



# **News Release**

## **HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE**



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**49TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS**  
**(575) 572-5406/7381 • @49Wing**  
[www.holloman.af.mil](http://www.holloman.af.mil)

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### **PRESCRIBED PILE BURN PLANNED NEAR HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE**

HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. – Plans are underway to execute a prescribed burn adjacent to the Holloman Evaporation Pond and Lagoon G beginning as early as Saturday, October 19, 2019.

The treatment area, which covers 100 acres, is approximately 5 miles southwest of Alamogordo, 5 miles northeast of White Sands National Monument, and it is adjacent to Highway 70.

This area will be closed to the public during the event and until deemed safe by Fire Managers.

Fire Managers expect ignitions to last two days, will implement the burns during the weekends, and will continue burning operations for several months, only if conditions, including air quality and weather forecasts, are favorable.

Prescribed fires are one of the most effective tools available to Resource Managers for restoring fire-adapted ecosystems. These fires mimic natural fires by reducing forest fuels, recycling nutrients and increasing habitat diversity. This particular

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burn is designed to remove dead fuels that have accumulated from an ongoing salt cedar, an invasive species, eradication project on base and will promote forest health.

Lingering smoke may be present for a few days after ignitions are complete. Smoke will likely be visible from Alamogordo, Holloman, White Sands National Monument and surrounding communities. Smoke-sensitive individuals and people with respiratory problems are encouraged to take precautionary measures.

The New Mexico Department of Health website at <https://nmtracking.org/fire> provides information on air quality and recommendations on procedures for protecting your health during fires and on smoky days.

For questions on the prescribed burn, please contact the 49th Wing Public Affairs Office at [49wg.paoffice@us.af.mil](mailto:49wg.paoffice@us.af.mil) or 575-572-7381.