



Forest Service

Cibola National Forest and
National Grasslands
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News Release

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National Forests in NM To Close Developed Recreation Sites; Visitors are Still Welcome

Albuquerque, NM, March 23, 2020 - The five national forests in New Mexico, including the Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands in Texas and Oklahoma (Cibola), will begin the orderly closure of some developed recreation sites as early as Monday, March 23, in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The developed recreation site closures will remain in effect until further notice.

Although all restrooms and group campgrounds on the Cibola will be closed, the national forests and grasslands will still be available to visitors who want to spend time outdoors for dispersed recreation. At this time, recreation opportunities include hiking and biking on trails, dispersed camping and other activities that support social distancing and small groups. Fees will not be charged at sites with limited services. Current reservation holders will be notified as soon as possible, and refunds will be processed.

Visitors are encouraged to follow public health guidelines regarding social distancing and to obey group size limits set under State law when recreating on the National Forests.

Visitors can help mitigate resource impacts while recreation sites are closed by bringing home their trash (pack it in, pack it out), and by appropriately managing human waste by burying it at least 6-8 inches deep and 200 feet away from water, trails and recreation sites.

Visitors are encouraged to contact their local ranger district office with additional questions.

- **Supervisors Office (505) 346-3900**
- **Magdalena Ranger District (575) 854-2281**
- **Mountainair Ranger District (505) 847-2990**
- **Mt. Taylor Ranger District (505) 287-8833**





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- **Sandia Ranger District (505) 281-3304**
- **Black Kettle McClellan Creek National Grasslands (580) 497-2143**
- **Kiowa Rita Blanca National Grasslands (575) 374-9652**

Visit the Interactive Visitor Map at <https://www.fs.fed.us/ivm/> for more information on available activities.

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