United States
Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

2011 MUSHROOM GUIDE

Malheur/Umatilla/Wallowa-Whitman National Forests

Permit Requirements & Fees

Free-Use

A permit is not required to harvest, possess, or transport less than one gallon in Oregon or less than five gallons in Washington. Free-use mushrooms cannot be sold, bartered, or given away.

Commercial Permits

A Commercial Mushroom Permit is required if:

- You are 18 years or older and harvest mushrooms to sell, or;
- You harvest, possess, or transport more than one gallon in Oregon or more than five gallons in Washington.

Picture identification (ID) must be in the Permittee's possession while harvesting and transporting forest products.

Commercial Permit Rates:

Consecutive-Day:
$2.00 per day, minimum 10 days = $20.00
(Example: 14-day permit = $28.00)

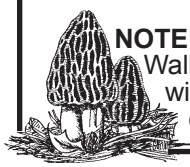
Annual Permit: Jan. 1 - Dec. 31 = $100.00

Buyer's Permit: $600.00 + administrative costs

- Only available at Ranger District Offices.
- Required only if operating on National Forest Lands.
- Some Districts may require 7-14 days to process.
- Buyer's Permits are not available on the Malheur N.F.

Industrial Camping Permits:

An Industrial Camping Permit is required if you set up camp on National Forest Lands while commercially picking mushrooms. Commercial pickers and buyers are prohibited from camping in developed campgrounds. Industrial Camping Permits can **only be obtained at District Offices.** Each District may have different industrial camping requirements, please check with the local District Offices for more information.



NOTE: The Emigrant Creek, Pomeroy, Walla Walla and North Fork John Day Ranger Districts will manage a designated Industrial Camp for commercial pickers and buyers.

BLUE MOUNTAIN FORESTS' MUSHROOM PROGRAM

The **minimum** charge for all forest product permits is **$20.** The cost per day to pick mushrooms is $2 per day and you will be required to buy the minimum, 10 consecutive-days permit for $20. An annual permit sells for $100.00.

Points to Remember:

- The Blue Mountain National Forests do **not** require free-use permits for individuals harvesting "incidental amounts" of mushrooms. To be consistent with State laws, "incidental amounts" are defined as "possessing or transporting one gallon or less in Oregon and five gallons or less in Washington."
- **Commercial mushroom picking is prohibited in wilderness areas.** Possessing more than one gallon of mushrooms within Oregon wilderness areas or five gallons within Washington wilderness areas is considered commercial, and therefore, prohibited.
- If you are 18 years or older and plan to harvest mushrooms to sell, you are required to purchase a commercial mushroom permit.
- Picture identification (ID) must be in the Permittee's possession while harvesting and transporting forest products. Copies are not allowed.
- If you plan to commercially pick mushrooms and camp on the National Forest, you must obtain an Industrial Camping Permit at the local Ranger District Office. Some Districts will require you to stay in a designated Industrial Camp.
- A Northwest Forest Pass may be required at participating trailheads on the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Not all trailheads require a pass and those that do will be signed accordingly. The Malheur Forest does not have any participating Northwest Forest Pass sites.
- The Blue Mountain Forests are working together to provide a program to meet everyone's needs.

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Know Your Mushrooms!

Each year interest grows in harvesting wild edibles from National Forests around the country. In many places, it's bracken ferns or pine nuts, but locally the primary interest lies in wild mushrooms.

Proper identification and determination of whether a mushroom is edible is solely the responsibility of the picker. Many questions often asked by the novice picker are:

- **What is it?**
- **Is it edible?**
- **How do you cook it?**

There are many plant guidebooks available to assist with identification and can be found at local book stores ranging from $5.00 to $15.00.

Other sources of information include your local libraries, county extension offices and book stores.

Our word to the wise is:

"When in doubt, throw it out!"

Commercial Mushroom Picking is PROHIBITED

in Wilderness Areas

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR MUSHROOMERS

WHO NEEDS A PERMIT TO PICK MUSHROOMS?

A: A Commercial Mushroom Permit is required if you are 18 years or older and harvest mushrooms to sell, or if you plan to harvest, possess, or transport more than one gallon in Oregon or more than five gallons in Washington. You can not possess more that one gallon within Oregon wilderness boundaries or five gallons within Washington wilderness boundaries.

