



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

White Sands  
National Monument

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## White Sands News Release

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: **Becky Burghart 575-520-2604**

Date: **February 15, 2014**

### White Sands Reopens for Holiday Weekend

Alamogordo, NM - Dunes Drive, the eight-mile scenic drive in White Sands National Monument, will open at 8 a.m. on February 16, 2014. Dunes Drive was closed for eight days to allow for the recovery and cleanup of a QF-4 drone from Holloman Air Force Base that crashed in the monument on February 7, 2014.

In celebration of President's Day weekend, entrance at all National Parks Service sites—including White Sands National Monument—is free for everyone on February 15, 16, and 17<sup>th</sup>. There are many activities for families to enjoy in the monument this holiday weekend. Ranger-guided Sunset Strolls are offered nightly starting at 4:45 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday, rangers will present Patio Talks at 1 p.m. and a mammal identification program called Skins and Skulls at 3 p.m. in the visitor center courtyard. The visitor center and gift shop are open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Dunes Drive will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m.

For more information about visitor services at White Sands National Monument, call 575-479-6124 ext. 236 or visit [www.nps.gov/whsa](http://www.nps.gov/whsa).

For more information about the QF-4 drone crash call Holloman Air Force Base at 575-572-7381.

[www.nps.gov/whsa](http://www.nps.gov/whsa)