



News Release

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

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Deep Creek Road to Close For Hazard Tree Work

(SARATOGA, WY - July 15, 2011) – Due to the scheduled roadside clearing of bark beetle hazard trees, the Deep Creek/Rawlins Road (Forest Road 801) will be closed weekdays effective immediately.

The 801 road is used to access the western side of the Sierra Madre Range in the Medicine Bow National Forest.

Work will take place Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. Operations are expected to be completed in late August or September, weather permitting. The unusually high snowpack this past winter and subsequent late access to forest lands delayed the start of this project.

The road will be closed in three segments as work progresses in order to accommodate public access on certain portions of the road. The initial segment to be closed will stretch from the National Forest boundary south to Forest Road 876.

Coming south from Rawlins, the area can alternately be accessed during the first closure segment via County Road 500 east to Jack Creek Road (Forest Road 452), then south to Deep Jack Road (Forest Road 830) and west to the 801 road.

On Friday morning, the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) opened a single-lane passageway on Highway 70 around the slump closure area, which also provides public access to the area.

As has been the case during the past few years, roadside clearing of bark beetle hazard trees on National Forest roads will continue in 2011 across the Brush Creek/Hayden (BCH) Ranger District. Visitors need to be aware of the ongoing changes which will affect travel, however, the National Forest will continue to be accessible by using alternate routes.

The removal of hazard trees is an emphasis for the Medicine Bow National Forest. Road projects are a short-term inconvenience for long-term public safety.

For further information, call 307-326-2500 or stop by the BCH Ranger District office at 5556 South Highway 130 in Saratoga between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Road closures and project activities may also be found at <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>.

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