

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service
Santa Fe National Forest



For Immediate Release

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Cowles Ponds to Close for Improvements

SANTA FE – The large Cowles Pond in upper Pecos Canyon will be closed to the public beginning Wednesday, September 7 in efforts to improve fish habitat and increase angling success.

During the improvement process, the fish will be removed from the large pond then the pond will be drained and dredged.

The small pond will remain open until October 1, at which point the entire Cowles Ponds fishing area will be closed due to dredging operations on the large pond.

“The purpose for the closures is for safety reasons while the improvement project takes place,” said Bruce Hill, spokesperson for the Santa Fe National Forest. “The large pond will eventually be restocked and reopened, but on a date yet to be determined.”

The small pond is available for fishing only to children 11 years or younger and individuals with disabilities. The improvement project on the large pond will provide enhanced fishing opportunities and a better winter survival rate for fish.

To learn more about the Cowles Ponds Improvement Project, call the Pecos/Las Vegas Ranger District at (505)757-6121.

For more information on New Mexico fishing regulations and angling opportunities, contact the Department of Game and Fish at (505)476-8000.

