



## News Release

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

**Contact:** Steve Best, (307) 326-5258

### **Plan Now for Fall Activities in the Snowy and Sierra Madre Ranges**

**(SARATOGA, Wyo.) February 15, 2012** – Extended ventures onto National Forest System Lands are often planned months in advance, and with that in mind the Medicine Bow National Forest would like to suggest that visitors take note of major work projects which will be taking place this coming summer and fall.

All Forest users should be aware that roadside clearing of hazardous trees on National Forest roads will take place on the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District in 2012. Contractors will be working at various locations across the District throughout the second half of the year, as weather permits.

Much of that work will result in temporary road closures. These closures have the potential to affect Forest visitors, especially those with long-range recreation plans, such as camping and hunting. If possible, contractors plan to work on the roads in sections. As it is worked, each section may be completely closed to traffic, 24 hours per day and seven days per week, until Sept. 1. After that date roads will be opened on nights and weekends and closed for work on weekdays.

“In response to feedback from the public we are trying to get the word out about this road work as soon as possible,” District Ranger Steve Best said. “We know that many trips are planned well in advance of actual time on Forest, so hopefully getting the information out early helps with the planning for alternate access as needed.

“It’s important for visitors to be aware of ongoing changes which will affect access to different areas this year. Chances are good that logging activities will be nearby wherever you are on the District, however, all areas of the Forest will continue to be accessible by using alternate routes,” Best added.

Hazard tree removal projects continue to be an emphasis for the entire Medicine Bow National Forest, but ultimately these projects are a short-term inconvenience for long-term public safety.

At the bottom of this news release is a list of the scheduled hazardous tree removal projects for 2012. The included map shows scheduled project locations. Not all roads are scheduled to be closed at the same time. This map should be used with other more detailed maps that are available (BLM, National Forest, Motor Vehicle Use Map). Keep in mind that logging work on one road may also affect access to other roads in the area.

Visitors to the Medicine Bow National Forest around Encampment and Saratoga are encouraged to check the status of work areas by calling 307-326-5258 or stopping by the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District office at 2171 S. Highway 130 in Saratoga between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Road projects and closure information may also be found on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest website: <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr> under *Road Work and Delayed Openings*.

Expect closures for roadside bark beetle tree removal projects on the following routes. Note that the project numbers below correspond with the numbers on the attached map.

1. Deep Creek Road - Forest Road 801, between WY Highway 70 and Forest Road 822, (Mill Creek).

2. Rim Road - Forest Road 496, between Forest Road 409 (Blackhall Road) and Forest Road 550 (Hog Park Road).
3. Jack Creek Road - Forest Road 452, between Forest Boundary and Forest Road 443 (Acord Road).
4. Jerry Acord Road - Forest Road 443, between WY Highway 70 and Forest Road 452 (Jack Creek Road).
5. North Brush Creek Road - Forest Road 100, between WY Highway 130 (Snowy Range Highway), and Forest Road 101 (Sand Lake Road).
6. South French Creek Road - Forest Road 225, between WY Highway 130 and Forest Road 500 (French Creek Road).
7. French Creek Road - Forest Road 500, between the Forest Boundary and the Ranger District Boundary.
8. Arlington Road - Forest Road 111, between the Forest Boundary and Forest Road 101 (Sand Lake Road).

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