

NMCGA on the Trail....

For immediate release: February 27, 2023

USFS extends temporary closure due to high winds

The United States Forest Service (USFS) extended a temporary area closure for the lethal removal of stray cattle in the Gila Wilderness from February 20th until March 15th, unless rescinded.

Aerial operations were set to begin Thursday, February 23rd but were delayed a day due to high winds and inclement weather. USFS and contracted APHIS officials were able to operate Saturday, February 25th before being deterred by gale force winds Sunday. The USFS had plans to resume gunning today, Monday February 27th.

Attorney, Andrew Smith on behalf of the USFS reports a total number of cattle killed during the operation will be read out at the completion of this year's aerial operation, sometime middle of this week.