

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

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New Mexico Wildfire Crews Assigned to Slide Fire in Arizona

ALBUQUERQUE – Firefighters from New Mexico State Forestry’s military veterans *Returning Heroes* Fire Program and other resources have been assigned to assist with suppression efforts on the Slide Fire in Arizona.

The two, 10-person *Returning Heroes* hand crews are joined by two New Mexico State Forestry Division engines from the Las Vegas District, the Red River Fire Department hand crew and two additional personnel from local fire departments.

The Slide Fire, which began on May 20, south of Flagstaff, AZ, has burned approximately 7,500 acres.

“Many areas of the Western United States continue to face a volatile wildfire situation,” said State Forestry Resource Protection Bureau Chief Donald Griego. “Because fire occurrence around our state is less than it has been in past years, we’re able to send these crews to assist our neighbors in Arizona, while ensuring New Mexico’s forests and communities are still protected.”

During the 2013 fire season, New Mexico State Forestry dispatched numerous engines and crews to fires in Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon and Utah.

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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.