

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 7/17/2019 9:50:10 AM

First name: Edward

Last name: Brown

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Comment on Pecos Wilderness - moss killing trees

Please see the chain of emails with the SFNF on the dead trees just inside the Pecos Wilderness - moss has and is killing the trees. A replay of what happen on the PECOS side of the Pecos Wilderness and the ensuing fire.

These conditions endangers the SANTA FE SKI AREA.

Not to mention the cost of having to
fight a fire on the scale of Pecos or The 416.

Respectfully

Edward R Brown
4252 Falling Star Lane
Santa Fe, NM 87507
505.577.6150

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Edward R. Brown" <erbrown@yahoo.com>;

To: "julianne.overton@usda.gov" <julianne.overton@usda.gov>;

Cc:

Sent: Wed, Jun 19, 2019 at 13:04

Subject: RE: News Release: SFNF Plans Prescribed Burn on Jemez Ranger

Hi Julie

Thank you for your response.

Above are pictures of the trees I took a few days ago.

A year before the Pecos fire I was hiking Holy Cross trail. I arrived at the Windsor Trail and the conifers were all covered in moss and dead. The next day I called the SFNF / RT 14 and they said they couldn't do anything since it was Wilderness.

Fast forward to SFNF proposal for a water shed clearing and burn in the Pecos Wilderness. I questioned the ability of the SFNF being able to do that. The PA person got back to me and stated that there is a 1960s law on the books that allows "heavy equipment" to be brought in.

Bottom line is the SFNF folks can go in and clean it out.

The question is will they?

It is a DIRECT threat to Ski Santa Fe and appropriate measures must be taken.

My two cents.

Ed

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Wed, Jun 19, 2019 at 10:18, Overton, Julie Anne - FS

<julianne.overton@usda.gov> wrote:

ÄyyyaaaaapHi Ed,

I will share your email with the District Ranger and the Fire and Natural Resources staff on the Pecos/Las Vegas District.

Wilderness areas are, as you know, managed differently than the rest of the forest. Generally, we don't cut trees in Wilderness areas. But I'll let folks know what you've seen and let the experts make the call.

We appreciate your information sharing and concern about the health of the forest.

Best regards,

Julie Anne

From: Edward R. Brown [mailto:erbrown@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 8:56 AM

To: Overton, Julie Anne - FS <julianne.overton@usda.gov>

Subject: Re: News Release: SFNF Plans Prescribed Burn on Jemez Ranger District This Week

Hi Julie

We hiked in the Pecos Wilderness a few days ago from the ski Santa Fe side and saw a lot of dead trees due to moss growth. This is a replay of what happened on the Pecos side and the ensuing fire.

Will you be doing anything to clear out the dead trees?

One lighten strick there and we will have a major blaze.

Ed

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Tue, Jun 18, 2019 at 8:37, Overton, Julie Anne - FS

<julianne.overton@usda.gov> wrote:

SFNF Plans Prescribed Burn on Jemez Ranger District This Week

SANTA FE, NM - June 18, 2019 - Fire managers on the Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF) are planning to implement the previously announced Tent Rocks prescribed burn on the Jemez Ranger District this week if conditions remain favorable. Ignitions could begin as early as tomorrow, June 19, and are expected to conclude by Friday, June 21.

The Tent Rocks treatment area is approximately 2 miles north of Jemez Springs, NM, and less than 1 mile southwest of La Cueva, NM.

Up to 1,520 acres will be treated to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire, improve wildlife habitat and improve forest health. The decision to proceed with the prescribed burn will be based on fuel moisture levels, air quality, winds and forecasted weather. Prescribed burns are managed with firefighter and public safety as the first priority.

Forest Roads 604 and 607 will remain open, but visitors are discouraged from using the roads during prescribed burn activities. Camping is also not recommended due to the smoke potential for smoke.

Smoke will likely be visible from US Highway 550, NM Highway 4, San Ysidro, Jemez Pueblo, Jemez Springs and La Cueva. Smoke may settle into lower elevations and in drainage areas during the evenings but should lift by mid-morning.

Smoke-sensitive individuals and people with respiratory problems or heart disease are encouraged to take precautionary measures. Information on air quality and protecting your health by using the 5-3-1 visibility method can be found online at the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) website at <https://nmtracking.org/fire>. People with health concerns can also call NMDOH at 505-827-0006 for additional information. For information on the HEPA filter loan program, go to <https://www.santafefireshed.org/hepa-filter-loan-program/>.

Fire updates are posted on the New Mexico Fire Information website at www.nmfireinfo.com, www.facebook.com/SantaFeNF and Twitter @SantaFeNF. For additional information about the prescribed burn, please contact the Jemez Ranger District at 575-829-3535.

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