



# News Release



The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

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June 28, 2012

## **MRGCD BOSQUE TO CLOSE FRIDAY** *Sandoval, Bernalillo, Valencia and Socorro Counties Affected*

**Albuquerque** – The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District owned and managed bosque areas in Sandoval, Valencia and Socorro counties will observe a full closure beginning Friday, June 29, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. A full closure means no visitors will be allowed on MRGCD roads, paths or forested areas (trees) within MRGCD bosque.

A partial closure will begin Friday, June 29, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in Bernalillo County and the City of Albuquerque Bosque area. A partial closure allows visitors to utilize established paths and levee roads, but the forested area (trees) is closed.

These restrictions are in effect until further notice.

NOTE: These restrictions affect only MRGCD owned and managed bosque lands. For restrictions or closures of private, federal, state and sovereign lands, please consult the appropriate managing or governing agency for authorized use of those areas.

**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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