



## Flathead National Forest

## Media Release

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### **Crazy Horse III Salvage Project to Begin**

Salvage timber from the 2003 Crazy Horse Fire on the Flathead National Forest was recently sold to Pyramid Mountain Lumber of Seeley Lake. Approximately 3.6 million board feet will be removed within an 1,100-acre area on the Swan Lake District of the forest.

The fire-killed timber will be removed by helicopter, skyline yarding and conventional ground-based equipment. Much of the logging is required to take place in the winter and it is anticipated to begin soon. Many snags will remain for wildlife habitat and no harvest will occur within wilderness or riparian areas.

The 2003 Crazy Horse Fire burned about 8,900 acres on the forest and about 2,200 acres on Plum Creek land. Of the 8,900 acres on the forest, approximately 5,000 acres are in the Mission Mountain Wilderness.

The salvage wood from this sale was reserved for small business as part of the Small Business Set-Aside Program. Businesses with less than 500 employees qualify for this program. Pyramid Mountain Lumber of Seeley Lake was the only bidder on this project.

Other salvage projects related to the 2003 wildland fires on the Flathead National Forest include Robert-Wedge and West Side Reservoir Post-Fire Projects. A decision on Robert-Wedge Project and the final environmental impact statement for the West Side Reservoir Project are anticipated soon. For more information about the Crazy Horse Salvage Project, please contact Swan Lake District Ranger Steve Brady at 837-7500.

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