

Legal Notice  
Opportunity for Comment

Cedar Springs-Deer Run-Mustang Campgrounds Fuels Reduction Project

The Flaming Gorge District Ranger is proposing to reduce the potential for severe and fast moving wildfires to cause public injury and property damage within approximately 544 acres of the Cedar Springs/Deer Run and Mustang Campground areas. These campgrounds are located within the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area, all within Daggett County.

Trees would be removed by chainsaw or mechanical methods (track hoe mounted snipper/buncher or use of track hoe bucket and thumb). Trees would be removed to create a mosaic of tree densities and patterns... reducing pinyon-juniper tree density to a five to 30 foot spacing (tree canopy to tree canopy), creating openings of various sizes, and leaving untreated areas. Disturbed areas would be seeded following project implementation. A variety of slash (remaining woody and vegetative materials following cutting) treatments would be used to remove excessive amounts of slash from the project area, the most common of which would be to pile and burn remaining slash. Treatments may begin during the fall or winter of 2007 and would be timed to minimize effects to campground or marina visitors.

This project may be appropriately excluded from documentation in an EA or EIS as described in Category 10 of FSH 1909.15, Chapter 31.2. Category 10 projects are "Hazardous fuels reduction activities using prescribed fire, not to exceed 4,500 acres, and mechanical methods for crushing, piling, thinning, pruning, cutting, chipping, mulching, and mowing, not to exceed 1,000 acres. However, determination of the appropriate level of analysis and documentation will be made only after a review of specialist reports, biological evaluations/assessments, public comments, and other pertinent information and analyses.

You are invited to comment at this time. Comments will be accepted for 30 days following publication of the legal notice of this proposal in the Vernal Express. This comment period provides those interested in or affected by this proposal an opportunity to make their concerns known prior to a decision being made by the Responsible Official. Those who provide timely comments will be eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to 36 CFR part 215 regulations. Comments that are specific are most helpful. Comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project. Written comments must be submitted to: Jeff E. Schramm, District Ranger, Flaming Gorge Ranger District, P.O. Box 279, Manila, Utah 84046. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 to 4:30, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be e-mailed to [comments-intermtn-ashley@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-intermtn-ashley@fs.fed.us), contain "Cedar Springs/Deer Run Campgrounds Fuels Reduction Project" in the subject line, and must be submitted in MS Word (\*.doc) or rich text format (\*.rtf).

For further information concerning this proposal, please contact D. Ross Catron by phone at (435) 781-5268.