

NEWS RELEASE

National Forests of Utah



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kathy Jo Pollock (801) 558-8016

Twitter: UintaWasatchCacheNF@UWCNF #uwcnf & Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/US-Forest-Service-Uinta-Wasatch-Cache-National-Forest-1477262249207367/> <http://fs.usda.gov/uwcnf>

UPDATED 2015 CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS FIVE NATIONAL FORESTS IN UTAH INFORMATION

Salt Lake City, Utah, December 10, 2015 – Cutting a Christmas tree in a national forest is a family tradition for many residents of Utah. Weather conditions in the mountains are unpredictable, so always be prepared for winter weather. Stay on designated roads and trails. Be prepared for slick, snow-packed roads and have chains, a 4-wheel drive vehicle, or a snow machine available. Let someone know where you are planning to go and approximate time you will return. Carry a cell phone; bring additional warm clothing, and gloves, boots, and a container of hot liquid, water, and a lunch or snack. Carry a flashlight, chains, shovel, first-aid kit, matches, a hatchet, ax or handsaw, and rope to secure your tree.

Trees must always be cut close to the ground leaving the stump no higher than 6 inches. A shovel will come in handy to dig through the snow to reach the base of the tree. Make sure your permit is attached to the tree before leaving the cutting area. **TREE TOPPING IS NOT ALLOWED.** No cutting is allowed within 200 feet of riparian areas (lakes and streams), roads, campgrounds, picnic areas, administrative sites, summer home areas, or within designated closed areas shown on tree cutting area maps.

ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST: (435) 789-1181 – <http://fs.usda.gov/ashley>

Christmas tree permits on the Ashley National Forest have increased from \$10.00 to \$15.00 this year. The last price increase was in 2000 when fees increased from \$5.00 to \$10.00.

Flaming Gorge-Vernal Ranger District: (435) 784-3445 - Permits will go on sale Sunday, November 15. Permits will be available at the Flaming Gorge Ranger District office, intersection of Highway 43 & 44, Manila, Utah from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday beginning November 16. Permits will also be available at Flaming Gorge Resort, Highway 191, Dutch John, Utah, Sunday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. beginning November 15. Permits will also be sold at the Green River Office, located inside the Green River Chamber office, 1155 Flaming Gorge Way, Green River, Wyoming, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. beginning November 23. Cost of the non-refundable permit is \$15.00. In Vernal permits may be purchased at the Forest Supervisor's office, located at 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, Utah, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., beginning Monday, November 16. Starting Sunday, November 15, 2015, permits can be purchased at the following businesses 7 days a week; Davis Jubilee Store, at the Customer Service Desk, 575 West Main, Vernal, (435) 789-2001, Monday through Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sundays 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Shirley's Country Corner, 6982 North 9500 East, Highway 12 in Lapoint, (435) 247-2690, Monday through Saturday 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Sundays 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Permits are \$15.00.

(MORE)

Duchesne-Roosevelt Ranger District: (435) 738-2482 - Permits may be purchased at the Duchesne Ranger District office, 85 West Main, Duchesne, Utah Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning Monday, November 16. Permits may be purchased starting Sunday, November 15 at the Bonanza Store, 94 East Main Street, Duchesne, Utah and they are open 24-7, (435) 738-2393. Permits may also be purchased at the Hanna Country Store, State Route 35, Hanna, Utah, (435) 848-5752, Stewart's Market at the Customer Service Desk, 245 West Highway 40 in Roosevelt, Utah, Monday through Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., closed Sundays, (435) 722-5650, and Davis Jubilee Food & Drug, at the Customer Service Desk, 750 East 2nd North, Roosevelt, Utah, Monday through Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Sunday, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. (435) 722-2296. Permits are \$15.00 each, one permit per household.

