U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

News Release

BLM Colorado Royal Gorge Field Office Media Contact: Maribeth Pecotte (970) 724-3027 Nov. 16, 2021

Christmas tree permits available in Cañon City

CAÑON CITY, Colo. – Permits for cutting Christmas trees on Bureau of Land Management lands will be available from the Royal Gorge Field Office in Cañon City and the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (AHRA) Visitor Center in Salida, beginning Monday, November 22.

Permits are \$10 per tree and are limited to two trees per household. Permits may be purchased online at forestproducts.blm.gov, or they may be purchased in person or by phone Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Permit sales run through December 24 or the last business day before December 25.

"With the purchase of a permit, families can take part in the time-honored tradition of selecting and cutting their own holiday tree," said Royal Gorge Field Manager, Keith Berger. "We recommend bringing along a hand saw, rope or twine, extra food, water and blankets when you cut your tree. You should be prepared for winter weather with warm clothes and boots, tire chains, a shovel, and emergency supplies."

Christmas tree cutting is permitted on most BLM-administered lands within the Royal Gorge Field Office with the following exceptions: wilderness study areas, Research Natural Areas, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Browns Canyon National Monument, AHRA, developed recreation sites, and other areas posted closed to fuelwood or firewood cutting. A variety of tree species are available, depending on the cutting location. Maps of closed and recommended harvest areas are available with purchase of a permit.

For more information about Christmas tree cutting on BLM lands, call the Royal Gorge Field Office at 719-269-8500.

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The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 11 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The agency's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated \$111 billion in economic output across the country in fiscal year 2020—more than any other agency in the Department of the Interior. These activities supported more than 498,000 jobs.