

Teton to Snake Fuels Reduction Project

The next phase of the Teton to Snake Fuels Reduction Project on the Jackson Ranger District is set to begin July 15, on Phillips Ridge.

Throughout the next month, contractors will be cutting trees and stacking woody debris to minimize fire hazards in proximity to the powerline road, and the Snotel and Phillips Ridge trails.

In order to provide for public safety and allow contractors to complete the tree cutting as quickly as possible, dispersed camping will be suspended on Phillips Ridge east of the Snotel trail and the Phillips road will be temporarily closed to vehicle traffic for approximately 3-weeks. Camping between the trailhead and the Snotel road (road #30972A) is permitted but will be walk-in only with four-five sites available. People wishing to camp near Teton Pass are encouraged to explore the Fall Creek road corridor. Respect temporary trail closures between the hours of 6:00 am and 4:00 pm and do not enter the work zone if these areas are posted closed for your safety.

The reduction in hazardous fuel loading within the Phillips Ridge area will aid in modifying potential fire behavior by reducing a fire's opportunity to get in the forest canopy and reducing the chance of fire impacting communities and recreation use areas. Benefits from fuels reduction includes removing dead and down vegetation, reducing small diameter trees which serve as ladder fuels that carry fire from the ground to the tree canopy, and increasing tree crown spacing by opening the tree canopy to limit potential fire spread by crown fire. Through these efforts we create more fire adaptive communities and reduce the risk and cost of fire suppression during an unwanted fire within the wildland urban interface.

The project area is within the wildland urban interface as defined by the 2014 Teton County Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) as communities at risk of wildfire.

For more information please call 307-739-5431 or visit Tetonfires.com.

