

Public Lands Center Salmon-Challis National Forest and Bureau of Land Management

Personal Use Mushrooms–Non Commercial

(Not to be sold, bartered or given away)

Welcome to your public lands Salmon-Challis National Forest and the Bureau of Lands Management

Enjoy your visit

No Personal Use Mushroom Permit Required to harvest Personal Use Mushrooms from Public Lands Salmon-Challis National Forest and Bureau of Lands Management.

Yes a Commercial Use Mushroom Permit is required to harvest Commercial Use Mushrooms from the Salmon-Challis National Forest. There is a fee required with Commercial Use Mushroom Permits.

NO commercial harvest of mushrooms is allowed on the Bureau of Land Management Public Lands and **Contact the nearest [Forest office](#)**

There is no official beginning or ending dates for mushroom gathering. Mushrooms emerge in the spring. Lower elevation sites open first as spring weather arrives and higher elevation areas have limited access until later in the season.



As of 5/20/2014

Personal Use MUSHROOM INFORMATION



Fires could have a dramatic effect on the population of mushrooms in burned areas across the Northern and Intermountain Regions of the Forest Service.

This guide will serve to inform you about the forest personal use mushroom policy as well as offer some general information about mushrooms.

In forested areas beware of falling snags and stump holes, especially in burned areas.

*For more information about hazards in
burn areas, contact your local
Ranger District office.*

United
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Forest
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Salmon-
Challis
National
Forest

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

As of 5/20/2014

PERSONAL USE (recreational not for resale) allows the individual to pick up to 5 gallons of mushrooms per day. NO permit is required to harvest Personal Use from Public Lands Salmon-Challis National Forest and Bureau of Lands Management.

Please visit with your local Ranger District office to obtain maps and other information.

COMMERCIAL USE allows the individual to pick any quantity of mushrooms to be sold commercially or to buyers. Commercial Use Mushroom Permit is required. Each commercial harvester will be required to purchase a commercial permit and all commercial picking will be permitted only in designated areas. NO commercial use harvesting of mushrooms is allowed on the Bureau of lands Management Public Lands. SCNF commercial area is the 2012 Mustang Fire Area Complex.

Please visit with your local Public Land Office for information about specific requirements.

PERSONAL USE MUSHROOM GUIDELINES AND CONDITIONS TO FOLLOW:

- Mushroom harvesting is not allowed in Research Natural Areas or other designated non-harvest areas.
- Human waste must be disposed of at least 300 feet from any stream, lake, or other body of water, or any recreational site, facility, or special permit use area and must be buried at least eight (8) inches deep.
- The person to whom is harvesting personal use mushrooms is responsible for following all required guidelines and conditions and all other laws and regulations applicable to National Forest System Public Lands. Violation of any of these may result in the forfeit of all mushrooms, issuance of Notice of Violation and/or criminal actions.
- All Salmon-Challis National Forest Travel Plans Restrictions apply.
- No raking or other ground disturbances are allowed when harvesting mushrooms.
- Permittee may pick 5 gallons of mushrooms per day.
- Mushrooms harvested must be cut in half lengthwise at the time of picking, and are NOT to be resold commercially.
- Public Law 96-95; No person may excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface any archaeological resource including but not limited to such items as old bottles and tin cans.
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Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Who needs a permit to harvest mushrooms?

No permit required for Personal Use Mushroom harvesting. Commercial permit is required commercially harvest mushrooms on the Salmon-Challis National Forest.

Where can I harvest mushrooms?

You can harvest personal use mushrooms on the Salmon-Challis National Forest, Bureau of Land management Public Lands.

You can harvest commercial use mushrooms in designated areas. The Salmon-Challis National Forest commercial area is the 2012 Mustang Fire Area Complex. There will be NO commercial harvesting of mushrooms on the Bureau of land management public lands.

Each Forest Office will have specific information and maps. **Contact the nearest [Forest office](#)**

Are all roads open to drive on?

No. Some roads are gated or blocked with rock and/or earthen barriers and signed with permanent, temporary, or seasonal restrictions.

Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) are available at all Public Land Center offices. Be sure to pick one up before heading out to harvest mushrooms. Compliance with road closures is mandatory.

Most roads have few turnouts and the hillsides are very steep in some sections. Passenger vehicles and pickups may safely negotiate some roads if they are familiar with mountain driving conditions and are prepared to back down the road if they meet oncoming traffic.

Do not park in front of closed gates. Road access may be needed for emergency or work travel. Harvesters are asked not to drive on water saturated, muddy roads in the spring or early summer. Vehicle weight and maneuvering cause road damage which makes road maintenance difficult and costly. Check the local ranger district office for updated road conditions. Drive Friendly.

What should I bring?

