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Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Grand Teton National Park

Department of Agriculture
U.S. Forest Service
Bridger-Teton National Forest

Teton Interagency Fire Management

Forestry Event Focuses on Fire Mitigation Efforts



Interagency specialists shared their knowledge about fire and insect management with the public this month, participating in a community workshop held at the Crescent H Ranch south of Wilson, Wyoming. The two-day event consisted of forest tours, presentations, and an open forum session.

In 2000, a local interagency wildland-urban interface work group was developed to identify communities at risk to wildland fire. The task group consisted of representatives from the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, State Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, and the Jackson/Teton County Fire Department. Together, the team then prioritized the identified communities and developed partnerships to secure funding for mitigation efforts. The Crescent H Ranch was among the areas identified in the study.

The event was organized by arborist Travis Eva and served as an informal way to bring together professionals and homeowners to discuss forest health. The setting was a prime location to view the effects of both mountain pine beetle infestation and the 2001 Green Knoll Fire. Participants toured areas that have undergone different types of forest treatments, including work on Crescent H properties and the neighboring Bridger-Teton National Forest. While describing the Butler Creek project, a 21-acre fuels project implemented by the U.S. Forest Service in 2003, forest officials emphasized the need for collaboration on adjoining private and public lands to achieve common goals.

Presentations and a panel discussion followed the tours. The panel included Teton County Fire Marshal Rusty Palmer and Wyoming Game & Fish Biologists Steve Kilpatrick and Jill Miller. Regional experts included Jim Webster, Wyoming National Fire Plan Coordinator, and David Leatherman, a Colorado State Forest Service entomologist.

Approximately 25 people attended the workshop.

