



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Forestry Plans to Lift Statewide Fire Restrictions

(Santa Fe, New Mexico) - The New Mexico State Forestry Division has announced it plans to lift its statewide smoking, firework, campfire and open fire restrictions for New Mexico, initially imposed on May 15, 2006. **The rescission is planned to take affect on Friday, July 7, 2006 at 8 a.m.**

This action will include restrictions imposed at all New Mexico State Parks.

Increased moisture across New Mexico and fewer large fires indicate that fire danger is lower and is expected to decrease.

The State Forestry Division will continue to monitor fire danger across the state and may implement restrictions again, if conditions merit such action.

Despite a return of rainfall across the state, long-term drought conditions still exist and New Mexico State Forestry urges all state residents and visitors to continue to be extremely cautious with fire.

During calendar year 2006, New Mexico State Forestry and our cooperating agencies have responded to more than 1,000 fires, primarily caused by lightening, which have burned more than 468,500 acres.

For more information regarding fire restrictions in New Mexico, log onto www.nmforestry.com.

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