



# Commercial Huckleberry Sales Under new Washington law

**For Immediate Release  
July 08, 2008**

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PORTLAND, OR – Commercial buyers and sellers of huckleberries must now register their sales transactions under a new Washington State law.

Two major changes were made to the law that regulates the sale and purchase of wild huckleberries. These changes went into effect on June 12, 2008.

The first change is that anyone selling or attempting to sell raw or unprocessed huckleberries in any amount must first acquire a specialized forest products permit.

The permits must be properly completed and may be obtained from the sheriff's office of the county in which the huckleberries are harvested or, if the harvest is on national forest lands, from the U.S. Forest Service.

Permit information must include the buyers' and sellers' contact information, amount harvested, and location of harvesting. Permission of the landowner is required before harvesting.

The second change is that buyers of huckleberries (except retail buyers) must now record information from sellers such as the permit holder's name, the amount of huckleberries purchased and the license plate number of the vehicle transporting the huckleberries. This information must be recorded on the bill of sale which must be retained for at least 1 year. These records must be made available to law enforcement officers, colleges and universities.

Retail sales of huckleberries are exempt from this requirement.

Law enforcement may take possession of any huckleberries being sold illegally and violations of this law are considered a Class C felony punishable by up to 5 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. For more details, visit [www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/recreation/huckleberries/](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/recreation/huckleberries/).

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