

# Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests NEWS RELEASE

## Nez Perce National Forest

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Grangeville, ID 83530  
(208)983-1950  
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**Contact: Laura A. Smith**



## Clearwater National Forest

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<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 30, 2012

### Interface Fuels Stewardship Sale Begins February 1st

*Grangeville, ID*—The Nez Perce-Clearwater Forests will be starting the Interface Fuels stewardship sale on February 1, 2012. Falling will begin on February 1 and helicopter yarding will begin on February 13 at an area two miles west of Lowell. The logs will be flown to the turnout at Wild Goose.

Flaggers will be located proximal to the turnout to ensure public safety while logs are being flown across the highway. Delays should not be more than 10 minutes. The turnout and adjacent campground will be closed to the public during the helicopter operation and vehicles cannot stop once allowed to progress by the flaggers.

The helicopter will be operating seven days a week and operations are anticipated to conclude on March 17, 2012. R&R Conner Aviation, LLC. is the helicopter contractor. Blue North Forest Products, LLC. is the timber sale contractor.

The Interface Fuels project area is identified as “WUI- Rural” in the Idaho County Wildfire Mitigation Plan (2007). This is a situation where small clusters of structures (ranches, farms, resorts, or summer cabins) abut and are exposed to wildland fuels.

Much of the project area contains fuel accumulations caused by high tree densities, a thick, continuous canopy cover and an abundance of ladder fuels creating high risk of a wildfire that could threaten life and property on adjacent private lands. The project was developed to reduce hazardous fuels and to restore healthy, diverse, and resilient ecological systems in order to minimize uncharacteristically severe fires.

For more information, please contact Mark Craig, Contracting Officer, at 208-935-4254.

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