

RECREATION RESIDENCE SPECIAL USE PERMITS

What are Recreation Residences?

Recreation residences are privately-owned homes located on National Forest lands. The land or building lot is not sold by the Forest Service but is leased by the occupant. Recreation residences are maintained by the occupant for personal, family, and guest enjoyment but are not approved for either commercial use or as a permanent residence.

How do you own a Recreation Residence?

A special use permit is required to own a recreation residence on National Forest lands. Special use permits for recreation residences may be issued to an individual, a married couple, or a trustee of an approved trust. The recreation residence may be bought and sold. If there is a change of ownership, the special use permit will be terminated and reissued to a new holder.

The district special use permit administrator can provide the required form for an ownership change and discuss other requirements for reissuance. The Forest Service does not release the names and addresses of the recreation residence owners and does not maintain lists of residences on the market.

What is included in a Recreation Residence Special Use permit?

Each special use permit has an Operation and Maintenance Plan that provides guidelines, standards, and restrictions for ownership and maintenance of the recreation residence and permit area.

Each special use permit also has Design Guidelines that provides permit holders information for planning as any ground disturbing activity, new construction, or alteration to the existing recreation residence or out-buildings that changes the appearance and/or size of the structure. In addition, many of the recreation residences have been determined to be eligible for nomination within a historic district. Therefore, any proposed change to the exterior of all recreation residences must be approved by the Forest Service within these historic guidelines.

Recreation residence permit holders that want to submit a new proposal for major modifications must complete an application by January 1st for activity in the next field season. Major modifications are defined as any ground disturbing activity, new construction, or alteration to the existing recreation residence or outbuildings that changes the appearance and/or size of the structure. Major modifications proposals will not be accepted after January 1st.

What are the fees?

Recreation residence permit holders must pay a yearly land use fee. The fee is based on the most current appraisal of a typical lot and can vary between each recreation residence location.

FAQs/Questions and Answers - (continued)

Who do I contact to get more information on special use permits?

For more information on outfitter or guide Special Use permits, please contact the District Special Use Permit Administrator at the following locations:

Detroit Ranger District

44125 North Santiam Highway SE
Detroit, OR 97342
503-854-3366

McKenzie River Ranger District

57600 McKenzie Hwy
McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413
541-822-7209

Sweet Home Ranger District

4431 Highway 20
Sweet Home, OR 97386
541-367-5168

Middle Fork Ranger District

46375 Highway 58
Westfir, OR 97492
541-782-5243

Resource Links

General information regarding Special Use permits on the Willamette National Forest is available at:
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/centraloregon/passes-permits/event-commercial/?cid=stelprdb5213887>.

General information on Special Use permits for U.S. Forest Service is available at:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/specialuses/index.shtml>

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