



## News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &  
Thunder Basin National Grassland  
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

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### **Segments of 700 Road near Vedauwoo Temporarily Closed**

**(LARAMIE, Wyo.) January 5, 2016** – Implementation of the Pole Mountain Landscape Fuels Treatment Partnership is beginning, and as a result the Laramie Ranger District has announced that a portion of Forest Road 700 (Vedauwoo Glen Road) and the entire 700E Road have been temporarily closed to all motorized travel.

Forest visitors to the southern portion of the Pole Mountain unit, Medicine Bow National Forest, will notice a closure barricade at the junction of the 720 Road and the 700 Road. The 720 Road accesses the Vedauwoo Recreation sites. These sites are already seasonally closed.

The 700 and 700E road segments are typically inaccessible this time of year due to snow drifts, but will be gated during the entirety of the fuels reduction and habitat improvement operation, which is expected to conclude on or before June 1, 2016. The contractor will be plowing the closed road segments behind the gates as needed for access to the project.

The purpose of the prohibition is to protect public health and safety where mastication of trees is occurring in close proximity to the plowed open sections of the road, and to prevent the public from becoming stuck in the unplowed portions of the road. The extent of the road closed is approximately 1.2 miles.

Visitors may encounter machinery or plow trucks near the fuels reduction contract area. When machinery is encountered, visitors are advised to use caution. Additionally, the public should not enter areas which are posted closed, as they are closed for their safety.

Temporary road closures are a short-term inconvenience needed to provide for long-term public safety. Forest users need to be aware of ongoing changes that may affect their travel and recreation plans.

This temporary closure is not related in any way to the current Pole Mountain Travel Management Project.

The Pole Mountain Landscape Fuels Treatment Partnership agreement authorizes the State of Wyoming to implement fuels reduction and landscape restoration treatments across 2,676 acres (633 acres of State and 2,043 acres of Federal) in three phases.

While not available for official use in Wyoming when the agreement was signed, this partnership exemplifies the Good Neighbor Authority authorized in the 2014 Farm Bill and 2014 Appropriations Act.

For more information, contact the LRD at (307) 745-2300 or stop by 2468 Jackson St. in Laramie from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. You can also visit our website at <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>, or follow the Medicine Bow National Forest on Twitter, [@FS\\_MBRTB](https://twitter.com/FS_MBRTB).

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