

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Prescribed Burn to Reduce Wildfire Risk at Hyde Memorial State Park Begins Tomorrow**

**Santa Fe, NM** – A prescribed fire at Hyde Memorial State Park will begin Wednesday, December 13, 2017. Smoke will be visible in the area.

The mitigation effort northeast of Santa Fe, is a collaboration between the New Mexico State Forestry Division, the New Mexico State Parks Division, the U.S. Forest Service and Santa Fe National Forest Española Ranger District. Crews from New Mexico State Forestry's Returning Heroes Wildland Firefighter Program and Inmate Work Camp will conduct the treatment.

The prescribed fire, which is expected to last at least three days, will eliminate brush piles in areas that are difficult for large equipment to access. Due to the continuous ground fuels around the piles, the treatment is characterized as both a pile and broadcast burn. Crews will be active on approximately 40 acres. The endeavor is part of an ongoing wildfire mitigation project at the park that began in 2015. When completed, it will ultimately treat about 120 acres.

Hyde Memorial State Park is at an elevated risk for wildfire due to its location within the Santa Fe National Forest, visitor activities including campfires, and a decline in forest health from 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, including Highway 475/Hyde Park Road, could be temporarily closed if visibility is compromised. Hyde Memorial State Park will remain open to the public.

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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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