

News Release



USDA Forest Service
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison National Forests
Grand Valley Ranger District
2777 Crossroads Blvd. Unit 1
Grand Junction, CO. 81506

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S.FOREST SERVICE OFFERS CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS

Christmas tree permits will be available from the U.S. Forest Service for the Grand Mesa and Uncompahgre National Forests beginning Monday, November 19, 2007, and sold through Friday December 21st. Permits expire December 31, 2007.

The Grand Mesa will have 6 cutting areas this year. Three of these areas can only be accessed via snowmobile. The Forest Service recommends using snowshoes or skis for the 3 areas adjoining Highway 65. Because these areas have been open for the past several years, the best trees are not going to be located next to the highway.

The Uncompahgre National Forest (Dominguez area) has an area offering Pinyon pine trees. A four-wheel drive vehicle is recommended to access this area, especially during times of inclement weather.

Permits cost \$8.00 and include descriptions of each area along with maps illustrating designated tree cutting areas. Trees are for personal use only and cannot be re-sold. A maximum of 5 trees per family is allowed. Permits can be purchased at the U.S. Forest Service offices in Grand Junction or Delta Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm. Permits for the Grand Mesa National Forest are also available at the Mesa General Store in the town of Mesa. Cash or checks are accepted for payments of permits; credit cards are not accepted.

For more information call the U.S. Forest Service office in Grand Jct. at 242-8211 or U.S. Forest Service office in Delta at 874-6600. Check out the Forest Service website <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug/> for cutting regulations, maps of cutting areas and different types of trees available. Digital pictures of your family cutting their Christmas tree on National Forest lands can be submitted to bwinfrey@fs.fed.us for placement on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison National Forest website.

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