HOW MUCH DO COMMERCIAL PERMITS COST?

A: There are two types of commercial permits:

(1) The consecutive-day permit, $2.00 per day, is a minimum $20.00, 10-day permit, (e.g., a 14-day permit will cost $28.00).

(2) The annual permit costs $100.00 and is valid January 1 - December 31.

These permits are good only for the person to whom they were issued and must be in possession of the picker when collecting, transporting, or selling mushrooms.

WHERE CAN I PICK MUSHROOMS?

A: Permits are good on the Malheur, Umatilla, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests. You may pick commercially anywhere on these public lands **EXCEPT:**

(1) in wilderness areas, and

(2) other areas as designated by the Forest Service.

Wilderness area boundaries may or may not be signed. Check your Forest map for Wilderness boundary information. Mushroom picking is not permitted in any botanical area, research area or other areas designated by the Forest Service. Offices issuing permits will provide a list of closed areas, if applicable. And remember, the National Forests are public lands, all mushroomers have a right to pick in "your" area.

I BOUGHT A PERMIT THEN DECIDED NOT TO BUY OR PICK. CAN I GET MY MONEY BACK?

A: No. Permit fees are not refundable.

WHERE CAN I CAMP IF I COMMERCIALLY PICK MUSHROOMS?

A: Industrial camping permits are available at local ranger district offices for people who pick mushrooms commercially. You must obtain a new industrial camping permit each time you change your camp location. Several Ranger Districts will have designated Industrial Camping Areas for commercial mushroom pickers.

ARE ALL ROADS OPEN TO DRIVE ON?

A: No. Open roads vary from area to area. Visitors are asked not to drive on water-saturated, muddy roads in spring and early summer. Vehicle weight and maneuvering cause road damage which makes road maintenance difficult throughout the summer. Check with the local ranger district office for updates on road conditions and closures.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T FOLLOW THE TERMS OF MY PERMIT?

A: The Forest Service reserves the right to revoke the permit for noncompliance with permit conditions. In addition, you may be issued a citation, which may require you to appear in court, and/or pay a fine if found guilty.

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY TRASH?

A: Pick it up and pack it out!

FOREST INFORMATION

Commercial mushroom picking, buying or selling is prohibited within National Forest **Wilderness Areas.** Possessing more than one gallon of mushrooms within Oregon Wilderness areas or five gallons within Washington wilderness areas is considered commercial use and, therefore, prohibited. Mushroom picking is not permitted in any botanical area, research area or other areas designated by the Forest Service.

Industrial Camping Permits are required while camping on National Forest Lands when commercially picking, selling or buying mushrooms. Industrial Camping Permits must be obtained at the local Ranger District Office.

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

WHERE TO CALL.....

La Grande Ranger District
3502 HWY 30
La Grande, Oregon 97850
(541) 963-7186

Wallowa Mountains Visitor Center
201 East 2nd Street
Joseph, Oregon 97846
(541) 426-5668

Hell's Canyon NRA
P.O. Box 699,
2535 Riverside Drive
Clarkston, Washington 99403
(509) 758-0616

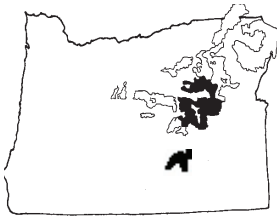
Whitman Ranger District:
Baker Office
3285 11th Street
Baker City, Oregon 97814
(541) 523-4476

Halfway Office (Office open from May 1 - December 20)
38470 Pine Town Lane
Halfway, Oregon 97834
(541) 742-7511

www.fs.usda.gov/wallowa-whitman/

Malheur National Forest

WHERE TO CALL.....



Malheur National Forest Supervisor's Office
431 Patterson Bridge Road
P.O. Box 909
John Day, Oregon 97845
(541) 575-3000

Blue Mountain Ranger District
431 Patterson Bridge Road
P.O. Box 909
John Day, Oregon 97845
(541) 575-3000

Prairie City Ranger District
Box 337, 327 S.W. Front St.
Prairie City, Oregon 97869
(541) 820-3800

Emigrant Creek Ranger District
265 Hwy 20 South
Hines, Oregon 97738
(541) 573-4300

www.fs.usda.gov/malheur/

Umatilla National Forest

WHERE TO CALL.....

