

**Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests,
and Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management
Office of Communications**

Working as One to Serve Central Oregon

www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon

For immediate release: July 10, 2008

Contact: Sue Olson (541) 383-5561

Peter Murphy, Oregon Department of Transportation (541) 388-6224

Danger Tree Removal Begins Today on Highway 242

Sisters—Danger tree removal operations began in the Deschutes National Forest west of Sisters along Highway 242. In cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), the road will be closed for approximately five miles between the snow gate and Lava Camp while operations occur. The snow gate is approximately one mile beyond the junction with Forest Service road 1028 on Highway 242. The snow gate and work area will be posted with signs.

This stretch of Highway 242 west of Sisters is a popular bike riding route, but will not be safe for motorists, cyclists or pedestrians while trees are felled along the highway. This section of highway will remain closed while work is underway. Cyclists and pedestrians can proceed beyond the snow gate up to the work area where caution signs will be posted. When work is not underway on the weekends, motorists, cyclists and pedestrians can proceed to the snowline.

Butte Timberlands is the purchaser of the 490,000 board feet of timber produced by these danger trees, and will be removing the danger trees.

Before setting out on this route, travelers can check the status of the road at www.TripCheck.com. Motorists, cyclists and pedestrians are advised to proceed with caution in the area as there will be log trucks and other heavy equipment on the highway.

