



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AFR and Open Space Close Areas in the East Mountains

Residents encouraged to continue recreation in Bosque, Foothill Open Spaces, and Petroglyph areas

ALBUQUERQUE – As the threat of wildfires in our surrounding forest areas continue to grow, AFR in coordination with Albuquerque Open Space has made the decision to close the East Mountain open space areas. The heavy fuel loads, extraordinary drought conditions and remote locations are among the deciding factors in closing these open spaces. In addition, these spaces are farther away than other Open Space properties, which can increase the amount of time it can take to respond to an emergency.

The list of East Mtn. Open Spaces that will be closed include:

- Carolina Canyon
- Gutierrez-Milne
- San Antonito
- Juan Tomas
- Loma Ponderosa
- Golden
- Placitas

Open Space volunteers will be helping the City to patrol the East Mtn. Open Spaces during these closures. Trail Watch Volunteers have been trained to identify signs of suspicious activity, improper use, and other warning signs of immediate danger. AFR continues to keep the Bosque, Foothill Open Spaces, and Petroglyph areas open and encourages to invite the public to recreate in those areas.

“Keeping the members of our community in those open spaces have proven to help with our response times and reporting suspicious behavior,” said **AFR Fire Chief Gene Gallegos**. “This continues to be a One Albuquerque effort and we ask everyone, if you see something, say something.”

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