



News Release

USDA Forest Service
Cibola National Forest and Grasslands
Sandia Ranger District
11776 Highway 337 ■ Tijeras NM 87059



For Immediate Release

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Sandia Ranger District Conducting Prescribed Burns

Tijeras, NM – September 23, 2013. The Sandia Ranger District successfully conducted a prescribed burn in the Cedar Crest area. Approximately 100 acres have been treated for the Hondo Fuels Reduction Project, with the plan to treat an additional this week depending on weather and vegetation conditions.

The goal of this burn is to promote new vegetation, enhance habitat and reduce the threat of large fire. It will also improve public and firefighter safety by reducing the accumulated fuels that could otherwise contribute to more intense fire behavior under hotter/drier conditions. Frequent low intensity fires are natural and necessary components of a healthy forest.

All prescribed fire activity is dependent on personnel availability and weather (including winds, ventilation and approval from City of Albuquerque Air Quality Department). During this burn, managers continuously monitor weather conditions, including wind, temperature and relative humidity. Fuel conditions including fuel moisture and the quantity of fuels are also measured.

The Sandia Ranger District coordinates prescribed fire plans with our partners in the county and city as well as neighboring districts to reduce the impact of the smoke on the East Mountain communities.

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