



Santa Fe National Forest

Forest Service News Release

Santa Fe National Forest
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SFNF Issues Closure Order for Cerro Pelado Fire Camp

SANTA FE, NM – May 3, 2022 – The Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF) has issued a [closure order](#) to restrict public access to the area surrounding the base camp for firefighters working on the Cerro Pelado Fire. The order is effective from now until Dec. 31, 2022, unless rescinded earlier.

The Cerro Pelado Fire started on April 22 about 7 miles east of Jemez Springs on the Jemez Ranger District. The cause is under investigation. Updates on fire operations are posted on the [SFNF website](#), www.nmfireinfo.com and [Inciweb](#). The Cerro Pelado also has a dedicated Facebook page at facebook.com/2022.CerroPeladoFire.

The SFNF issued a [fire area closure order](#) on April 26 to prohibit members of the public from entering all Forest Service lands and trails within an area roughly defined by NM Highway 4 on the west, Valles Caldera National Preserve on the north, Bandelier National Monument on the east, and Zia Pueblo and Santo Domingo Pueblo on the south.

The recent order applies to all Forest Service land roughly defined by the Rio Guadalupe on the west, picking up Forest Road (FR) 376 and following it north/northeast, turning to the south at La Cueva and following the Jemez River to its confluence with the Rio Guadalupe.

Fire behavior can be unpredictable, and fire managers are asking the public to exercise caution and steer clear of all areas that could be impacted by the Cerro Pelado Fire.

Federal, state and local officers, firefighters and members of an organized rescue team, and any others authorized by Forest Service permit are exempt from the closure order.

Violation of the closure order is a Class B misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, imprisonment of not more than six months, or both.

The [closure order and map](#) are posted on the SFNF website and copies are available at SFNF headquarters and the Jemez District Office. All current closure orders are posted on the [Alerts and Notices page](#) of the website.

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