



For Immediate Release  
July 30, 2008

Contact: Caitlin Kelleher  
505-476-2299

## **Governor Richardson Announces Tourism Funding for Ruidoso**

SANTA FE - Governor Bill Richardson today announced that \$10,000 in state advertising funding will be made available to assist the Village of Ruidoso with its vital tourism industry. The State Tourism Department will deliver \$10,000 in emergency money to the Ruidoso Chamber of Commerce tomorrow.

“We are doing everything we can to provide all possible resources to help Ruidoso effectively respond to and recover from this emergency,” said Governor Richardson. “And despite the severe damage to part of the Ruidoso community, the city is still open and operating and most hotels and attractions are open. Ruidoso Downs will be running a normal race card this weekend, which is good news.”

Governor Bill Richardson has declared a disaster in Lincoln County, which makes emergency state funding available to assist Lincoln County and local communities. The Governor also formally requested that President Bush declare a federal disaster which would trigger additional federal assistance. The Governor toured the flooded areas earlier this week by air and by land.

Officials from FEMA will arrive in Ruidoso tomorrow to assess the damage.

###