

**Nez Perce National Forest**  
104 Airport Road  
Grangeville, ID 83530  
208-983-1950



**Clearwater National Forest**  
12730 Highway 12  
Orofino, ID 83544  
208-476-4541

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### Christmas Tree Cutting Permits Available

The Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests invite you and your family to enjoy a winter outing in the forest to search for that "perfect" Christmas tree. For many families, the selection of a Christmas tree is an annual tradition. Indeed, bringing home the tree often signals the official start of the holiday season. Proper selection of a tree will help make the season even more enjoyable.

You will need to buy a Christmas tree permit, available at Forest Service offices in Grangeville and Orofino and at ranger district offices in nearby communities. Permits are also available at Rae Brothers Sporting Goods and Tackett's Saw Service, Grangeville; the Harpster Store in Harpster; Idaho Rigging in Potlatch; the Helmer Store & Café in Helmer; Southside Chevron and Woodland Enterprises in Moscow and Tom Cat's Sporting Goods in Kooskia. Permits are also available at the USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station on South Main in Moscow and at the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area offices in Riggins and Clarkston. Christmas tree cutters who plan to get their permits at the HCNRA offices in Clarkston are asked to call first, (509) 758-0616, to make sure that the office is open and that permits are available. Permits must be purchased for each tree you are going to cut. Each family can buy as many as three permits at a cost of \$5.00 apiece. Permits are good on national forest lands in northern Idaho and Montana and on public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in western Montana.

There are no special areas designated for Christmas tree cutting. Christmas trees may be cut anywhere EXCEPT at campgrounds, administrative sites or on private properties within the national forest boundaries.

Cut your tree as close to the ground as possible. Please don't cut a large tree just to take the top.

Think safety and be prepared for winter conditions. Keep emergency food, clothing and equipment with you and let others know where you are going. Check for local road conditions before leaving home.

We wish you a happy holiday season and hope that your Christmas tree will be a valued addition to your family's holiday enjoyment.

For more information call 208-983-1950 in Grangeville or 208-476-8267 in Orofino or contact your nearby ranger district office.

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