



United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

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News Release

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Carson National Forest Temporarily Suspends Prescribed Burning During COVID-19 Outbreak

Taos, NM – March 20, 2020 – The Carson National Forest today announced that all planned prescribed burns have been postponed until further notice.

Potential smoke impacts to the public are always considered in prescribed fire and wildfire management. The decision to postpone ignitions will:

- prevent any effects from smoke that might further endanger at-risk members of our communities, and
- reduce exposure for Forest Service employees, cooperators and other resources assigned to the prescribed fire who would not be able to follow current guidance on unnecessary travel and social distancing.

The Carson National Forest's first priority is to protect the health and safety of employees and members of the public by following COVID-19 guidance from federal, state and local authorities.

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