



# NEWS RELEASE

## Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests Thunder Basin National Grassland

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/mbr/news>

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**Date: June 17, 2010**

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### **Manzanaras Trail, Lynx Pass CG closed for dead tree removal**

(Steamboat Springs, Colo.) June 17, 2010 – The Manzanaras Trail in Big Red Park, north of Steamboat Springs, will be closed starting Monday, June 21 while crews remove dead trees from along the trail. The trail, #1204, will be closed from Forest Service Road (FSR) 505 to the junction with trail #1203 for about two weeks while Colorado Department of Corrections work crews do hazard tree removal. The work will probably take a couple of weeks to complete. Also, there's a washed out culvert on road 500, on the north side of Big Red Park, so people cannot travel through to Hog Park. It may be a few weeks before crews can replace the culvert.

On the Yampa Ranger District, FSR 906, just past the Yamcolo Reservoir spillway is temporarily closed due to a slump. FSR 906 goes to the lower Sand Creek Trailhead, so people will not be able to drive to the trailhead until road repairs are complete.

The Lynx Campground, off of Gore Pass, will be closed for the summer for hazard tree removal.

Throughout most of the summer season, temporary closures will be necessary to remove dead trees from along forest roads and trails, providing for increased public safety. These tree removal projects have been in the planning stages for several months. Please call the Hotline at the Forest Service Office in Steamboat Springs, 970-870-2140, for the latest road and trails closure information in the area. You may also call Visitor Information at 970-870-2299. In the Yampa area, please call 970-638-4516 for the latest forest information; and in the Walden area 970-723-2700.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. All forest users need to be aware of their surroundings and wind conditions in areas where trees were killed by beetles and in areas recently thinned to remove dead trees.

#### **The following are guidelines to help you avoid risks.**

Be aware of your surroundings. Avoid dense patches of dead trees. They can fall without warning.

If you are in the forest when the winds increase, head to a clearing out of reach of any potential falling trees.

Park vehicles and put camps in areas where they will not be hit if a tree falls.

Park close to a main road; if trees fall across the road you may be trapped.

Bring an ax or chainsaw to remove fallen trees from roads in case you become trapped.

Don't rely only on cell phones for safety since there is no coverage in many areas of the National Forest.

Remember, your safety is your responsibility.

Nearly all of the mature lodgepole pine on the Routt National Forest were killed by the mountain pine beetle and are beginning to fall down. It's estimated that about 100,000 dead trees will fall in the forest each day for the next decade or so. The average dead lodgepole pine tree weighs about 1,000 pounds and can fall without warning, so it's critical that you "look up, look down, look around" and stay out of harm's way.

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Forest Road 500 culvert washed out due to fast snowmelt and heavy spring rains.