

NEWS

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST

United States
Department of
Agriculture

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 29, 2013

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Mushroom Permits available for the Trinity Ridge Fire Area

Boise, Idaho - Forest officials today announced guidelines for personal and commercial wild mushroom picking this year within the Trinity Ridge Fire area on the Mountain Home and Idaho City Ranger Districts.

Individual personal use pickers must obtain a free Personal Use permit to gather mushrooms within the Trinity Fire Ridge area from May 1 – July 14. Personal Use permit holders may gather up to 5 gallons of morels or other mushrooms per day. These mushrooms cannot be sold, bartered, or given away.

No permit is required for personal use picking elsewhere on the Boise National Forest outside of the Trinity Ridge Fire area.

A **Commercial Use** permit is required if an individual will be selling mushrooms or gathers more than 5 gallons a day. This permit, including a required commercial camping permit, will be \$300 and will be valid for 21 consecutive days.

Commercial gathering will only be allowed in two specific areas and time periods within the Trinity Ridge Fire area:

- May 1 to June 11 – Fire area north of the Middle Fork Road to Atlanta (Forest Road 268)
- June 3 to July 14 – Central portion of the fire area, located approximately 9 miles to the northwest of Featherville. This area will be receiving intensive rehab efforts by crews and aircraft and will not be safe for visitors until June. Road closures will be in effect through most of May.

No commercial harvesting of mushrooms is allowed on the Boise National Forest outside of these two areas within the Trinity Ridge Fire area.

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Maps illustrating these areas will be provided to both commercial and personal use permit holders, along with other rules and regulations. Personal use picking is not allowed within these commercial use only areas.

Commercial pickers are prohibited from camping in developed campgrounds and will be required to obtain a camping permit to camp in the designated commercial camping area.

Mushroom buyers will not be permitted to set up on national forest lands.

“We want the public to enjoy this delicious seasonal treat, while at the same time managing the potential impacts of a larger commercial harvest,” said David Olson, Boise National Forest Public Affairs Officer. “Having a permit system that accommodates both personal use and commercial harvest allows us to do both.”

Following last summer’s wildfires, morel (more-ELL) mushrooms are anticipated to appear in recently burned areas of the forests. They appear at different locations as the spring progresses.

Pickers are reminded to only eat mushrooms that they have positively identified as edible. Mushrooms should be cooked before eating. In addition, pickers should use caution in fresh burned areas, due to stump holes, falling trees, and loose soil or rocks.

For more information on mushroom picking on the Boise National Forest, visit our web site - <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/boise/passes-permits/forestproducts>

Permits and maps will be issued at the following locations:

Interagency Visitor Center
1387 S. Vinnell Way
Boise, ID 83709
(208) 373-4007

Mountain Home Ranger District
2180 American Legion Blvd.
Mountain Home, ID 83647
(208) 587-7961

Idaho City Ranger District
Highway 21, Milepost 38.5
Idaho City, ID 83631
(208) 392-6681

Fairfield Ranger District
102 First Street East
Fairfield, ID 83327
(208) 764-3202

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