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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FISHING RESUMES AT THE VALLES CALDERA

Recovery Continues

Jemez Springs, NM –The fish are back and so is the fishing! Less than a year after the Las Conchas fire and floods devastated the streams on the Valles Caldera National Preserve the fish are making a comeback. A series of scientific field surveys conducted since the first of the year indicate a gradual resurgence of the fish population. Numbers have improved to the point to support a fishing program. However, to supplement the scientific field studies the Trust asked veteran New Mexico fishing guide Bob Gerding to test the waters and gauge the quality of the fishing.

“After fishing the San Antonio creek for the first time after the fire, I was amazed at how the river has recovered,” said Gerding. “On one stretch, I had more action from nice, healthy, brown trout than ever before.”

Fishing will officially resume on the preserve this Saturday, June 23rd and run through the end of the season. The program will be open seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

In order to provide a quality experience, daily access will be limited to 14 anglers spread among the reaches of the San Antonio creek and eight anglers along the East Fork of the Jemez River. Anglers will be able to drive to their assigned reaches of the San Antonio where “catch and release” rules will be in effect. The East Fork will feature a two fish bag limit.

For more information on reservations, fishing guidelines and requirements, go to <http://www.vallescaldera.gov/comevisit/fish/index.aspx>. Reservations can be made on line or by

calling 866-382-5537. Walkups to the Valle Grande Staging Area may also sign up for unreserved fishing areas on a first come, first served basis.

Also, this Saturday and Sunday the first of four remaining youth and adult Fly Fishing Clinics will be held on the preserve. Adults can register at <http://ow.ly/b595h> and Youth 8-16 yrs. at <http://ow.ly/b59GJ>, or they can telephone the aforementioned number. Dates and times for the last three clinic weekends are also listed on those web pages.

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