

# 2012 CEREMONIAL DEAD OAK FREE USE WOOD CUTTING REGULATIONS NORTH KAIBAB RANGER DISTRICT

(May 1, 2012 vers.)

The North Kaibab Ranger District has not yet implemented its travel management plan. Permittees are allowed to travel off-road to gather ceremonial dead oak in accordance with the district ceremonial dead oak map. The North Kaibab Ranger District expects to implement **travel management rules** later this fall, 2012. The rules for ceremonial dead oak collection may change, at which time new maps and handouts will be available. If you have any questions, please contact the District office by phone at 928-643-7395 or visit us at 430 S. Main Street in Fredonia, Arizona (open 8 am-4:30pm M-F). Our ceremonial dead oak collection rules and maps can also be found at our Kaibab National Forest website found at:

[www.fs.usda.gov/main/kaibab/passes-permits/forestproducts](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/kaibab/passes-permits/forestproducts)

## General Ceremonial Dead Oak Free Use Policy

A valid Native American Church membership card, tribal identification card, or a letter from a Tribe or Tribal Chapter requesting free ceremonial dead oak is required.

A limit of one cord per permit, two permits per year, per person is allowed. Requests for larger amounts must be made in writing to the Forest Supervisor or District Ranger and will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Permits will be valid for one month within the regular fuel wood season (May 1-November 30) to gather ceremonial dead oak and remove it from the district.

Please harvest DEAD OAK only.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT (Tractors, skidders, forklifts, or track driven machinery) IS **NOT** ALLOWED for skidding or loading.

There are no length restrictions for ceremonial dead oak.

No reselling of ceremonial dead oak.

PACK IT IN PACK IT OUT Please remove all trash!!! Help Keep our Forest Beautiful!!!

Standing dead tree diameters are measured at Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), which is defined as the Diameter of a tree 4 ½ feet above the ground. If you are on a slope, this is 4 ½ feet above the ground. A standing dead Oak which has a stem less than 8 inches DBH may be cut regardless of tree height.

- *If you are not certain of height or stem size of a standing dead tree, Do Not Cut the Tree.*
- Dead Standing trees are very valuable for wildlife & the Forest Ecosystem.

Permittees are required to protect Condors by ensuring no garbage, toxic materials or open fluid containers are accessible in the open. If Condors are seen, please do not interact with them and immediately contact the North Kaibab Ranger District at (928) 643-7395 to let the District Biologist know when and where the Condors were sited.

## Fire Precautions

Power saws must have a muffler in good condition and be equipped with a stainless steel screen (spark arrestor) with a maximum opening of .23 inch. Keep your shovel and fire extinguisher available at all times.

Never set a hot power saw on dry flammable materials. Place it on bare ground, a rock or a tree stump.

Prior to starting saw, move it at least 10 feet away from where it was fueled and away from gasoline vapors.

Remain in the area at least 30 minutes after you have completed cutting, to insure that a stray spark from your saw has not started a fire.

If you start a warming and/or cooking fire, please extinguish it completely with water before you leave.

**Safety Message:** Gathering oak within past burned areas is extremely dangerous since burned trees may fall due to burned out roots and/or tops.

Down wood already on the ground and/or dead standing wood meeting the above section's species and size specifications may be cut **with the exception that NO ceremonial dead oak cutting or gathering within the following Timber Sales and/or Permit Areas:**

- Dead Horse Timber Sale (formally Dry Park TS)
- Ryan 1 Green Pinyon & Juniper free use permit area

**In addition, please NO ceremonial dead oak cutting or gathering within the following:**

- Warm Fire area as shaded on the ceremonial dead oak map
- *Pedio* cactus habitat
- Study areas; Campgrounds; Communication Sites or other Administrative Sites.

**SEE ATTACHED MAP for the Ceremonial Dead Oak gathering area on the district.**

Additional unforeseen restricted no cutting no gathering areas and/or periods may occur on the district due to environmental conditions such as, but not limited to: **high fire danger; planned or unplanned fire ignitions; etc.** Please check with the North Kaibab District Office for current restriction information at 928-643-7395.

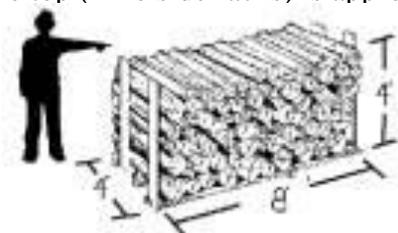
Vehicles **MUST NOT** be driven off roads when such travel will result in damage to soil or vegetation (For example when conditions are wet and muddy).

No wood may be cut where it would result in damage to any improvements such as buildings, fences, roads, power lines, etc.

No wood may be removed when significant ground disturbance will occur from off road wood gathering operations.

## Measuring Cords

The amount of wood removed is measured in Cords. A standard Cord is 4x4x8 feet. A standard size pickup truck bed filled just above the top (if no side racks) is approximately ½ cord.



## Document Wood Removal

**Ceremonial Dead Oak cutters/gatherers must physically attach a Load Tag to each ¼ cord or portion of oak in a location visible from the rear of the vehicle before moving the vehicle from the oak collection site.**

1. There are four tags for each cord of wood issued on the permit. Each tag equals ¼ cord or less and is numbered and corresponds with a load ticket number on the permit.
2. Before leaving the harvest site, a tag for each ¼ cord or smaller portion of wood in the load must be physically attached to a piece of wood in the load (ie ¼ cord or less=1 tag, ¼-½ cord=2 tags, ½-¾ cord=3 tags, etc.). Use a nail, staple, tack, screwdriver or other secure attachment device, that will remain attached during transport.
3. Each tag must have the month, day of the week, and A.M/P.M. punched out, with a pen, hole punch, etc., prior to attaching it to the load.
4. Permittees must also fill out the Product Quantity Removal Record in INK on the permit prior to leaving the harvest area. The quantity in this record must correspond with the number of tags used.

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**I have read the 2012 Ceremonial Dead Oak cutting regulations herein. I understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this permit.**

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**Signature of Permittee**

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**Date**

**PLEASE HELP PROTECT OUR RESOURCES !**

**BE SAFE AND ENJOY YOUR CEREMONIAL DEAD OAK GATHERING EXPERIENCE !**

