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NEWS RELEASE

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Gary Bratcher to Leave Valles Caldera Trust

Jemez Springs, NM—Dr. Raymond Loretto, the chairman of the Valles Caldera Board of Trustees, announced today that Gary Bratcher will be leaving his post as Executive Director of the Valles Caldera Trust. Bratcher has served at the helm of the Trust since January 2009, and led the effort to expand public access, forest and watershed restoration, and sustaining revenues at the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

“The Board appreciates Mr. Bratcher's service during the past two and a half years,” said Dr. Loretto, “especially his efforts in working with the Board toward the attainment of the Trust’s goals of financial self-sufficiency, increased public access, and forest and watershed restoration.”

Board vice Chair, Melissa Savage, added, “The Board, and many of the Trust’s constituents, recognize the unique service Mr. Bratcher has rendered to the organization during a period of rapid change. The Trust will move forward from Mr. Bratcher’s charge as a more robust public institution.”

Dr. Loretto said a nationwide search be conducted this summer to find a permanent replacement for Bratcher whose last day on the job will be May 31, 2011.

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