

WARNING!

Falling trees are always a hazard when traveling in the forest.

The southern pine beetle epidemic has increased the risk of falling trees. Following these guidelines will help you avoid risks.

- Be aware of your surroundings. Avoid dense patches of dead trees. They can fall without warning.
- Stay out of the forest when there are strong winds that could blow down trees. If you are already in the forest when the winds kick up, head to a clearing out of reach of any potential falling trees.
- Place tents and park vehicles in areas where they will not be hit if trees fall.
- When driving in remote areas of the forest, park close to a main road, rather than on a spur or one-way section. If trees fall across the road you may be trapped.
- Bring an ax or a saw to remove fallen trees from roads in case you become trapped.
- Do not rely only on cell phones for safety as there is no coverage in many areas of the national forest.

Disclaimer of Liability – With respect to the identification and removal of all tree hazards found in a forested recreation setting, neither the United States government nor any of its employees makes any warranty, express or implied or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of the information contained herein, or actions that may be taken by a visitor to the national forest.