



United States Department of Agriculture



Christmas Tree Cutting

Carson National Forest 2018



Please follow the guidelines below as you search for that special Christmas tree. If you have any questions, please contact any of our Forest Service offices listed on the last page.

- * You will need a **Christmas tree permit** to remove a tree from the Carson National Forest. Permits are available at all Carson National Forest Service offices. **Permits are not refundable. All trees must be tagged immediately after they have been cut.** Do not transport untagged trees.
- * Each permit is \$5 up to 10 feet, \$10 for over 10 feet up to 15 feet, and \$15 for over 15 feet up to 20 feet. Up to three permits can be purchased per person.
- * As part of the “Every Kid in a Park” initiative, every fourth grader is eligible for a free Christmas tree permit. In order to redeem the free permit, the student must present a valid fourth-grade pass, downloadable at www.everykidinapark.gov.
- * The tree may be **cut, or dug up** and removed as a transplant. The ground starts freezing as early as November. Please fill in the hole created when digging up a live tree.
- * Please **remove the entire tree**, not just the top. Leave no more than a 6-inch stump. Limbs and unused bottom portion of the tree must be cut and scattered.
- * If there are any live limbs still attached to stump after tree is felled, cut them from the stump.
- * When choosing a Christmas tree, try to pick a tree from among a group of trees so one area does not become void of trees.
- * Do not cut or transplant Bristlecone Pine.
- * The Christmas tree permit system is not meant to be a replacement for our special forest product transplant (wildings) program. That program is separate with its own guidelines. The Christmas tree program is just that, a program set up for families to cut their own Christmas tree.
- * When you cut your tree, attach the Christmas tree tag where it is clearly visible on the tree. It should be attached before the tree is loaded on to your vehicle. Tags may **not** be re-used. Attach the Christmas tree tag where it is clearly visible on the tree.

AREAS WHERE TREES CANNOT BE CUT

- * Within designated Wilderness Areas
- * Within 100 feet of any campground or trail.
- * Within 100 feet of streams and rivers.
- * Within 100 feet of Forest Roads and State Highways
- * Within those areas shown on the attached map as closed to Christmas tree cutting.
- * In active timber sales.



Inside: Map,
Tree Care and
Transportation

Tree Care and Transportation

- * If a tree is cut early in the season, it should be kept in a cool place, out of the wind, in a bucket of water. Remember, a tree that is dry is an extreme fire hazard.
- * Christmas trees that are dug up, for planting later, can have the roots and soil wrapped in a doubled plastic trash bags instead of, or in addition to, burlap. This way you can water the ball in the house, and you won't have to find a large basin.
- * After removing your tree, carry the tree carefully out of the woods. If the tree will not fit in the vehicle, wrap it in a tarp to prevent windburn and needle loss during transportation.
- * Avoid setting up your tree next to fireplaces, heaters, television sets, or other heat sources.
- * Forest road conditions can change rapidly this time of year. For current information, please contact the local Ranger District office. District personnel may also be able to help if you are looking for a specific tree species.
- * Be sure to properly dispose of your cut tree after the holidays. Never try to burn your tree in your fireplace or woodstove — a chimney fire could result.

What roads can I use?

- * To harvest a Christmas tree, you may travel on existing open roads as designated in the Carson National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) only.
- * If conditions are muddy, we ask that you avoid driving off-road to prevent destruction of natural resources.
- * Off-road travel is not permitted to "scout" for a tree. Driving on roads that are not designated as open roads in the MVUM is also not permitted to scout for a tree.
- * All permit holders are responsible for adhering to the MVUM.
- * Motor Vehicle Use Maps are available at no cost at any Carson National Forest office.



The employees of the Carson National Forest wish you a happy holiday season and hope that your Christmas tree will be a valued addition to your family's enjoyment

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Offices and Locations

Permits purchased at these locations are only valid on the Carson National Forest

