



NEWS RELEASE

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests Thunder Basin National Grassland

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Date: May 27, 2010

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Local natural resource projects sought for funding

(Laramie, Wyo.) May 27, 2010 -- The MedBow-Routt Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is seeking proposals for projects that will enhance forest ecosystems or restore and improve land health and water quality on the Medicine Bow and Routt National Forests and other near-by lands in Albany and Carbon counties in Wyoming, and Routt and Jackson counties in Colorado. Project proposals are due July 9, 2010.

“The RAC committee will have an estimated \$700,000 to spend on projects from now until the end of 2011, made available to the counties through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act,” said RAC Chairman Jerry Paxton. “These funds can be leveraged with matching funds.”

The RAC works closely with the Forest Service to recommend projects that will benefit Forest health, fish, wildlife, soils, watersheds and other resources; maintain roads, trails, and other infrastructure; or control noxious weeds. The Forest Service is accepting applications on behalf of the RAC. Please call Diann Ritschard at 970-870-2187, or email dritschard@fs.fed.us for a proposal form or more information.

RAC projects must be located on National Forest System Lands in Albany, Carbon, Routt and Jackson counties or on other nearby lands where the project will benefit natural resources on the National Forests. Projects can be completed by Forest Service personnel, through partnership agreements or by open-bid contracting with individuals and corporations.

The RAC will begin reviewing projects for possible funding during the next few months. The public is welcome to attend the RAC meetings.