



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Great Sand Dunes  
National Park and  
Preserve

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## Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve News Release

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### Most National Park Facilities and Services Open Despite Wildfire

Most visitor facilities at Great Sand Dunes National Park are open and operating as usual, despite the Medano Fire burning nearby, said Superintendent Art Hutchinson. “The campground, Visitor Center, and dunes area are just like they always are,” he reported. However, the southern part of the national preserve, including the Mosca Pass Trail and the Medano Pass Primitive Road are closed.

“The Medano Pass Primitive Road is closed because that’s where the fire started and has been burning,” he said. The fire began with a lightning strike on June 6. “The Mosca Pass Trail and that area is unaffected by any burning, but we’re keeping it closed as a precaution until we know more about what this fire will do in the long run,” he said.

“There are some impacts to back-packers,” Hutchinson added. The northern portion of the Sand Ramp Trail and the back-country campsites it accesses in the northeast portion of the park are closed as precautions. The Upper Sand Creek drainage is open via Music Pass, off State Highway 69.

The park’s Visitor Center, daily ranger-guided interpretive programs, and the Pinyon Flats campground are all operating as scheduled. For campground reservations, call 877-444-6777 or visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) For information about the park, upcoming interpretive programs, or trip planning assistance, visit [www.nps.gov/grsa](http://www.nps.gov/grsa) or call the Visitor Center at 719-378-6399. For information about the Medano Fire, visit [www.nps.gov/fire](http://www.nps.gov/fire) or [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)

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