

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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NEWS RELEASE

State Forestry Announces the Returning Heroes Wildland Firefighter Program to Hire Fire Crews

Santa Fe, NM –As the 2015 fire season continues, New Mexico State Forestry announced plans to hire and train up to 50 firefighters comprised of armed services veterans for five wildland fire crews. New Mexico State Forestry, in cooperation with the Department of Veterans Affairs and Workforce Solutions, is conducting open recruitment until mid-May. The veteran crews will be hired as emergency firefighters for the fire season.

“The men and women who served in our armed forces will bring with them experience and professionalism, making them a great addition to the local, state, federal and tribal wildland firefighters who already protect our state,” said New Mexico State Forester Tony Delfin.

Interested veterans should call 505-474-9813 or 505-474-5523 to schedule a time to pick up an application at 1085 Richards Avenue in Santa Fe (located off Cerrillos Road, the other side from Home Depot), Tuesdays through Fridays. Returning Heroes Wildland Firefighter Program staff will be available to answer questions and assist with firefighter applications.

The Returning Heroes Wildland Firefighter Program, starting as a pilot program in 2012, was made permanent last year by Governor Susana Martinez and is now operating in Santa Fe on land leased through the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Military veterans will work, train and be dispatched for wildland fire emergencies from this location.

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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

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