

News Release
USDA Forest Service
Coronado National Forest
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Effective Immediately

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**CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST SUPERVISOR
AUTHORIZES CITY OF TOMBSTONE TO REPAIR PART
OF DAMAGED WATER SYSTEM**

TUCSON, AZ (November 10, 2011) – On November 7th, Coronado National Forest Supervisor Jim Upchurch signed a letter authorizing the City of Tombstone to repair a portion of their water system in the Huachuca Mountains on the Sierra Vista Ranger District following recent damage from fire and flooding. The work is authorized at Miller Spring, in the Miller Peak Wilderness.

Because the work is to be conducted in Congressionally designated Wilderness, a “Minimum Requirement Decision Guide” (MRDG) was completed to determine methods to achieve the desired work. The MRDG identifies, analyzes and selects management actions that are the minimum necessary for wilderness administration. A determination is first made as to whether action is necessary. If so, guidance is provided for determining the minimum level of activity to perform the action while preserving wilderness character. This process was completed for Miller Spring on November the 4th. Regional Forester, Corbin Newman then delegated authority to the Forest Supervisor to allow mechanized and motorized use within the Wilderness.

The City of Tombstone has identified four additional springs that have been affected by fire and flooding, three of which are located in the Miller Peak Wilderness. The Coronado National Forest will be working with the City of Tombstone to identify possible solutions to access these additional springs. For springs located in wilderness, the MRDG process will be followed to determine the minimum levels of activity needed to achieve the desired outcomes.

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