

NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

AT YOUR SERVICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public access to Big Bear Valley temporarily closed

Public safety authorities in San Bernardino County have immediately restricted access to the Big Bear Valley to residents and supply and emergency vehicles until further notice, based on emergency proclamations made by both Gov. Schwarzenegger and San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gary Ovitt. Non-residents will not be allowed into the Big Bear Valley until the restrictions have been lifted.

Difficult road conditions and droves of visitors have strained food and fuel supplies and emergency services. An emergency shelter is already housing more than 20 visitors who ran out of fuel or otherwise could not get back down the mountain.

Highway 38 from Redlands and Yucaipa will be closed to all vehicles except emergency vehicles and trucks delivering fuel and food until further notice. Only residents of the Big Bear Valley will be allowed east of Snow Valley on Highway 18 until further notice. Access to the Big Bear Valley on Highway 18 from Lucerne Valley will also be restricted to residents only. Communities west of Snow Valley, including Running Springs, Lake Arrowhead, and Crestline will remain accessible.

Authorities will re-evaluate road conditions at noon on Monday.

Authorities will re-evaluate road conditions at noon on Monday. The County of San Bernardino, the City of Big Bear Lake and other agencies serving the Big Bear Valley thank the public for its cooperation as the community continues to recover from the recent winter storms.