

NEWS

For Immediate Release

United States
Department
of Agriculture

Forest Service

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CIBOLA NATIONAL FOREST WILL REMAIN IN STAGE III RESTRICTIONS

Albuquerque, June 26, 2006- The Cibola National Forest has been monitoring and evaluating the possibility of full forest closure starting the end of this week. Due to the increase of rains this week the Cibola National Forest will continue to stay in Stage III Restrictions.

“Hopefully the rains will continue to support the existing restrictions with partial closures but there is the chance that this is a passing pattern and we would need to revisit the full closure again. We will continue to carefully monitor the evaluating criteria daily and implement the correct restrictions as needed” said Nancy Rose Cibola National Forest Supervisor.

The criteria used for evaluating the closure include safety and concerns for our communities, forest users, employees, firefighters and protection of our natural resources. Statistical information that support the movement of restrictions through different stages include fuel moistures, winds, temperatures, humidities, and resources available to fight fire. The combination of all these factors are what we use to determine restriction levels throughout our National Forests.

For specific information on the different district restrictions please contact the following numbers and make sure you **“Know Before You Go”** www.nmfireinfo.com

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| Mountainair Ranger District | (505) 847-2990 |
| Sandia Ranger District | (505) 281-3304 |
| Mount Taylor Ranger District | (505) 287-8833 |
| Magdalena Ranger District | (505) 854 2281 |
| Black Kettle National Grasslands, | (508) 497-2143 |
| Kiowa & Rita Blanca National Grasslands, | (505) 374-9652 |

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