

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service
Santa Fe National Forest



For Immediate Release

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Forest plans “Santa Fe Watershed” prescribed burn

(SANTA FE, NM)— Weather permitting, the Santa Fe Watershed prescribed burn is slated to begin October 17 and end by October 21.

The prescribed burn is to take place approximately three miles east of the city of Santa Fe and three and one half miles southeast of Hyde Park Estates.

The purpose of the prescribed burn will be to reduce the risk of future high intensity fire and restore forest health.

During the burning period, approximately 500 acres will be treated by hand ignitions only. A medium volume of smoke is expected, and may be visible to residents of Santa Fe, Espanola, Tesuque, Pecos, Los Alamos, Bernalillo, and Albuquerque. Smoke is expected to generally travel in a northeast and easterly direction.

Smoke from prescribed fire can be a nuisance to some people and a health concern for others, such as children, pregnant women, senior citizens, and those suffering from allergies, asthma, chemical sensitivities, or other heart or lung diseases. To reduce exposure to smoke, stay indoors as much as possible with windows, doors and vents closed. Avoid or limit physical activities outdoors.

In the evenings, smoke settles into low lying areas, including drainages; however, lifts by mid-morning when the sun rises. Residents living in such low-lying areas may be most affected.

Information on health impacts from smoke can be found by calling the New Mexico Department of Health at 1-888-878-8992, or visit:

http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/documents/Health_Effects_Smoke_06152010.pdf

For more information on the planned prescribed burn, contact Jon Boe or Donald Vigil at (505)753-7331. Also, follow us on Twitter: SantaFeNF@SantafeNF