General Items

- Salmon-Challis National Forest Motor Vehicle Use map (MVUM)
- Drinking water
- Picking bags/buckets
- Mushroom identification book
- Knife
- Map
- Compass
- Watch
- Whistle
- Flashlight and batteries
- Axe, shovel, bucket
- Garbage bags

Personal Items

Camping gear
Grooming necessities
Food
Extra clothing
Toilet paper
Prescription medicine
Sunglasses
Insect Repellent

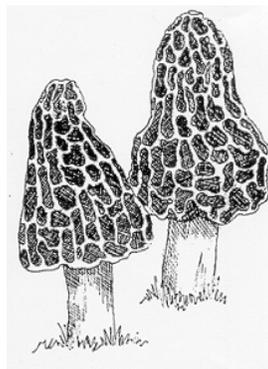
I've never harvested mushrooms before. How is it done?

Due to the complex life cycle of mushrooms, there are a few things you can do to protect the species in your favorite areas:

- Leave some of the mushrooms you find. Do not collect mushrooms from previously harvested areas: leave the rest for wildlife food and to reproduce other mushrooms.
- Minimize impacts to the fungus by not disturbing the ground habitat. Do not dig, rake, or scrape the forest floor.
- Use a knife to cut the mushrooms or break stem off at ground level.
- Don't harvest more mushrooms than you need.

In forested areas, beware of falling snags and stump holes, especially in burned areas.

What mushrooms should I harvest?



KNOW YOUR MUSHROOMS! Each year interest grows in harvesting wild mushrooms from Public Lands. Proper identification and determination of whether a mushroom is edible is the responsibility of the harvester. **Many forest mushroom varieties are poisonous.** There are many guidebooks available to assist with identification. Your local library, county extension office and local Mycological Society are good sources of information. Our word to the wise is: **WHEN IN DOUBT...LEAVE IT IN THE WOODS!**

What do I do if I get lost?

Before you leave, tell someone where you are going. Carry a map and compass and know how to use them.

Check the surrounding country and attempt to orient yourself. Do not walk aimlessly. If you can reach a road or trail, follow it until you can determine if you are moving in the right direction. As a last resort, travel downhill parallel to a stream or drainage.

If you are unsuccessful in finding your way, keep calm and don't panic. Stay in one place. Select a sheltered spot and prepare a camp. Conserve your strength, and build a fire so that smoke may be seen by searchers. Use your whistle to alert others of your location.

Don't depend on your cell phone. There are many areas of Public Lands where they don't work.

Can I drink out of the creeks?

Do not drink untreated water from a surface water supply such as a pond, lake, or stream. The water may appear to be clean, but it may contain Giardia parasites. The parasites cause a gastrointestinal infection. Symptoms usually appear 7 to 10 days (and sometimes as long as 4 weeks) after ingesting the parasite. The most common symptoms are diarrhea, foul greasy stools, abdominal cramps, bloating, increased gas, weakness, and weight loss.

There are several medications that are effective in treating the infection. They are only available by prescription from your physician.

Bring water from a safe source or use bottled water to prevent becoming infected.

If you must use creek water, use a water filter that removes particles one micrometer or less in diameter (certified by NSF International per NSF Standard 53 or labeled as an absolute one-micrometer filter), or boil water vigorously for 3 to 5 minutes.

What about ticks?

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Colorado Tick Fever are transmitted by ticks in the mountainous regions of the northwest. The tick season generally lasts from late March to early July, although it varies at different elevations. Wear layers of clothing to prevent ticks from reaching your body, and keep clothing snug around your ankles, wrists, and waist. Examine yourself at least twice daily to check for ticks. If a tick is embedded in your skin, remove it immediately without crushing it. Pull it gently with the fingers, forceps, or tweezers, being careful not to leave the head in your skin, and apply an antiseptic. If a flu-like, moderately severe illness occurs several days or weeks after finding a tick on your body, consult a doctor immediately.

Can I fish?

To fish in Idaho requires a Fishing License. Vendors in nearly every town sell licenses. Refer to the Idaho Fishing Regulations for details regarding species, limits and methods of take.

CAMPING

Please check with the local Forest Office for information.

Contact the nearest [Forest office](#)

WHILE ENJOYING THE GREAT OUTDOORS, REMEMBER:

- Pack it in, Pack it out.
- Don't leave cigarette butts on the ground.
- Removal and proper disposal of pet waste is required.
- Discharging firearms within campsites is prohibited.
- Campfires may be restricted during periods of high fire danger – never leave your campfire unattended!
- Do not block gates, roads or interfere with the use of trails.
- Encounters with logging trucks are likely, even on weekends. Drive friendly.
- Understand all fishing and hunting regulations.
- Please do your part in taking care of this valuable natural resource by respecting the land and all forest visitors.
- Practice good harvesting!!

