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News Release

Pile Burn Planned for Hyde Memorial State Park

A continuation of treatments to reduce wildfire risk at the park

Santa Fe, NM - A pile burn is planned for Hyde Memorial State Park on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 8-9, 2016, weather permitting. The treatment is a collaboration between the New Mexico State Forestry Division, the New Mexico State Parks Division, and the U.S. Forest Service's Santa Fe National Forest Espanola Ranger District. Work will be performed by crews from the New Mexico State Forestry Division's Returning Heroes Wildland Firefighter Program.

The pile burn will eliminate downed slash piles in areas that are difficult for larger treatment equipment to access. Crews will be active on approximately 50 acres. The endeavor is part of an ongoing wildfire mitigation project at the park that began last year and will ultimately treat about 80 acres.

Hyde Memorial State Park is at a high risk for wildfire due to its location within the Santa Fe National Forest and the increase of visitor activities, including campfires, in the summer months. The park is also vulnerable due to a decline in forest health from forest diseases, such as dwarf mistletoe.

Individuals in the surrounding area who have smoke sensitivities are advised to limit their outdoor exposure during the burn. Windows should remain closed and air should be circulated from within one's living space. Smoke may travel offsite, and surrounding roads could be temporarily closed if visibility is compromised. Hyde Memorial State Park will remain open to the public.

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