



# NEWS RELEASE

## Lolo National Forest

United States  
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service  
Lolo National Forest  
Building 24, Fort Missoula  
Missoula, Montana 59804

[www.fs.fed.us/r1/lolo](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lolo)

**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact: Boyd Hartwig 406-329-1024**

## Christmas Tree Permits Now on Sale

Missoula, MT. – The Lolo National Forest has begun selling Christmas tree permits at all five Ranger Districts and at the Forest Supervisor's Office. Permits are limited to three per family and cost \$5 each.

The hunt for the perfect Christmas tree can be a fun, festive way to begin the holiday season. And following some simple advice can ensure it is a safe day out in the woods.

- Be aware of changing weather, road, and snow conditions. Good snow tires and a four-wheel drive vehicle are advised when traveling in winter conditions on Forest Service roads.
- Carry a map and be aware of your location.
- If you are on foot be aware of remaining daylight and time needed to return to your vehicle.
- Bring the right tools: a saw for cutting the tree and a shovel for removing snow from around the base of the tree.
- Advise family or friends of your destination and when you will return.

The Lolo National Forest does have some guidance for tree cutting:

- Please select a tree under 12-feet in height and do not cut Ponderosa pine
- Please do not cut trees from plantations
- Please do not leave any live branches on the stump, and cut the stump at no more than five inches above the soil
- Do not cut off the tops of trees
- Do not cut trees within 150 feet of riparian areas (creeks and streams) or within Wilderness Areas.

Ranger District offices can offer advice on good locations to cut trees. In general, areas along power line corridors and near roads are good locations.

Please contact the following offices for more information:

Missoula Ranger District, 329-3814

Ninemile Ranger District, 626-5201

Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District, 826-3821

Seeley Lake Ranger District, 677-2233

Superior Ranger District, 822-4233

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