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**Chadrad Communications, Inc.**  
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337  
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601  
E-mail: [kcsr@chadrad.com](mailto:kcsr@chadrad.com)

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**(S.D.)-Slash Piles To Be Burned Near Mt. Rushmore**



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 02/27/2014 08:29 AM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - South Dakota authorities say people can expect to see smoke and haze around Mount Rushmore National Memorial this week as officials plan to start burning slash piles.

The prescribed burns will happen on 50 acres that surround the monument. They will start Wednesday and end Saturday.

Officials say the burns were prompted by recent snow and favorable weather conditions.

Officials say people can expect to see crews working in the forest while the prescribed burns are taking place.

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