



Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit



For immediate release
Tuesday, December 4, 2007

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BLM TO Burn Slash Piles Wednesday and Thursday

Grand County, CO – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Kremmling Field Office (KFO) will be burning slash piles Wednesday, December 5, and Thursday, December 6, in the Gore Lakes area. Snow in late October allowed 148 piles to be burned so far.

BLM and the Routt National Forest (RNF) are burning slash piles of lodgepole pine in three different locations in Grand County. The expected time frame for this operation is October through December. The slash pile locations are: BLM and U.S. Forest Service public land near the Gore Lakes Subdivision on Highway 134, approx. 12 miles NW of Kremmling; BLM public land one quarter mile east of Ouray Ranch Subdivision between Grand Lake and Granby and; BLM public land located three miles south east of Granby near the Shadow Mountain YMCA .

Burning began October 22, on the Gore Lakes slash piles. “Weather is one of the key components for any prescribed burn project,” said Justin Kincaid Fuels Specialist. “Slash piles are best burned when there’s snow on the ground and the chance for fire to spread is unlikely. We were prepared to begin work earlier this month, but we’ve been waiting for the right weather conditions.”

Smoke and flames will be visible from the burning piles. Burn plans have been prepared and approved that specify the desired weather and wind conditions, as well as other guidelines for safe and efficient operations. Colorado State Air Pollution Division smoke permits have also been obtained.

The objective of burning the slash piles is to remove the flammable debris and lower the risk of catastrophic wildland fire. The slash is the result of salvage timber sales and fuels reduction projects conducted to remove beetle killed timber. Please contact Justin Kincaid at 970-724-3033 or Mark Cahur at 970-870-2214 for more information.

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