



Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands

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Restoration Treatment Continues on Hazard Tree and Thinning Project Areas

Sandia Ranger District

Albuquerque, NM – August 19, 2021 –The Sandia Ranger District continues implementation of restoration treatments in the Sandia Hazard Tree and Thinning Project area (Sandia Project) on the Sandia Mountains and the Cedro Landscape Restoration Project area (Cedro Project) on the Manzanita Mountains.

We ask visitors to use caution as heavy machinery will be present in these areas and near trails. The Sandia Ranger District does not intend to close trails or recreation sites during operations. Visitors should be aware of posted signs warning of equipment and crews in the area, keep their distance, and never approach machinery. Noise from machinery and chainsaws may be heard. Trails within the project area may be temporarily impassable while work is occurring, but the trails will be cleared of debris at the end of each day. Treatments will not occur during weekends or on holidays to allow for recreation in the area.

- Sandia Project: Anticipated start date is August 23rd. Mastication work will begin on approximately 58 acres of the Lagunitas Unit, along Crest Highway/State Highway 536, located south of Sandia Peak Ski Area.
- Cedro Project: After crews complete the Lagunitas Unit, mastication work will begin on approximately 286 acres of the Heatherland Hills Unit, south of I-40.
- Sandia Project: It is anticipated that crews will return in October or November to cut and deck trees on 40 acres of the 10K unit of the Sandia Project. At the completion of this unit work, the decked wood will be available for personal fuelwood sales. The 10K unit is the only unit that will be available for fuelwood, as it provides an accessible public area for staging and removal. Variability in operation conditions, such as weather, make it difficult to predict when this work will occur.

To improve forest and watershed health, the Cedro Project, which began implementation in 2017, and the Sandia Project, which began implementation in 2018, will be ongoing. Both projects involve support, especially financial support from numerous partners.

For more information, please call the Sandia Ranger District at 505-281-3304.

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