Carson National Forest Supervisor's Office

208 Cruz Alta Road
Taos, NM 87571
(575) 758-6200

Canjilon Ranger District

Building 358 State Rd 115
Canjilon, NM 87515
(575) 684-2489

Camino Real Ranger District

15160 State Road 75
Penasco, NM 87553
(575) 587-2255

El Rito Ranger District

State Road 554 Building 1221
El Rito, NM 87530
(575) 581-4554

Jicarilla Ranger District

1110 Rio Vista Lane, Unit #2
Bloomfield, NM 87413
(505) 632-2956

Questa Ranger District

184 State Hwy 38
Questa, NM 87556
(575) 586-0520

Tres Piedras Ranger District

22280 Hwy 64
Tres Piedras, NM 87577
(575) 758-8678

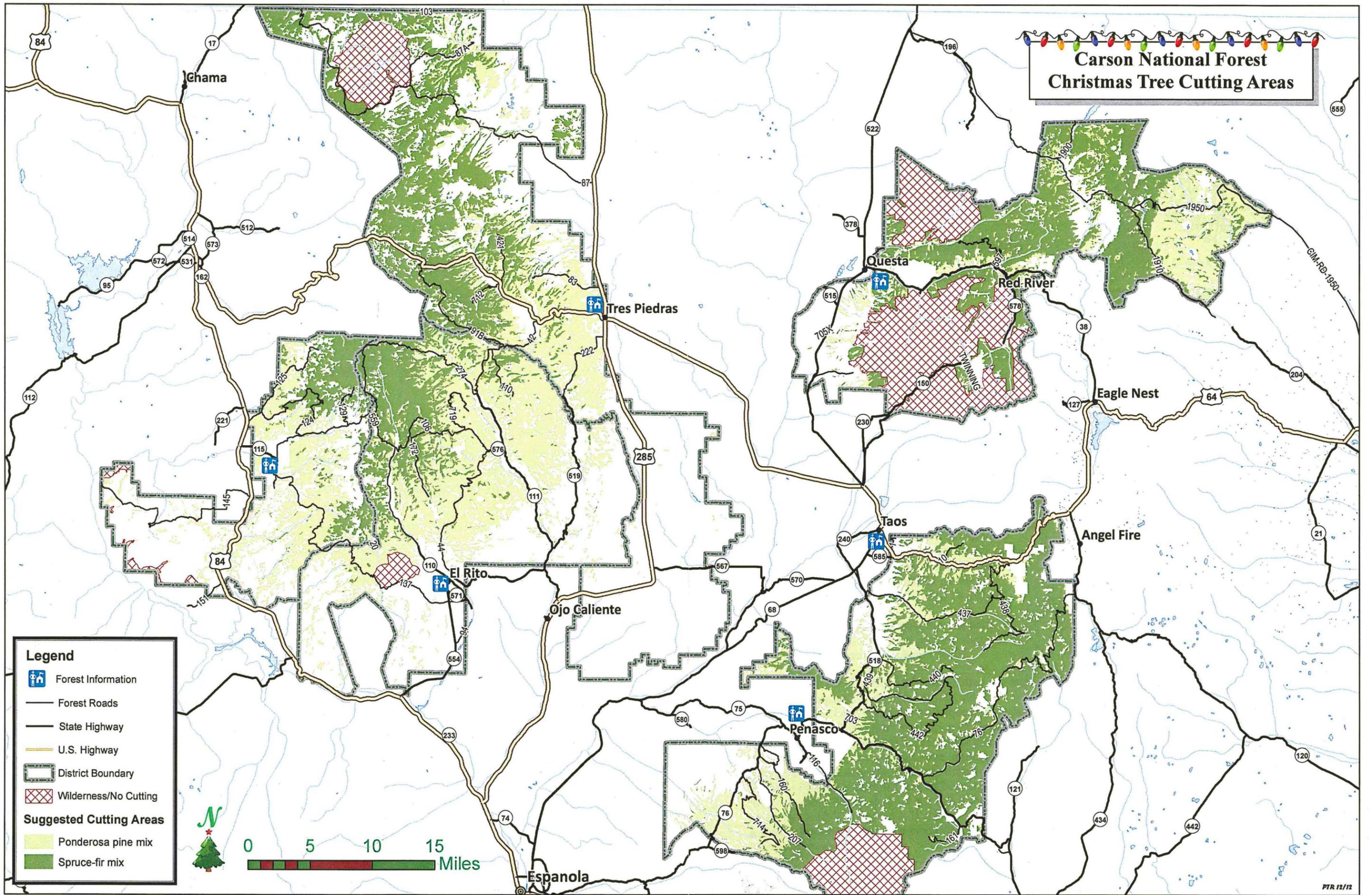
Website:

www.fs.usda.gov/carson

You can find the Carson National Forest these social media sites:



Carson National Forest
Christmas Tree Cutting Areas



Legend

- Forest Information
- Forest Roads
- State Highway
- U.S. Highway
- District Boundary
- Wilderness/No Cutting

Suggested Cutting Areas

- Ponderosa pine mix
- Spruce-fir mix

