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For Immediate Release

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## MAGDALENA RANGER DISTRICT PLAN PRESCRIBE BURN IN THE EAST MAGDALENA MOUNTAINS

**MAGDALENA, NM – April 17, 2009** - The Cibola National Forest, Magdalena Ranger District, is planning a prescribed burn totaling 10,000 acres located in the eastern part of the Magdalena Mountains. This planned ignition is to begin on **Monday, April 20, 2009** and could continue for 5 to 7 days depending on weather and fuel conditions. Prescription parameters include having the appropriate conditions, weather forecast, required personnel, and equipment on hand, and identified contingency resources available. Fire management crews will patrol for as long as necessary after ignition to ensure public safety.

The prescribed burn area is located on the Magdalena Ranger District approximately 15 miles southeast of Magdalena, New Mexico and about 20 miles southwest of Socorro, New Mexico. The burn is located near the Water Canyon Campground on the Magdalena Ranger District, and covers approximately 10,000 acres. This project is part of a restoration effort to improve wildlife habitat, range improvements and reduce the Wildland fire risk adjacent to the Water Canyon Campground and the Magdalena Ridge Observatory. The dominant vegetation in the area is Ponderosa pine, mixed conifer and piñon/juniper with light to moderate grass cover.

Smoke will be visible from U.S. Highway 60 south of Magdalena, New Mexico and Forest Roads 235, 235B, and 406.

For more information contact Cindy Wolfe at the Magdalena Ranger District at 575-854-2281 or email [cwolfe@fs.fed.us](mailto:cwolfe@fs.fed.us).

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