



## News Release

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

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### **WYDOT Begins Hazard Tree Removal on Pole Mountain**

**(LARAMIE, Wyo.) Nov. 25, 2013** – Travelers along Interstate 80 and Wyoming Highway 210 (Happy Jack Highway) will notice road-side hazard tree removal operations over the next year or two on the Pole Mountain unit in the Medicine Bow National Forest.

Operations are underway by the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) to remove trees which may fall and damage their right-of-way fences, thereby allowing livestock to concentrate along the roadway and create safety hazards for travelers. Along with the sections of interstate and highway that require work, hazard trees also need to be removed from Summit Rest Area facilities.

In addition to the WYDOT projects, the U.S. Forest Service will be reducing hazardous fuels that have built up along Highway 210.

The contractor is currently working along I-80 and plans to move to Highway 210 and the Rest Area after the first of the year. No road closures are anticipated, although the Rest Area will likely be closed for several days when work is done in that area. Log truck haul traffic should be expected near work areas.

For these operations, tree cutting will begin at the road edge and/or tree line and extend past the fence to the height of the tallest tree, plus 10 percent. Additional clearing up to 150 feet beyond the fence may occur, where necessary, to facilitate harvest operations and protect sensitive areas. Tree cutting and removal activities will impact approximately 200 acres of National Forest System lands.

WYDOT began project implementation during the fall of 2013. Hazard tree work is anticipated to be completed in the next two years, but may continue for up to a total of five years if additional tree mortality occurs.

Questions for WYDOT should be directed to (307) 745-2100, or stop by WYDOT District 1 Headquarters at 3411 South Third St. in Laramie.

For more National Forest information please call the Laramie Ranger District at (307) 745-2300 or stop by the District Office at 2468 Jackson St. in Laramie between normal office hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Information may also be found on this website, <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>, or you can follow the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland on Twitter, **@MBRNFsTBNG**.

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