

Mushroom gathering is best, as soon as the snow melts, in areas that have been burned by fire during the last 2 years.

Mushrooms emerge in the spring when moisture and temperature conditions are right. Most often the best location for mushrooms is in areas that were burned or the soil was disturbed the previous year. Sometimes there are mushrooms found two years after the burn, although usually not as many.

Please call the Ranger Districts for information about recent wildfires or prescribed fires and fire locations.

For Permits and Information

McCall Ranger District Headquarters
102 W. Lake St.
McCall, ID 83638
Phone: 208-634-0400

New Meadows Ranger District Headquarters
3674 Hwy. 95
New Meadows, ID 83654
Phone: 208-347-0300

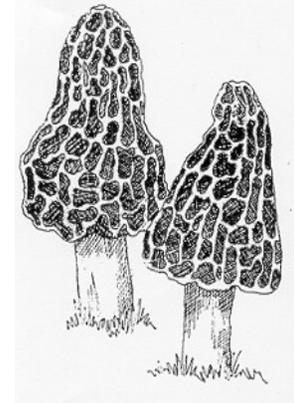
Council Ranger District Headquarters
2092 Hwy. 95
Council, ID 83612
Phone: 208-253-0100

Weiser Ranger District Headquarters
851 East 9th Street
Weiser, ID 83672
Phone: 208-549-4200

PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST

MUSHROOM GUIDE

2012



In forested areas beware of falling snags and stump holes, especially in burned areas. For information about hazards in burn areas, contact your local Ranger District Office.



PERMITS, FEES & RULES

Types of Permits & Fees

Personal Use: Persons gathering for personal use may have no more than five (5) gallons of mushrooms in their possession. Mushrooms gathered for personal use may not be sold, bartered, or given away.

Commercial Use: Each person gathering mushrooms for commercial use must have a valid Commercial Permit in their possession while gathering and transporting mushrooms. Commercial Permits will not be sold to anyone under the age of 18 years old. Commercial mushroom pickers are required to present an acceptable form of identification such as a Birth Certificate, Green Card, State ID, Forest Service ID, Passport, National ID, Tribal ID, or other identification issued by a Federal or State Government upon purchasing a permit. A 21-day commercial gathering permit costs **\$200**. Permits for other time periods will not be sold. Valid commercial gathering permits may be used on the Payette. Commercial use permits may be purchased at McCall, New Meadows, Weiser, and Council Ranger Districts on the Payette National Forest.

Commercial mushroom picking is not allowed on the Krassel Ranger District.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

♦ ***Can I use my off-road vehicle to look for mushrooms?***

No. Vehicles (including ATVs, 4-wheelers, motorcycles, or bicycles) are not allowed off of Forest Roads and Trails. This will provide protection to water resources and wildlife, and prevent soil erosion and damage to sensitive landscapes.

♦ ***Can I purchase another 21-day commercial gathering permit after the first one expires?***

It depends on current conditions. Forest Officials will determine if capacity and other factors warrant the continuation of the commercial mushroom gathering season.

A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Pick up and pack out your trash & anything you bring with you.
- Motorized vehicles are not allowed on closed roads or off existing roads.
- Human waste may be disposed of by burying a minimum of 18 inches deep and 300 feet away from any water source or open road.
- Discharging firearms in campsites is prohibited.
- Do not leave cigarette butts on the ground.
- Always carry your permit (if required) and your identification while harvesting.
- Do not drink untreated water from a pond, lake, or stream. If you use surface water, use a water filter or boil water for 3-5 minutes.
- You are required to know where harvesting is allowed or not allowed.
- Park outside designated campsites and do not block trails, gates, or roads.
- Park outside camping areas. Save these sites for people using the designated campgrounds.
- Understand fishing regulations because several fishing areas and species are catch and release only.
- No mushroom harvesting is allowed in Wilderness areas.
- Do not burn metal or tin foil in campfires

