



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

PO Box 170
Moose, Wyoming 83012

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Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs
(307) 739-3415 or 739-3393

Grand Teton National Park News Release

Fuels Reduction Project Underway on Death Canyon Road

During the next few weeks, Teton Interagency fire crews will be working on a fuel reduction project along the Death Canyon access road. This project is underway to improve forest health, reduce hazard fuels and create defensible space in a fire prone environment. To achieve this goal, flammable fuels will be reduced by the removal of some vegetation such as bushes, tree limbs, and dead and/or down wood.

As a safety precaution, motorists and hikers should stay along the road and not enter any areas where crews are working. While felling some trees, fire crews may briefly stop traffic along the road to ensure the safety of passing visitors. Otherwise, the Death Canyon Trailhead road is open to traffic. Hiking opportunities to Phelps Lake and beyond are unaffected by this project.

Local residents and visitors are requested to leave the “teepee-like” piles undisturbed. These woody piles - called slash - contain mostly green branches and do not make good firewood.



The design of the piles makes it easier for the wood to dry out and helps fire crews with ignition when these slash piles are burned during appropriate times in the spring or fall. If the piles are disturbed, it may take longer for the wood to cure. Fire crews must also restack the slash piles before they can be burned, requiring extra labor and time.

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