



November 2004

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

Open House Highlights Fire Management Plan EA Alternatives

Grand Teton National Park hosted a Public Open House on October 14th to provide information and answer questions about the Environmental Assessment (EA) completed for three fire management plan alternatives. The EA was released for public review and comment on October 4th, and comments were accepted through November 3, 2004.

Three EA alternatives were developed for the Fire Management Plan through an internal and external scoping process. The EA incorporates data from several sources including the federal fire policy, park program goals and objectives, research and monitoring strategies, and experience from the current fire management program. An Open House in April 2003 also gave the public an opportunity to identify issues and develop alternative fire management approaches that were evaluated in the EA.

Participants in the public workshop received an orientation guide that outlined the seven information stations. Attendees then rotated through the stations, visiting with staff, viewing displays, and picking up handouts. Copies of the EA were also available at several of the stations. The open house format was designed to give visitors many opportunities to informally interact with staff and provide feedback. Flip charts, comment forms, comment log books, and computers 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.

A decision will be reached on which alternative to use in the Fire Management Plan following review and consideration of public input received during the comment period. The final Fire Management Plan is expected to be completed by late December.