

New Mexico State Forestry's AD and Returning Heroes Wildland Firefighter Programs



As wildfires in the Western United States continue to grow in size and severity, the need for qualified wildland firefighters continues grow as well.

New Mexico State Forestry's
Administratively Determined (AD) and
Returning Heroes Wildland Firefighting
Programs provide firefighting resources
that are available to aid in fire suppression activities across the state. Men and
women selected to be a part of these
programs are given professional
wildland fire training that allows them to
become members of engine and hand
crews.

These firefighters will also have the ability to be dispatched to fires throughout the United States should the need arise once New Mexico's fire season has ended.

Firefighters hired by New Mexico State Forestry are given the opportunity to take additional training in specialized areas such as tree felling, engine boss, crew boss and more.

Adding Jobs AND Protecting Communities

State Forestry's Returning Heroes Wildland Firefighting Program is a cooperative effort by New Mexico State Forestry, New Mexico Workforce Solutions and the New Mexico Veterans Affairs Department. The program hires former members of the military to draw upon the training and experience they accumulated during their service to help protect lives and communities here in New Mexico.

Participants in the Returning Heroes Program will be trained to be a part of a 10-person hand crew that may work in conjunction with engine crews potentially conducting prescribed burns, burning operations, construct and improve containment lines and mop up fire perimeters.





AD Crews hired by State Forestry typically train to become part of a three-person engine crew based at one of our six District Offices, which are located in Ute Park, Chama, Rio Rancho, Capitan, Socorro and Las Vegas. A typical crew shift generally consists of patrolling areas of the state at high risk for wildfire and responding to new fire starts.

Some assignments last a few hours, but many may last from a few days to two weeks. Both engine and hand crews may be expected to hike long distances over rugged terrain and camp out at the fires using provided equipment.

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