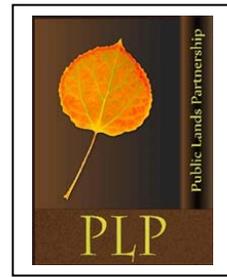




USDA Forest Service
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison
National Forests
2250 Highway 50
Delta, CO 81416-2485



Public Lands Partnership

SBEADMR SCIENCE/MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG) in conjunction with the Public Lands Partnership (PLP) are hosting a Science/Management Workshop on **August 19, in the Jordan Room at the Holiday Inn in Montrose, Colorado**. The workshop will present “state-of-knowledge” information on the ecology and management of spruce-fir and aspen ecosystems that are experiencing spruce beetle epidemic and aspen decline resulting in wide-spread mortality.

The Science Workshop is being held in support of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a 10-year project entitled *Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR)*. The Project proposes active management in spruce-fir and aspen on the GMUG to accomplish four objectives:

1. Remove hazardous trees along roads, trails, power lines, campgrounds, within ski areas and other permitted areas. Remove hazardous trees in the wildland urban interface.
2. In spruce-fir, focus on suitable timber lands to salvage timber, treat fuels and reforest acres.
3. In healthier (live) spruce-fir stands, utilize individual tree selection and group selection prescriptions to increase stand vigor, promote regeneration and create multiple-age classes of trees.
4. Regenerate aspen stands to create healthy clones. Aspen treatments will focus on stands affected by Sudden Aspen Decline.

Registration will begin at 7:45 am on the day of the workshop, with presentations beginning at 8:30 am and lasting until 4:30 pm. We will be having a working lunch so participants are encouraged to bring a sack lunch. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

A day-long field trip to the Gunnison Ranger District will be held **September 4, 2014**. ***This trip replaces the field trip tentatively scheduled for July 29, 2014.*** The field trip will be leaving from Gunnison at approximately 9:00 am returning to Gunnison at approximately 4:00 pm. Additional details about the workshop and field trip will be provided over the next few weeks.

Please RSVP to Mary Johnson mjohnson@fs.fed.us by August 12, 2014 for the science workshop and by August 27, 2014 for the field trip. Workshop seating is limited to 100 and the field trip will be limited to 50. Both events will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Forest Service is posting various written products related to the project on the Forests' website. Linked to this information is a direct opportunity to provide comments. The direct link is: http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/SBEADMR_comments. Recent posted documents include a set of questions and answers about the project and a project design checklist that

will be used during project implementation. ***The Forest Service will accept comments until September 1, 2014.***

Comments can also be sent hard copy form to:

Attn: SBEADMR Project c/o Lee Ann Loupe, 2250 Highway 50 Delta, CO 81416.

All documents, including scientific articles related to the project, can also be found on the website at the project link: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/SBEADMR>

For additional information please contact Clay Speas at cspeas@fs.fed.us or phone 970-874-6677.