



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Taos County Local Governments & KCEC Collaborate the Wildfire Evacuee Response

Taos, NM- Taos County local governments and Kit Carson Electric Cooperative are collaborating to provide aid and shelter to those affected by the Cooks Peaks Fire, located north of Ocate, NM, approximately 46 miles north of Las Vegas. Dangerous high winds and rough terrain are making it difficult for crews to contain the fire.

The joint partnership ensures precise and accurate information to the community members regarding donation centers, supplies, shelters for residents and livestock. These entities are working together to find the unmet needs for those affected by the fires in the region. Local food pantries and churches are providing supplies and food to shelters set up in the area. Taos County has opened community centers and local high schools for residents or families displaced by the fires.

There are shelters set up at the following locations and are open 24 hours for those affected:

Taos Agricultural Center

Address: 202 Chamisa Rd, Taos, NM 87571 (575)-770-6416

Taos Rodeo Grounds

Address: 230 Camino de la Merced, Taos, NM 87571 (575)-770-6416.

For housing large livestock, please get in touch with Rudy Baca at (575)-770-1490

Peñasco High School

Address: 13 Old School Rd, Peñasco, NM 87553

(575)-587-2502

Red River Convention Center

Address: 101 E River Street, Red River, NM 87558

(575)-754-1708

Currently, approximately thirteen residents are utilizing the shelters for housing and livestock. Food, water, power, and supplies are available. Wi-fi is accessible at some locations. We want to encourage residents to utilize the emergency shelters. For those that have RV's, please make sure to call in advance to arrange adequate space. HELPNM will be onsite at the Taos County Agricultural Center. Meals can also be picked up at the Taos County Agricultural Center.

Other services available include:

Taos Youth & Family Center will have showers available 6:00 am-6:00 pm
407 Paseo del Canon East Taos, NM 8757

For updated fire information, please visit **nmfireinfo.com**.

If you want to volunteer, please sign up at Taos Connects: <https://app.vomo.org/org/taos-connects>.

Donations for those affected by the fire can be made to <https://www.taoscf.org>

To enroll in KCEC's communication system please text **KCEC** to 85700

We will continue to provide daily updates on information regarding shelters, supplies, aid, food and water availability. During, these difficult times, we want to pray for the residents, families and businesses that are affected. There is a lot of false information on social media and to the public regarding shelter information and other resources available. The Wildfire Fire Evacuee Response (Taos County, Town of Taos and KCEC) will provide accurate information to the public, as it becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Santistevan.

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