Umatilla National Forest Supervisor's Office
2517 S.W. Hailey Avenue
Pendleton, Oregon 97801
(541) 278-3716

Heppner Ranger District
P.O. Box 7, 117 S. Main
Heppner, Oregon 97836
(541) 676-9187

North Fork John Day Ranger District
P.O. Box 158
Ukiah, Oregon 97880
(541) 427-3231

Pomeroy Ranger District
71 West Main
Pomeroy, WA 99347
(509) 843-1891

Walla Walla Ranger District
1415 West Rose
Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 522-6290

www.fs.usda.gov/umatilla/

Do You Need A Northwest Forest Pass?

Mushroomers on the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests are required to display a Northwest Forest Pass in the windshield of their vehicle when using a designated fee trailhead. The Malheur National Forest does not require the Northwest Forest Pass at this time.

Passes cost $5.00 for each day pass or $30.00 for an annual pass. Senior Interagency passes and Access Interagency passes will act as a Northwest Forest Pass.

Not all trailheads are participating in the Northwest Forest Pass Program. Those trailheads requiring the Northwest Forest Pass will be signed accordingly. For a list of participating trailheads, please contact your nearest Forest Service Office.

Help Make This Season Safe and Enjoyable. Remember to:

- Park outside of designated campgrounds. Save these sites for recreationists.
- Carry mushrooms in a net bag, allowing mushrooms to spread their spores for future mushroom production.
- Pick up and pack out your trash.
- Be respectful to other mushroomers!
- Give wild animals some space. Leave newborns alone!
- Report any violations promptly to the Forest Service.

How Will Travel Management Planning Affect Mushroom Harvesting?

The 2005 Travel Management Rule directs each National Forest to identify and designate roads, trails, and areas suitable for motorized use and prohibit use of motor vehicle outside of the designated system.

Each Blue Mountain forest is in various stages of analysis and implementation of the Travel Management Rule. **It is your responsibility to research the area and know what roads are open to motorized travel.** Free Travel Plan Maps or Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMS) may be available upon request. Contact the Forest Service office nearest you for more information (see page 3.)

Road closures, in many areas, have already been implemented on the ground and may be closed permanently, temporarily, or seasonally for a variety of reasons including:

- Wildlife Habitat Protection
- Resource Protection
- Public Safety
- Conflict of Use
- Legal Mandates
- Sensitive Land Resources

Road closures and travel management areas can provide many benefits and help us all to enjoy and make the best use of our outstanding natural resources. However, they will only work if you comply with the restrictions. You can encourage others to support travel management in your area and report violations to the closest Forest Service Office.

Know what roads are open and closed!

Be Prepared, Or You're Lost!

Each year many mushroom pickers find themselves lost. Fortunately, most find their own way out, though some do not. Here are some helpful tips to help you safely plan your next mushroom outing:

Know the Area: Study the lay of the land before you start. Carry a map and compass and learn how to use them. Be on the lookout for landmarks such as a mountain, road or stream.

Dress Properly: Always assume you may not make it back before dark and the weather may worsen. Wear layers of clothes. Wool is always a good choice because it retains its warmth even when wet.

Carry the Essentials: Pack a lunch or a few snacks. Bring matches or a lighter, a pocket knife and a whistle. Whistling carries farther than the human voice and uses less energy than yelling.

Have a Plan: Let someone know exactly where you will be and when you will return. Report late arrivals promptly.

Be Physically and Mentally Prepared: Don't overdo it. Know your physical limits. Mentally prepare yourself for a survival situation. Think it through before it happens.

What to do if You Become Lost:
Sit tight, wait, and stay calm. Keep warm and dry. Build a shelter and a fire **before** it gets dark. Make your location visible. Signal for help with three whistle blasts. A controlled fire with some green branches or a signal mirror can be seen from the air. Leave lots of clues such as notes, messages in the dirt and good footprints. Stay on trails or roads.

Mushroomer's Essentials

Water	Signal Mirror
Fire Starter / Lighter	Flashlight
Rain Gear / Plastic Bag	First Aid Kit
High Energy Foods	Paper and Pen
Mushroom Guide & ID Book	50 ft. Cord
Knife or saw	Extra Clothing
Map and Compass	Trash Bags
Watch	Toilet Paper
Whistle	Prescription Medicine

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