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News Release

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Coyote Ranger District Plans Presa Prescribed Fire

SANTA FE, NM – Sept. 4, 2019 – Fire managers on the Coyote Ranger District of the Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF) are planning to take advantage of favorable conditions, including fuel moisture levels, air quality and forecasted weather, to conduct a prescribed burn on Mesa los Indios near Forest Road 473 on or around Sept. 25, 2019. The exact date will depend on conditions on the ground.

Crews will use hand and aerial ignitions to treat the 1,200-acre Presa unit. Prescribed fires are one of the most effective tools available to resource managers for restoring fire-adapted ecosystems. These fires mimic natural fires by reducing forest fuels, recycling nutrients and increasing habitat diversity. Prescribed fires are managed with firefighter and public safety as the first priority.

Smoke from the prescribed burn will be monitored to ensure that the New Mexico Environment Department's Air Quality Bureau regulations are being met. Smoke will likely be visible from US Highway 112 and Highway 96 as well as the communities of Lindrith, Llaves, Abiquiu, Gallina, Tierra Amarilla, El Vado and Canjilon.

Smoke-sensitive individuals and people with respiratory problems or heart disease are encouraged to take precautionary measures. Information on air quality and protecting your health by using the 5-3-1 visibility method can be found online at the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) website at <https://nmtracking.org/fire>. People with health concerns can also call NMDOH at 505-827-0006 for additional information. For information on the HEPA filter loan program, go to <https://facnm.org/smoke#smokeanchor5>.

Fire updates are posted on the New Mexico Fire Information website at www.nmfireinfo.com, www.facebook.com/SantaFeNF and Twitter [@SantafeNF](https://twitter.com/SantafeNF). For additional information, please contact the Coyote Ranger District at 575-638-5526.

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