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# Big Timber Ranger District News Release



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For Immediate Release  
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## Derby Fire Hazard Tree Reduction

Big Timber, MT... To help address safety concerns for the public and employees, the Big Timber Ranger District has proposed removing fire weakened hazard trees along Forest roads within the Derby Fire perimeter. The Forest is asking for public input on this proposal by November 24, 2006.

The proposal includes removing approximately 2,000 hazard trees along roughly 40 miles of Forest Roads. The trees that are removed will be sold, used for firewood, or left as downed woody debris to help address soil erosion and other resource concerns.

“The weakened trees have a strong likelihood of falling unexpectedly, blocking and damaging roads and putting the public and work crews at risk,” said Scott Barndt, Acting Deputy Ranger, Big Timber Ranger District. “The only trees that will be removed are those threatening the roadways, such leaning, cat-faced, or unstable trees. No healthy trees will be removed.”

Project implementation could begin in the winter of 2006 and be completed by the winter of 2008. For more information regarding this project, please contact the Big Timber Ranger District at (406) 932-5155.

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