

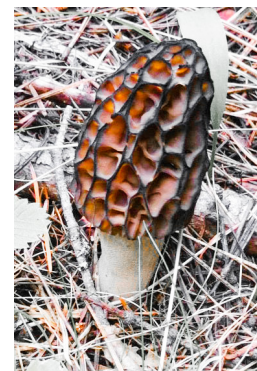


Forest Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OKANOAGAN-WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST

2022 Commercial Morel Mushroom Gathering



Permits

Permits are required for all commercial mushroom gathering on the Methow Valley and Naches Ranger Districts. Individuals are required to have their mushroom permit in their possession at all times when gathering mushrooms.

Commercial permits are available at Methow Valley, Naches, Cle Elum, and Chelan Ranger District offices during regular business hours Monday through Friday.

Washington State forest product transportation requirements can be found under RCW 76.48.060 and at <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=76.48&full=true#76.48.061>

To protect sensitive fish habitat, do not walk through rivers, streams, or creeks to access harvesting areas. To protect valuable cultural resources, do not remove or damage historical items or artifacts found in the national forest.

Commercial Mushroom Permit fees are \$30 for a 2-day permit, \$80 for a 30-day permit or \$100 per season. Seasonal permits are valid May 2 through July 31, 2022.

Personal (Incidental) Use Mushroom Gathering

Up to five gallons per person per day is free. Print and carry with you the free use info sheet available at: fs.usda.gov/goto/okawen/mushroom . Info sheets are also available at district offices.

Garbage Removal All garbage must be removed from National Forest lands for proper disposal unless a commercial harvester is camping in a designated camping site where a garbage disposal repository is provided.

Maps Individuals with commercial mushroom harvesting permits will be able to harvest mushrooms only from areas listed on ranger district mushroom maps.

Camping The Methow Valley Ranger District has designated three sites (see map) around the Cub Creek 2 and Cedar Creek burn areas for commercial harvester camping, if staying overnight on the National Forest. The Naches Ranger District has not designated camping sites for commercial harvesters around the Schneider Springs burn area, but will provide dumpsters and porta-potties at strategic sites. Commercial harvesters are required to use commercial harvest camps, if designated. Do not camp at trailheads, trailhead parking areas, or other high use recreation or special use areas. Camp sites should not be within 200 feet of streams, lakes, or other wet areas such as wetlands and meadows (unless designated for use).

Buying & Selling or drying mushrooms is not allowed anywhere on National Forest lands.

Closures



Areas closed to commercial mushroom picking include Wilderness Areas, Research Natural Areas, administrative sites, botanical areas, scenic corridors, developed recreation sites, campgrounds, and private property.



Road closures will be in effect within some commercial mushroom harvesting areas. Road closures will remain in place for areas where hazards exist and to protect soft roadbeds until they dry out.



Motorized Off-Route Travel is not allowed within burned areas. Motorized equipment, including ATVs or motorbikes, is permitted only on existing roads open to public. All motorized equipment must be street legal.

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Northwest Forest Pass Required at Some Trailheads

A day use fee is required at many trailheads and day use sites. A valid pass must be displayed on the vehicle windshield when using a fee site. Passes cost \$5 per day or \$30 for an annual pass and are available at all national forest offices and some fee sites.

Campfires

Campfire restrictions will be posted on information boards at designated camps and on forest website. If fires are allowed:

- Keep camp or warming fires small
- Build camp or warming fires several feet from overhanging branches, steep slopes, dry grass, logs, rotten stumps, etc.
- Never leave a camp or warming fire unattended
- Keep plenty of water handy and have a shovel for throwing dirt on the fire if it gets out of control
- Drown and stir the fire with water until all embers and coals are cool-to-the-touch
- Keep vehicles off dry grass—heat from exhaust systems can ignite fires

Safety

Driving Safety: Many forest roads are single-lane roads. Please travel slowly. Be prepared to encounter vehicles, animals or people around corners.

Post Fire Hazards:

- **Walking:** Tread cautiously; the fire may have burned roots creating unseen walking hazards.
- **Falling Trees:** Trees burned by fire may fall at any time, with no warning; always look up for possible hazards.
THIS IS A MAJOR HAZARD — BEWARE!
- **Due to flooding potential in burned areas, we recommend commercial mushroom pickers monitor National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Service radio stations.** Monitor weather forecasts and be alert for flood watches and warnings. Be aware of the possibility of flooding from rains upstream of your location. Monitor local radio stations for public safety bulletins and flood information. Scan NOAA Weather Radio for real-time weather conditions; these broadcasts require a scanner or special radio receiver.

Emergency Services

911 is the local emergency services phone number. Hospitals are located in Yakima, Omak, Brewster, Chelan, and Wenatchee.

Other Agencies



Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will not issue commercial mushroom harvest permits. Therefore, DNR lands and developed campgrounds are closed to commercial harvesters. Harvest for personal use is allowed without a permit. ATV/ORV travel is allowed on open roads only. Within the Green Dot Road management areas, motorized wheeled vehicles are only allowed on Green Dot Roads. ATV/ORV travel off any road, behind gates, or on trails is strictly prohibited. In undeveloped and dispersed campsites, campfires are prohibited, and camping is limited to 10 days. Garbage – Pack it in – Pack it out. For more information, contact DNR at 360-902-1600.



Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) does not allow commercial mushroom harvesting or camping for commercial harvesters. For more information call 509-575-2740 or 509-754-4624.



Okanagan County Sheriff's Office: 800-572-6604
Chelan County Sheriff's Office: 509-667-6875
Yakima County Sheriff's Office: 509-574-2500

National Forest Contact Information

Methow Valley Ranger District
24 W. Chewuch Road, Winthrop, WA 98862; 509-996-4000. Office hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Chelan Ranger District
428 W. Woodin Ave., Chelan, WA 98816; 509-682-4900. Office hours 8 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday.

Cle Elum Ranger District
803 West 2nd Street, Cle Elum, WA 98922; 509-852-1100. Office hours 8 a.m. to 12:30; 1:15 to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Naches Ranger District
10237 Highway 12, Naches WA 98937; 509-653-1401. Office hours 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday. Hours may change in late spring/early summer.

Contact us on the web at: www.fs.usda.gov/okawen