



# Interagency News Release

---



USDI Bureau of Land Management, Medford District -  
<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/index.htm>

USDI Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District -  
<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/index.htm>

USDA Forest Service, Rogue River - Siskiyou National Forest -  
[www.fs.fed.us/r6/rogue-siskiyou](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/rogue-siskiyou)

---

Contact: Patty Burel, Public Affairs Officer - Phone: (541) 618-2424 or (541) 941-4268 (cell)  
BLM Medford District Office & Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest  
and  
Megan Harper, Public Affairs Officer - Phone: (541) 751-4353- BLM Coos Bay District Office

## **Christmas Tree Permits Available Locally from BLM and USDA Forest Service**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Medford, OR, November 20, 2006 – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and USDA Forest Service are teaming up again this year to offer for sale permits to cut personal-use trees for Christmas and other holiday celebrations. The local BLM Coos Bay and Medford Districts and Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest will sell the permits for \$ 5.00 per tree.

Permits from the Bureau of Land Management's Coos Bay and Medford District Offices will be available starting on Friday Nov. 24 while Forest Service permits are available now. Permits are also available through the listed vendor locations.

Some cutting areas may not be accessible after snowfall so it is advisable to cut trees early in the season. Check in with a phone call or visit to your local Forest Service or BLM office before you and your family head out to the forest to obtain a map and directions to cutting areas as well as local road condition information.

All federal offices are closed Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23, and open on Friday, November 24.

The Christmas tree permit tag is validated by the public when they cut out the date, month and year on the tree tag and securely attached it to the freshly cut tree in a visible location before it is transported.

The tree permits cover both BLM and Forest Service lands and authorize a broad travel area for the public to obtain a tree. Maps and information about cutting areas will be provided where permits are sold.

Christmas tree harvest is not allowed in wilderness areas, campgrounds, developed recreation areas, National Monuments, Research Natural Areas, Area's of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), 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 such as the Table Rocks, developed campgrounds, systems and picnic areas.

The following are a few tips to make your trip enjoyable and safe:

- Cut a tree early in the season before snow may limit access.
- Set out early in the day to find your tree.
- Before leaving home, check weather and road conditions, carry needed equipment like a saw, shovel, gloves, warm clothing, and tire chains, and notify friends or relatives of where you are going and when to expect to return.
- Always bring cold weather clothing, as weather can be unpredictable and can change quickly.
- Bring emergency food and water and have a full tank of gas in your vehicle.

# ***FACT SHEET***

## **Personal-Use Christmas Tree Harvesting on Your Public Lands**

### **Special Stipulations**

- A permit is required for the harvest of each individual tree.
- Trees can only be harvested on public lands where allowed by this permit.
- ***DO NOT*** harvest trees in wilderness areas, national monuments, wild and scenic rivers, campgrounds, developed areas, fenced or posted tree plantations, within 200 feet of state highways, or on private property. If you have questions about these restrictions, ask when you purchase your permit.
- Permits or trees cannot be resold.
- Cut only trees that are less than 12 feet tall. The tree should be cut as close to the ground as possible, and not more than 12 inches above the ground. Cut your tree only if there is another tree within 12 feet of it.
- After harvesting your tree, validate the permit by cutting out the year and date, and attaching the permit to your tree before transporting it.
- Respect all road and area closures.

##