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST: (435) 865-3700 – <http://fs.usda.gov/dixie>

Cedar City Ranger District: (435) 865-3700 - Permits go on sale Monday, November 9. Permits can be obtained at the Cedar City Ranger District office, 1789 North Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City, Utah, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Permits will also be available at Hurst Ace Hardware Store, 165 South Main, Cedar City, Utah (435) 865-9335. Permits are \$10.00 for a tree up to 10 feet and \$20.00 for a tree 11 feet to 20 feet, one permit per household, and two trees maximum. The only species of trees that can be cut are sub-alpine fir, white fir, and pinyon pine. Please check with the Cedar City Ranger District office before traveling to obtain the most current road condition information.

Escalante Ranger District: (435) 826-5400 – Permits are now available and can be purchased at the Escalante Ranger District office, 755 West Main, Escalante, Utah from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Permits may also be bought at Antimony Merc, Antimony, Utah (435) 624-3253, 7 days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact the Escalante Ranger District for a list of other vendors. Permits are \$10.00, one permit per household, one tree only. All species of tree may be cut, except bristlecone pine.

Powell Ranger District: (435) 676-9300 - Permits are now available and can be purchased at the Powell Ranger District office, 225 East Center Street, Panguitch, Utah from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Permits are \$10.00 for a tree up to 10 feet and \$20.00 for a tree 11 feet to 20 feet. All species of trees can be cut, except bristlecone pine.

St. George Public Lands Information Center: (435) 688-3200 - Permits go on sale Monday, November 9, 2015. Permits can be purchased at the Visitor Center, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Permits may also be purchased at Veyo Mercantile, 13 North Main Street, Veyo, Utah (435) 574-2749, Monday through Thursday, 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Friday and Saturdays from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Permits are \$10.00. Pinyon pine and juniper are the only species of trees that may be cut. One individual can purchase up to 5 tags.

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST: (435) 896-9233 – <http://fs.usda.gov/fishlake>

Christmas tree permits sell for \$10.00 each and they must be obtained in person. Mail orders and phone requests will not be accepted. The permits must be securely attached to the harvested tree and remain with that tree during transport. Most species of trees on the National Forest may be cut, except for ponderosa pine. Permits may be bought at any of the Fishlake National Forest offices. These offices are not open on weekends, except as noted. Location and dates of sale at national forest offices are as follows:

(MORE)

Richfield Ranger District – 115 East 900 North, Richfield, Utah – Beginning Monday November 9, permits may be purchased during regular office hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, as well as on Saturday November 22 and November 29 from 8 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. both days. For more information, call 435-896-9233.

Fremont River Ranger District - 138 South Main, Loa, Utah – Permits may be purchased during regular office hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Fishlake Basin Recreation Area, including Johnson Valley, is closed to tree cutting from the forest boundary on the West to Zedd's Meadow on the East. For more information, call 435-836-2811. **Cutting ponderosa pine is prohibited except on the Boulder Mountain of the Fremont River Ranger District.**

Fillmore Ranger District – 390 South Main, Fillmore, Utah - Permits will be sold November 2 through December 18 at the office in Fillmore, 390 South Main Street, Fillmore, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Fillmore office will be open three Saturdays: November 21, November 28, and December 5, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Purchase limit is one permit per household (additional tags may be purchased for neighbors, family members, etc.). Suggested cutting areas are as follows: Whiskey Creek, John Williams Canyon, Chalk Creek, Meadow Creek, Cove Fort, Willow Creek, and Wild Goose Canyon. Oak Creek Canyon is closed. For more information, call 435-743-5721.

Beaver Ranger District – 575 South Main, Beaver, Utah - Permits may be purchased during regular office hours, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Blue spruce may NOT be cut. Tree cutting is not allowed in the Merchant Valley Summer Home area or along the visible edge of SR-153. For more information, call 435-438-2436.

