



NORTHWEST COLORADO FIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT

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News Release

BLM resumes slash pile burning on Independence Mountain

Walden, Colo. – The Bureau of Land Management Kremmling Field Office will burn 500 slash piles beginning Nov. 19 through Dec. 20, if weather conditions are favorable. Burning slash piles requires a minimal amount of snow be present in order to keep the fire from spreading beyond the piles. The slash piles are on Independence Mountain 15 miles northwest of Walden on BLM land; six miles west of Colorado State Highway 125 and two miles north of Jackson County Road 6W.

The BLM fire crew has burned about 400 piles to date that were created by thinning, removal of hazardous trees, and other timber sale applications within the Independence Mountain area.

Smoke may be visible from Walden and Cowdrey. Fire personnel will be working on the West Independence Mountain Loop Road and the main Independence Mountain road.

The lodgepole pine slash piles are the result of thinning and hazardous tree removal along BLM and county roads. Burning the slash piles will remove flammable debris and lower the risk of intense, large wildfires. This is an ongoing project that will continue over the next two years.

Burn plans have been prepared and approved and ignition will only proceed if weather and ground conditions are within specifically determined parameters that allow for safe and efficient operations. Smoke permits from the Colorado State Air Pollution Division are in place. No project work will be conducted over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Please contact Kevin Thompson Fire Management Specialist at 970-724-3033 for more information.

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