

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service
Santa Fe National Forest



For Immediate Release

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September 28, 2011

Forest opens 6,700 acres near Polvadera Peak since Las Conchas Fire closure

(SANTA FE, NM)— The Española Ranger District, Santa Fe National Forest, opened up approximately 6,700 acres in the Unit 6c area of the Santa Fe National Forest by moving part of the Las Conchas Fire closure boundary closer to the actual burn area.

The move by the Forest Service follows the decision by Valles Caldera National Preserve officials to lift Stage III restrictions throughout the Preserve, September 9.

Due to the common boundaries between the Preserve and the Forest Service, the Forest Service needed to redraw closure boundaries on the Forest Service side.

“Safety has been our number one priority throughout the process of determining closure boundaries so that people don’t wander into hazardous areas caused by the Las Conchas Fire,” said Sandy Hurlocker, Espanola District Ranger. “Roads provide the most effective boundary because they can be easily seen on the ground and on a map. We were able to go back and review the area in detail to come up with a new boundary that is clear enough for people to stay away from the hazardous area.”

Both Las Conchas Fire and Pacheco Fire burn areas remain in Stage III Fire Restrictions due to extreme hazardous conditions. Abiquiu Grant to the Santa Clara Pueblo Reservation will remain closed during hunting season. The Polvadera Peak area, popular for hunting, is still included in the closure. For more information on the Santa Fe National Forest, call (505) 438-5300 or (505) 753-7331, or for Las Conchas and Pacheco Fire Area Closure Orders go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/conditions>.

(Note: Trails listed as exempt from Stage III Fire Restrictions per Order # 10-361 do not include the land areas around the trails).



Santa Fe National Forest and Valles Caldera National Preserve Las Conchas Fire Closure Area

 Stage 3 Restrictions

 Santa Fe National Forest

 Valles Caldera National Preserve