As a convenience to the public, permits will be available again this year at:

- Beaver Sports and Pawn, 91 N. Main, Beaver, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week
- Fishlake Lumber, 1627 N HWY 357, Beaver 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday
- Piute County Sheriff Office, 550 N. Main, Junction, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Don's Sinclair, 215 W Main, Salina, Monday-Saturday
- Larsen's Ace hardware, 1155 S US Hwy 118, Richfield, Monday-Saturday

The Fishlake National Forest encourages those purchasing permits to be prepared for bad weather and poor road conditions. In addition, ensure trees are cut on the national forest, not private land. Maps are available from national forest offices.

MANTI-LASAL NATIONAL FOREST: <http://fs.usda.gov/mantilasal>

Ferron/Price Ranger Districts: (435) 384-2372/ (435) 637-2817 and Moab/Monticello Ranger Districts (435-259-7155): Christmas tree permits will be on sale at all offices of the Manti-La Sal National Forest beginning November 16th for \$10 each. District offices (Ephraim, Ferron, Moab and Monticello) are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Supervisor's Office in Price is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is a limit of three permits per person. Purchasers will need to provide a credit card, check or exact change. There will be no refunds. To buy a permit for a tree taller than 12 feet, the buyer must pay 50 cents per additional foot, payable when the permit is purchased. Districts will sell permits until Dec. 24 or until they are sold out. Tags should be purchased at the district where the tree will be cut: Supervisor's Office/Price District, 599 W. Price River Drive, Price, UT, phone, 435-637-2817; Ferron-Price District Office, 115 West Canyon Road, Ferron, UT, phone, 435-384-2372; Moab District Office, 62 East 100 North, Moab, UT, phone, 435-259-7155; Monticello District Office, 432 East Center Street, Monticello, UT, phone, 435-587-2041; and the Sanpete District Office, 540 N. Main Street, Ephraim, UT, phone, 435-283-4151.

(MORE)

In addition, the following private vendors will be selling permits: Choice Hardware & Home Center, 1005 N. Main, Nephi; Mountain Home Center, 1095 Highway 89, Mt. Pleasant; Rasmussen Ace Hardware, 435 South Main, Gunnison; The Main Street Market, 15 W. Main St., Ferron; Sutherland Lumber, 406 S Hwy 55, Price. Moab Information Center, 25 East Center St., Moab. The cost for permits is the same regardless of where they are purchased. Customers traveling long distances for permits should call in advance to determine if permits are still available.

UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FORESTS: (801) 999-2103 <http://fs.usda.gov/uwcnf>
Heber-Kamas Ranger District: **SOLD OUT**

Evanston/Mt. View Ranger Districts: (307) 789-3194 and (307) 782-6555 – More Permits were obtained for the Evanston area. Permits are \$10.00, one permit per household, one tree only. Permits can be purchased at the Evanston Ranger District Office, 1565 South Highway 150, Suite A, Evanston, Wyoming, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Bear River Lodge located 30 miles south of Evanston on the Mirror Lake Highway has **SOLD OUT** of permits and will not obtain any more for the season. A permit allows up to a 20 foot tree, any species of tree may be cut, but lodgepole pine is the main species in the area. Snow conditions may require permit holders to use snowmobiles, cross-country skis, or snowshoes to access the cutting area. **The gates on the Mirror Lake Highway and on the North Slope Road are typically closed during the first week of December, limiting access for people without a snow machine. Cutting is not allowed in the Lily Lake Cross Country Ski Area.**

Permits for the Mt. View area will be available starting Friday, November 13. Permits are \$10.00, one permit per household, one tree only. Permits can be purchased at the Mountain View Ranger District, 321 Highway 414, Mountain View, Wyoming, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday only. Permits may also be purchased at Benedict Thriftway/True Value Store, 950 North, Highway 414, Mountain View, Wyoming, 7 days a week, Monday through Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sundays 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 pm, (307) 782-3581. Any species of tree may be cut, but lodgepole pine is the main species in the area.

Spanish Fork Ranger District: (801) 798-3571 – **SOLD OUT**

‘USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer’

