



NEWS RELEASE

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Controlled Burns Planned in September and October in New Mexico

Santa Fe, NM – With the transition to the fall season, the Forest Stewards Guild will be convening several controlled broadcast burns in coordination and collaboration with The Nature Conservancy and other partners. Currently, burns are scheduled in mid-September and early-October. Burn implementation is dependent on weather conditions to ensure firefighter and community safety and to limit smoke impacts. Prior to the start of the burn, additional information and notification will be given to landowners and the public. Broadcast burning promotes ecological health in frequent fire forests, reduces hazardous fuels thereby protecting nearby communities, and reduces the intensity and size of future wildfires.

Firefighter and community safety is the top priority. The Forest Stewards Guild is bringing together trained and experienced wildland firefighters. The burns will operate under reviewed and approved burn plans, comply with New Mexico Air Quality Bureau smoke management guidelines, and have wildland firefighting equipment on-site. Forest Stewards Guild is coordinating with local fire departments, New Mexico State Forestry, the Bureau of Land Management, and the local US Forest Service.

“These burns are needed for ecological health and community safety.” noted Forest Stewards Guild Southwest Region Director Eytan Krasilovsky. “We are working here because it is strategically important for the landowners, the community, and the adjacent public lands to safely and effectively make these forests resilient to wildfire, drought, and insects.”

Landowners interested in learning more about Fire Adapted Communities can visit www.fireadaptednm.org, a website designed by the Forest Stewards Guild and Fire Service Support LLC for the New Mexico hub of the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network.

Stay up-to-date on these efforts by visiting www.forestguild.org/ControlledBurning or by calling 505-470-0185.

These burns are supported by *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior.

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