National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Grand Canyon National Park

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## Grand Canyon News Release

Release date:ImmediateContact(s):Mary Rasmussen<br/>Fire Information OfficePhone number:928-638-7947<br/>January 23, 2007

## Debris Pile Burning Commences at South Rim of Grand Canyon

**Grand Canyon, Ariz.** – The National Park Service will begin burning piles of woody debris this week at a several locations on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. The piles of debris consist of small tree branches, twigs and needles removed during the creation of prescribed fire control lines. Pile burning is a necessary preparation for the prescribed fires scheduled for later this year at the South Rim.

Fire managers will take advantage of the current snowy ground conditions to minimize the chance of fire spread and potential spotting from the small debris piles. The 14-16 piles will be ignited and monitored over the next two weeks by three to four firefighters and an engine, until the piles are completely out.

Park visitors may see or smell smoke in the vicinity of the piles. The piles are located along East Rim Drive near Grandview Point and immediately north of the South Entrance Station for approximately one mile. Signs will be posted to advise motorists of possible smoke.

For further information, please call Mary Rasmussen at (928) 638-7947. For a recorded message on current fire conditions call (928) 638-7918.

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