



News Release



The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

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May 22, 2013

Bosque Closed in Three Counties

Albuquerque — Due to continued serious drought conditions and increased fire danger, the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, in cooperation with Fire and Law Enforcement agencies, instituted a full closure of the Bosque area in Sandoval, Valencia and Socorro Counties.

The closure means that no visitors are allowed in the bosque that is owned and managed by the MRGCD.

The closures and restrictions are as follows:

- ◆ Sandoval County—Full Closure, no Bosque use permitted
- ◆ Corrales—Visitors restricted to trails west of the clear ditch—(Bosque Treed area closed)
- ◆ Bernalillo County—Stage II fire restrictions (Bosque open)
- ◆ City of Albuquerque—Stage II fire restrictions (Bosque open)
- ◆ Valencia County—Full Closure, no Bosque use permitted
- ◆ Socorro County—Full Closure, no Bosque use permitted

The full closure of the Bosque areas took effect at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 22, 2013 and will remain closed until further notice.

More information can be found at www.mrgcd.com

About the MRGCD: The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District has been promoting sustainable agriculture for the past 75 years. The District delivers water to about 70,000 acres of cropland in the Middle Rio Grande Valley. That water is reused time and time again. It waters crops, sustains the cottonwood bosque along the Rio Grande, helps sustain the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow and recharges the aquifer. The District owns 30,000 acres of bosque in the valley, a stretch of land that provides unprecedented recreational opportunities and an irreplaceable swath of greenbelt in New Mexico largest metropolitan area. The District was formed in 1925 to alleviate flooding and to reclaim farmland in the valley. Its boundaries stretch 150 miles from Cochiti to the northern boundary of the Bosque Del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, running through Sandoval, Bernalillo, Valencia and Socorro Counties. It operates more than 1,200 miles of canals, laterals and drains, which are used to convey water to and from cropland. The District is funded by water service charges and property assessments on the benefited lands within its boundaries.

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