



# News Release

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**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 Tags Available For Sale

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Medford/Coos Bay, OR** – November 18, 2009 –Christmas Tree permit tags are available for sale from local vendors and local offices of the Coos Bay and Medford Districts of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

These tree tags are used by individuals and families to cut personal-use trees for Christmas and other holiday events. A permit is required for the harvest of each individual tree.

Permits from the BLM Medford District offices and Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest offices are currently available starting this week. The BLM Coos Bay District will start selling permits on Wednesday, November 25.

The tree permits sell for \$ 5.00 per tree and are nonrefundable. There is a limit of five tree permits per person. The permits cover a large area that includes 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 after harvesting your tree by cutting out the date, month and year on the tree tag and securely attaching it to the cut tree in a visible location before transporting it.

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.

Traveling safely on public lands is a priority. Keep in mind that roads on public lands administered by the Forest Service and BLM are not plowed in the winter.

Travelers should be prepared for winter weather and check weather conditions before you leave. People are encouraged to take a reliable map of the area with them and travel with a full tank of gas. Bring along adequate winter apparel, blankets, food, water, first aid kit and shovel in your vehicles while traveling in the forest. Always let someone know where you plan to harvest your tree and when you expect to return.

The Bear Camp Coastal route is not advisable for travel this time of year. The Bear Camp Coastal route is not maintained for winter travel from November 5<sup>th</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>.

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