



News Release



USDI Bureau of Land Management, Medford District -
<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/index.php>

USDI Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District -
<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/index.php>

USDA Forest Service, Rogue River - Siskiyou National Forest –
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/rogue-siskiyou/>

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Christmas Tree Permits Go On Sale Next Week

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Medford/Coos Bay, OR – November 19, 2008 – Beginning next week local vendors and Coos Bay and Medford Districts of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) with the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest will start selling tree tags to cut personal-use trees for Christmas and other holiday celebrations.

Permits from the BLM Medford District offices and Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest offices will be available starting on Monday, November 24 while the BLM Coos Bay District will start selling permits on Friday, November 28.

The tree permits sell for \$ 5.00 per tree. The permits cover areas at both Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and Coos Bay and Medford Districts of the BLM where lands are open to personal use tree harvesting. Maps with directions to cutting areas will be provided.

The Christmas tree permit tag is validated by the public when they cut out the date, month and year on the tree tag and securely attached it to the freshly cut tree in a visible location before it is transported.

Christmas tree harvest is not allowed in wilderness areas, campgrounds, developed recreation areas, National Monuments, Research Natural Areas, Area's of Critical Environmental Concern, within fences or posted tree plantations within 200 feet of state highways or on private lands. Christmas tree cutting is also not permitted within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, the Wild and Scenic Rogue River corridor and Recreation Areas such as the Table Rocks, developed campgrounds, systems and picnic areas.

Most Forest Service and BLM roads are not plowed in the winter. Public land managers encourage travelers to be prepared for cold weather by bringing along cold weather clothing and checking with local road conditions before you leave. Additionally:

- Tell family or friends your travel plans before you leave.
- Start your trip to the forest with a full tank of gas in your vehicle.
- Bring along items that you might need such as a reliable map, food, water, warm clothing, blankets, first aid kit, matches, flares, jack, lug wrench and a shovel.

Personal-Use Christmas Tree Harvesting on Your Public Lands

Special Stipulations:

- A permit is required for the harvest of each individual tree.
- Trees can only be harvested on public lands where allowed by this permit.
- ***DO NOT*** harvest trees in wilderness areas, national monuments, wild and scenic rivers, campgrounds, developed areas, fenced or posted tree plantations, within 200 feet of state highways, or on private property. If you have questions about these restrictions, ask when you purchase your permit.
- Permits or trees cannot be resold.
- There is a limit of five trees per person.
- Harvest only trees that are less than 12 feet tall. The tree should be cut as close to the ground as possible, and not more than 12 inches above the ground. Cut your tree only if there is another tree within 12 feet of it.
- After harvesting your tree, validate the permit by cutting out the year and date, and attaching the permit to your tree before transporting it.
- Vehicles should be clean of mud and plant materials before entry into National Forest or BLM lands.
- Respect all road and area closures.