior regulations, use of NPS administrative roads without a SUP may result in civil and/or criminal liability.

To obtain a SUP for any motor vehicle use of the NPS administrative roads, please complete the attached SUP application and submit it to the Joshua Tree National Park Permitting Office by mail or via email to <a href="mailto:JOTR\_Permit\_Office@nps.gov">JOTR\_Permit\_Office@nps.gov</a>. If you have any questions about the permitting process or filling out an application, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Privately owned locks on NPS gates throughout the park will be removed on April 15, 2025, but NPS locks will remain, and only those locks will be allowed in the future. Receipt of a Special Use Permit will include code access for any lock(s) relevant to your inholding.

Furthermore, I would like to connect with you not only to ensure compliance with our policies but also to engage in a meaningful discussion about wildland fire safety, communication during park evacuations or emergencies, and our collective responsibility to steward this remarkable area. I am particularly concerned about unauthorized road use within the park, including off-highway vehicles and other actions that may threaten our fragile park resources. By addressing these issues via Special Use Permits, we can safeguard both the park and your property, helping to prevent potential trespassing while also protecting this unique landscape. I'd like to work together as a community of good neighbors to maintain the integrity of this exceptional place.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation and please feel welcomed to reach out with questions or for assistance. If you are interested in participating in a future open house with us, let us know and we will organize that in the new year.

Jane Rodgers Superintendent Joshua Tree National Park