



News Release

For Immediate Release

Update on Area Fire Restrictions

Albuquerque, NM, July 12, 2012 – Several fire response agencies within the greater Albuquerque area have announced that they are rescinding their fire restrictions. With the widespread precipitation and the start of the monsoon season, the agencies have determined that the moisture levels in the vegetation are high enough to limit the spread of any human or natural-caused wildfires.

Status of fire restrictions:

- **City of Albuquerque:** As of 8:00 a.m. on Friday, July 13, 2012, the City of Albuquerque will be downgrading the Fire Restrictions to Stage I and completely opening the Bosque for public use. For more information, contact:
Melissa Romero, Public Information Officer
Phone: 505.934.1021; e-mail: melissaromero@cabq.gov
- **Bernalillo County:** As of 8:00 a.m. on Friday, July 13, 2012, Bernalillo County will completely open the Bosque for public use. Open burning restrictions will also be lifted at that time for the unincorporated areas of Bernalillo County outside the city limits of Albuquerque. For more information, contact:
Larry Gallegos, Public Information Specialist
Phone: 505.468.1273; e-mail: lagallegos@bernco.gov
- **Cibola National Forest and Grasslands:** Fire restrictions will be rescinded for the Sandia, Mountainair, Magdalena and Mt. Taylor Ranger Districts at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, July 13, 2012. For more information, contact:
Ruth Sutton, Public Affairs Officer
Phone: 505.346.3900; e-mail: rsutton@fs.fed.us
Karen Takai, Fire Information Officer, Sandia RD
Phone: 505.281.3304; e-mail: ktakai@fs.fed.us
- **Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (Bosque):** Closure of the Bosque in Sandoval, Valencia and Socorro Counties will continue until further notice. For more information, contact:
Tom Thorpe, Public Information Officer
Phone: 505.247.0234; e-mail: Tom@mrgcd.us

- **New Mexico Forestry Division:** Smoking, firework, campfire and open fire restrictions for all New Mexico counties were lifted on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 8 a.m. For more information, contact:
Dan Ware, Fire Prevention and Outreach Program Manager
Phone: 505-476-3336/505-690-8210; e-mail: daniel.ware@state.nm.us

The agencies have been working together all year to coordinate efforts and communications to increase wildfire awareness and preparedness. Visitors reminded that although fire danger is lessening, please use caution when visiting these areas as conditions can quickly change.

For additional information on restrictions and updates on fires, visit these sites:

- Bernalillo County: www.bernco.gov
- Cibola National Forest: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/cibola>
- City of Albuquerque: <http://www.cabq.gov/fire>
- The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (Bosque): <http://www.mrgcd.com/>
- New Mexico Fire Information: www.nmfireinfo.com
- InciWeb: www.inciweb.org
- New Mexico State Forestry: www.emnrd.state.nm.us/FD
- National Weather Service Red Flag Warning definition: <http://www.weather.gov/glossary/index.php?word=Red%20Flag%20Warning>
- SW Area Wildland Fire Operations (SWCC) fire restriction hot line: **1-877-864-6985**