

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez
Governor

Donald Griego, Division Director
State Forestry Division



Ken McQueen
Cabinet Secretary

Matthias Sayer
Deputy Cabinet Secretary



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Contact: Wendy Mason 505-476-3209, wendy.mason@state.nm.us
Beth Wojahn 505-476-3226, beth.wojahn@state.nm.us

Granite Mountain Hotshots and New Mexico Wildland Firefighters Honored with Free Screening of *Only the Brave*

SANTA FE, NM – The New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Department (EMNRD), Forestry Division (NMSF), in collaboration with the New Mexico State Film Office, Columbia Pictures a Sony Company and Black Label Media, coordinated a free screening of *Only the Brave* for more than 200 New Mexico firefighters, Forestry staff and their families on October 16, 2017. The film was shown in cooperation with The Screen at the Santa Fe University of Art and Design in Santa Fe and Century Rio 24 and XD in Albuquerque.

Only the Brave, starring Academy Award® nominee Josh Brolin, Miles Teller, Jennifer Connelly, Academy Award® winner Jeff Bridges, Taylor Kitsch, James Badge Dale and Andie MacDowell was filmed in New Mexico and is based on the true story of the Granite Mountain Hotshots. Many firefighters with the New Mexico Forestry Division and its interagency partners worked with the same hotshot crew just weeks before their lives were lost in 2013.

“The Granite Mountain Hotshots were instrumental in stopping a spot fire from a burnout operation on the Thompson Ridge Fire near Los Alamos in early June of that year,” said New Mexico State Forester Donald Griego. “When we needed them, they were there. We will never forget what they did for New Mexico.”

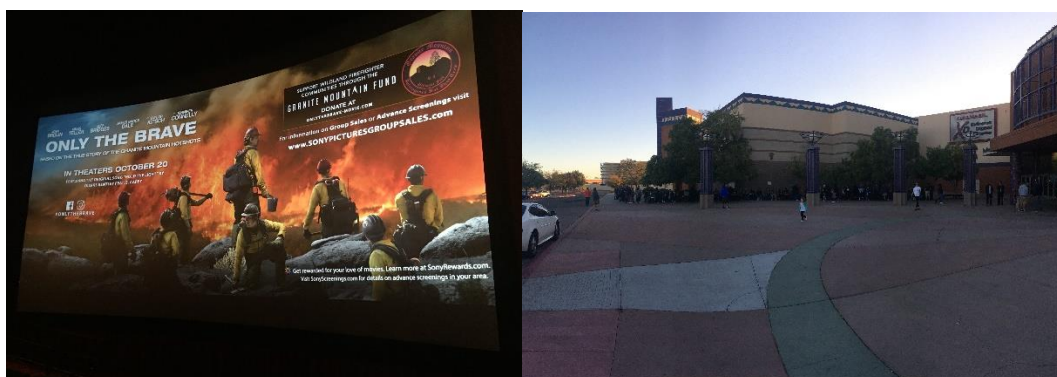
Tragically on June 30, 2013, nineteen of the men from the elite wildland firefighting crew were overtaken by flames and killed while trying to protect the community of Yarnell, Arizona. *Only the Brave* attempts to document the lives of those firefighters and the events leading up to and during what is now one of the deadliest wildfires for firefighters in U.S. history. The loss struck the heart of the wildland firefighting community across the country and around the world.

“The brave women and men of our great state put their lives on the line every time they fight a wildfire. Bringing this film to our firefighters before it hits theaters is the least we can do to say thank you,” said Griego.

Only the Brave was filmed in New Mexico at the following locations: Santa Fe, Bonanza Creek, White Rock, Nambe Pueblo, Los Alamos, Las Vegas and Pecos. The production employed 190 New Mexico crew members, 40 New Mexico actors and approximately 1,300 New Mexico background talent.



NM State Forester Donald Griego speaking at The Screen, Santa Fe University of Art and Design, Santa Fe



Century Rio 24 and XD, Albuquerque



Century Rio 24 and XD, Albuquerque



Bernalillo District Forester Todd Haines speaking at the Century Rio 24 and XD, Albuquerque

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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.

1220 South St. Francis Drive • Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Phone (505) 476-3325 • Fax (505) 476-3330

www.emnrd.state.nm.us/fd

