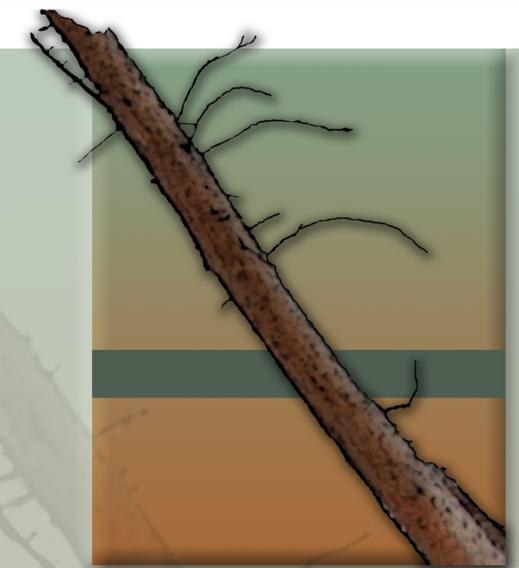
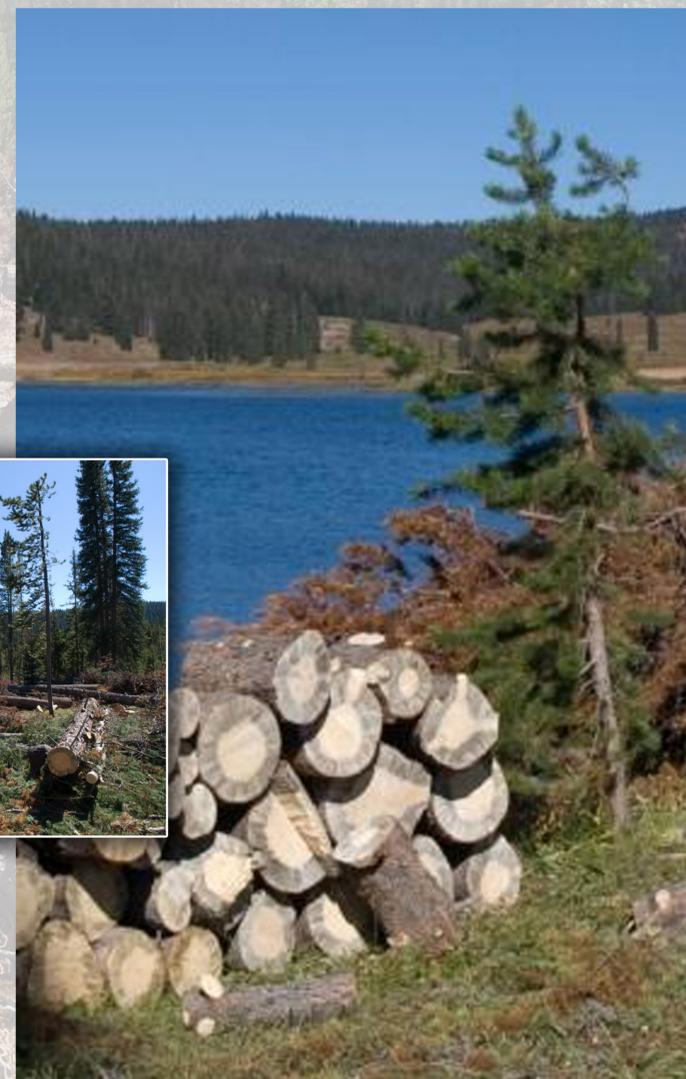


Why are the Trees Cut?

These trees were killed by a mountain pine beetle epidemic triggered by drought, warmer winters and aging forests. Beetles, the size of a grain of rice, have killed millions of mature pine trees in the West. Dead trees were sold to timber businesses for lumber, wood pellets, firewood and other uses. The blue stain introduced by the beetles does not affect the strength and quality of lumber. Seeds from the old forest, and the existing young trees, will become the new forest.



BE SAFETY AWARE The Forest is Changing **WATCH OUT!**

- Be aware of your surroundings. Avoid dense patches of dead trees; they can fall without warning.
- Stay out of the forest when there are strong winds that could blow down trees. If you are already in the forest when the winds kick up, head to a clearing out of reach of any potential falling trees.
- Place tents and park vehicles in areas where they will not be hit if trees fall.
- When driving in remote areas of the forest, park close to a main road, rather than on a spur or one-way section. If trees fall across the road you may be trapped.
- Do not rely only on cell phones for safety as there is no coverage in many areas of the national forest.

Your Safety is Your Responsibility!

Rocky Mountain Region

