



PRESCRIBED FIRE NOTIFICATION

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ■ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
LAS CRUCES FIELD OFFICE ■ 1800 MARQUESS ■ LAS CRUCES NM 88005

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For Immediate Release

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For Additional Information

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BLM Conducts Prescribed Fire

Smoke will be visible the week of June 13 as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) conducts a controlled prescribed fire 13 miles southwest of Cliff, NM and 8 miles northeast of Red Rock, NM.

The 2500-acre Cherokee prescribed burn, scheduled to begin Friday June 19, will reintroduce fire into the ecosystem. The burn will also reduce shrub density, allowing grasses and forbs to thrive with less competition from pinon and junipers that have encroached into grassland areas.

Prescribed burns reduce the amount of fuel available for an unplanned fire, while burning at an intensity that is beneficial for the ecosystem. Now is a good time to burn because the onset of the monsoon season is imminent and the blackened areas will turn to fresh green quickly.

A crew of eight people, two engines, and one helicopter will be conducting the burn. The BLM will notify local, State and federal fire agencies and the Grant County Sheriffs Office on all days that burning is conducted. Please feel free to contact the BLM or local fire departments with any questions or concerns about smoke in the area.

As a reminder, one year with high moisture will not alleviate a seven year drought. The winter and spring rains have increased the amount of on-the-ground fuels, and as weather gets hotter and drier the risk of unplanned fires will increase. Please be sure to make sure campfires are dead out before you leave them, and extinguish cigarettes in ashtrays.

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