

# NEWS RELEASE

## USDA Forest Service Santa Fe National Forest



For Immediate Release

CONTACT: LAWRENCE LUJAN  
(505) 438-7628

June 6, 2006

### SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT HOTLINE

(Santa Fe, NM)—Beginning Thursday, June 8, 2006, the Santa Fe National Forest will implement a toll-free number, 1-**877-971-FIRE (3473)**, designed to share information with the public about their Fire Management program.

The public may call this toll-free number daily to hear pre-recorded messages about Prescribed Fires, Fire Use Fires, Wildfires, and Wildfire Prevention Tips. During prescribed fire and wildfire season, this number will provide information about the location, acreage and status of ongoing and planned prescribed burns and ongoing wildfires within the Santa Fe National Forest. The toll-free number will serve the communities of North-Central New Mexico including: Jemez, Cuba, Coyote, Gallina, Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Espanola, Pecos, Las Vegas and Mora.

Fire managers on the Santa Fe National Forest believe that this number will be an effective tool for relaying information about their programs within an efficient time frame. “In this day of rapid communications and information sharing, we want to make sure that the public has every opportunity to know what we are doing across the Forest, said Forest Fire Operations Officer, Jesus “Nando” Lucero. “This will provide people with direct access to fire management information at their convenience,” added Lucero.

The Twin Hills Prescribed Fire which is located on the Espanola Ranger District, Caja Del Rio area, is proposed for ignition next week, June 13 & 14, weather and conditions permitting. Information about this prescribed burn will be pre-recorded on this number for callers to stay current on its status. This is an example of how the pre-recorded message will help disseminate information.

The one way information number will not allow callers to leave any messages, lodge complaints nor is it intended to take the place of emergency calls. The public is still encouraged to call 911 to report wildfires, smoke, or any suspicious activity.

**Refrigerator magnets, with the toll-free number printed on it, are available free of charge at all Forest Service Offices.**

For more information about this new toll-free number, please contact Claudia Standish, Fire Prevention Specialist @ (505) 438-7805 or Tom Johnston, Acting Fire Staff @ (505) 438-7885.

For current fire restriction information, please call 1-877-864-6985 or visit our website at [www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe). For comprehensive wildfire and restriction information across New Mexico, please visit [www.nmfireinfo.com](http://www.nmfireinfo.com).

