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**(S.D.)-U.S. Forest Service Plans Black Hills Beetle Control**



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 09/26/2012 10:01 AM

**RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP)** - The U.S. Forest Service is planning a project to control mountain pine beetles in a 50-square-mile area near Rapid City.

The \$484,000 project includes timber cutting, thinning and prescribed burns.

An environmental impact statement on the project is available for public review.

The report says the project would treat the vegetation to reduce the pine beetle threat and potential for large-scale wildfires.

The beetles are believed to have killed 4 million trees last year in the Black Hills.