



## Grand Teton National Park Fire Management: Public Scoping Open House



Grand Teton National Park hosted a Public Scoping Open House on April 24<sup>th</sup> to seek input on revision of the park's fire management plan and proposed fuel reduction projects for seven park areas.

Park officials are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in support of an updated fire management plan. The park's present fire management plan was last updated in 1991 and is being revised to reflect changes in federal fire management and resource protection policies. The Open House allowed Grand Teton National Park to solicit comments from the public and help identify issues and develop alternative fire management approaches that will be evaluated in the EA.

Grand Teton officials also accepted public comment on seven fuel reduction projects selected as part of a national pilot program to streamline the environmental review. The pilot program, part of President Bush's Healthy Forests Initiative, was announced by U.S. Interior Secretary Gale Norton on January 15<sup>th</sup> at the National Fire Plan Conference in New Orleans. Grand Teton National Park recognizes that early public and agency scoping and participation are critical to the success of this project.

Visitors to the Public Scoping Workshop signed in and received an orientation guide that outlined the eight information stations. Attendees then rotated through the stations, visiting with staff, viewing displays, and picking up handouts. The Open House format was designed to give visitors many opportunities to informally interact with staff. Flip charts, comment forms, comment log books, and computer files were available for visitors to record their comments. Interagency partners were also on hand to answer questions about the fire management program and distribute fire protection information to the public.

**How to Make the Most of this Open House**  
Fire Management Plan and Fuels Reduction Projects  
Environmental Assessments (EAs)

**Things You Can Do**

- Visit each station and review the posters & handouts
- Ask park staff & technical experts questions
- Understand the alternatives and environmental effects
- Tell us WHY you agree or disagree, like or dislike
- Discuss issues with other workshop attendees
- Record your comments!

The workshop format is designed to give you many opportunities to provide your feedback. Tonight, we offer a variety of ways to make your feedback count:

- Flip Charts
- Comment Forms
- Comment Log Books
- Computer File


