

June 1, 2009



Mushroom Harvest 2009 Handout Lolo National Forest

Mushroom Harvest Season

- Mushroom harvest in previously burned areas, including those areas burned in 2007, are available for harvesting. Separate commercial harvest areas will not be designated this year, allowing both personal-use and commercial use to occur in the same areas.

Incidental Use

- Picking five gallons of mushrooms or less for the season is considered Incidental Use and does not require any kind of permit. Mushrooms picked under Incidental Use must be cut in half lengthwise and cannot be sold. Incidental Use is allowed across the Lolo National Forest. **Picking more than five gallons for the season requires either a Personal Use or Commercial Permit**

Types of permits

- **Commercial Harvest Permits**
 - Permit required for picking more than 20 gallons
 - Ages 12-17 must have permit co-signed by an adult
- **Personal Use** permits cost \$20 and will allow the harvest of 20 gallons of mushrooms for the season. Individuals are allowed to purchase more than one Personal Use permit for the season.
- **Buyers** permits will not be sold on the Lolo National Forest and buying stations will not be permitted on the forest

Age requirements

- Under 12 are restricted to Incidental Use
- Personal Use
 - Permit required for picking more than five gallons
 - Ages 12-17 do not need to have the permit co-signed by an adult
- Commercial Use (eligible if over 12 with co-sign)
 - Permit required for picking more than 20 gallons
 - Ages 12-17 must have permit co-signed by an adult

Camping

- Designated campsites for Commercial mushroom harvesters will not be established on the forest.
- Campsites should be located at least 300 feet away from streams, creeks, lakes, and other riparian areas.

June 1, 2009

Traveling on Forest roads and motorized off-road or cross country travel

- Motorized cross country travel is not allowed on the Lolo National Forest. Persons caught in violation of this regulation can be cited and fined. Please see the forest visitor map (available at Ranger District offices) for designated trail and road information.
- Avoid areas where logging activity or road construction is taking place.
- Do not block gates or travel behind locked gates.
- Seasonal road closures for spring conditions may be in effect. Please contact the local Ranger District office for current information on open and closed roads.

Resource Protection – please follow these rules when harvesting mushrooms on the Lolo National Forest

- Abide by stay limit for camping across the Lolo N.F of 14 days within a five mile radius.
- There are areas where mushroom harvest is not allowed, such as Research Natural Areas. Area restrictions will be explained when purchasing a permit.
- Please minimize the impacts to the actual fungus by not disturbing the ground habitat.
- No raking or other ground disturbances are allowed when picking mushrooms.
- Do not travel in a vehicle behind locked gates.
- Do not leave trash on the forest or at campgrounds. You can and will be cited for littering.
- Use sanitation facilities, or dispose of human waste in a pit at least 8 inches deep and 300 feet from water or open roads.
- Do not discharge firearms in or around campsites, near private homes, or over bodies of water.
- Keep dogs under control when on the forest and follow campground rules regarding pets

Food storage

- Mushroom harvesters and campers must abide by the Lolo N.F. food storage strategy:
 - Be aware of the local food storage areas and requirements for that area
 - Disregarding food storage requirements can lead to encounters with bears and other wildlife that can easily be prevented by storing food properly

Campfires

- Use established fire rings or clear a one-foot diameter area around the outside perimeter of the fire
- Do not leave a campfire unattended
- Completely extinguish your campfire before leaving it
- Do not burn food or trash – use designated trash facilities

Know Your Mushrooms

- Proper identification of mushrooms is the responsibility of the harvester. Some mushrooms are poisonous. Field guides and website resources are available and should be consulted before harvesting. The western Montana Mycological Association website address is:
www.fungaljungal.org

Purchasing a Permit

- Please contact your local Ranger District office for information on purchasing a permit (please see the forest website for phone numbers and locations (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lolo/>)).