



National Park Service  
Department of the Interior

Grand Teton National Park

PO Box 170  
Moose, WY 83012

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307 739-3311 phone  
307 739-3325 fax

## Grand Teton National Park Fire Management: Community Fuels Project



Residents of the Snow King Estates and Ridge subdivisions in Jackson, WY were part of a community fuels reduction project this month, removing 23 tons of debris from private property. Approximately 15 households from the two subdivisions participated, clearing brush, small diameter trees, and dead and downed wood from their lots. With the interagency assistance of the Town of Jackson, Bridger-Teton National Forest, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson/Teton County Fire Department, and the Student Conservation Association (SCA) Fire Education Corps, the debris was collected and hauled away for free.

Two SCA interns working in the Grand Teton National Park Fire Management Office this summer coordinated the fuels project. Their internship includes acting as an educational outreach resource for the local interagency fire community and encouraging defensible space work on private property. After working with the Jackson/Teton County Fire Department to determine a project location, the interns established contacts with the homeowners and lined up the necessary equipment. "Jackson's Public Works Department was very supportive and provided the front-end loader and trucks," explained Erik Peterson. "We really appreciated their hard work and willingness to help." A 10-person interagency crew worked for a full day collecting 15 dump truck loads of woody debris.



The effort was part of an area fuels reduction effort which began in mid-July when fire managers from the Bridger-Teton National Forest implemented a 30-acre fuels reduction project to remove dense vegetation on federal land east of Snow King Resort. The Snow King area fuels reduction project is in response to the goals and objectives of the 2000 National Fire Plan. This community fuels project extended the work to private residences in the area. "We're thrilled with the amount of debris collected," said Fire Education Specialist Lori Iverson.