NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service

Eldorado National Forest

100 Forni Road; Placerville, CA 95667

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Safety Information Deer Hunters Need To Know

Placerville, CA ...Rifle season for deer hunting opens this weekend in the Eldorado National Forest and there are a few safety items the Forest Service wants hunters to keep in mind.

- 1. The fire danger remains very high and fire restrictions are still in place.
- Campfires are not allowed outside designated campgrounds. The approved list of designated sites is found on the Eldorado National Forest website: <u>www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado</u>.
- 3. Campfire permits are required for propane stoves and lanterns. Permits can be obtained at any Forest Service office.
- 4. Smoking is only allowed within an enclosed vehicle or building, within designated exempt sites (mentioned above) or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material
- 5. Travel within the Eldorado National Forest is allowed only on designated routes. These routes are identified on a free-of-charge map available at all Eldorado National Forest offices and on the Forest's website.
- 6. Parking is allowed one vehicle length off a designated road.
- 7. Visitors should be aware that there are active illegal marijuana plantations within the Eldorado National Forest. The Forest Service, and its interagency cooperators, has removed more than 8,000 marijuana plants this year. The plantations are dangerous places and are often guarded by armed criminals. Anyone suspecting they found a plantation inside the boundaries of the Eldorado National Forest should call the Forest Service at 530-642-5170. Callers can remain anonymous.

