

United States Department of Interior 1005 Selway Drive

Bureau of Land Management

Dillon Field Office Dillon, Montana 59725

Contact: Marilyn Krause Phone: (406) 533-7617 Date: March 18, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLM SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON TIMBER SALVAGE EA IN WINSLOW FIRE AREA

DILLON – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing to cut and remove up to 150 acres of timber affected by the Winslow Fire that burned last summer south of Dillon.

"The Dillon Field Office has completed the Curry Creek environmental analysis," stated Joe Casey, BLM forester, "and we are inviting interested members of the public and other agencies to provide comments pertaining to the issues addressed in the EA."

The proposed harvest area is located in the Curry Creek drainage, Township 14 South, Range 2 West, Section 19. The Winslow Fire affected approximately 6,000 acres of BLM administered land mostly in the Centennial Mountains Wilderness Study Area. None of the timber within the Wilderness Study Area is included in this proposal.

According to Casey, the BLM analyzed a range of alternatives in the EA ranging from harvesting the majority of the fire killed timber and thinning the remaining live trees to reduce their susceptibility to insect attack and enhance aspen regeneration, to not harvesting any of the timber affected by the fire in Section 19.

For more information on this proposal, contact Joe Casey at the Dillon Field Office, (406) 683-2337. Written comments should be sent to the BLM Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, MT 59725 no later than April 19.

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