Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

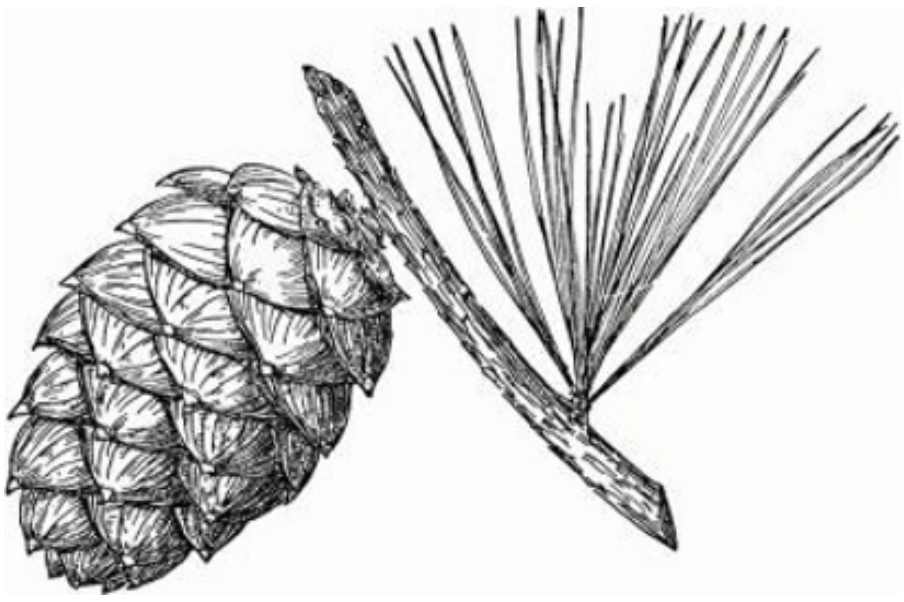
Sawtooth National Forest | November 2026

2026 CHRISTMAS TREE PERMIT

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. This permit authorizes the permittee to cut one Christmas tree, up to twenty feet in height, on National Forest System Lands within the Sawtooth National Forest.
2. Areas closed to Christmas tree cutting include:
   a. All Wilderness Areas
   b. Within 200 feet of campgrounds, organization camps, summer homes, and Forest Service Facilities
   c. Within 150 feet of lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands on the Ketchum Ranger District and Sawtooth NRA
   d. Within 300 feet of lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands on the Fairfield and Minidoka Ranger District
   e. All State and private land within the National Forest boundary
   f. Other areas as designated by the Forest Service – see permit map
3. Areas closed to Christmas tree cutting are displayed on the permit map.
4. Do not drag trees across groomed cross country ski and snowmobile trails.
5. Winter recreation motorized and non-motorized travel restrictions apply.
6. Tree tag must be attached to the tree when cut and placed so it will be visible while transporting the tree.
7. Map and tag must be in possession of permittee when cutting Christmas tree.
8. Stumps must be cut no higher than 8 inches above the soil.
9. Cutting only the top of a taller tree is prohibited. All parts of the tree must be removed.
10. Do not cut whitebark pine. Whitebark pine has five needles in a bunch and grows at high elevations.

Permit maps are available on the Sawtooth National Forest website and on Recreation.gov. Maps on the Sawtooth National Forest website are georeferenced, so they can be downloaded and used in your favorite maps application.



Whitebark pine is a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. Above is a picture of a whitebark pine cone and needles. Notice that the needles grow in bunches of five. You can find these trees at high elevations on the Ketchum and Fairfield Ranger Districts and the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

NORTH ZONE MAP
COVERS THE FAIRFIELD AND KETCHUM RANGER DISTRICTS AND THE SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

SOUTH ZONE MAP
COVERS THE MINIDOKA RANGER DISTRICT

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Christmas Tree Harvest Map - North

Sawtooth National Forest

Harvest Allowed within Forest Boundary

Harvest Encouraged (see inset)

Harvest Prohibited

- Campground
- Ski Area - Alpine
- Snowpark
- Major Road
- Public Roads
- Forest Service Roads
- Ranger District Boundaries
- Non-Forest Service Land
- Motor Vehicles Prohibited
- Other Forest Service

N

0 2 4 6 8 10 Miles

The Forest roads depicted on the map are those open after 11/30. For information about seasonal road and trail closures, please see the Ketchum Ranger District, Fairfield Ranger District, and Sawtooth National Recreation Area Motor Vehicle Use Maps. For more information on winter recreation, please see Sawtooth National Forest Winter Visitor Map.

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USDA FOREST SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Sheep Trail
Stanley Lake
Salmon River
Upper O'Brien
Whiskey Flat
Holman Creek
Redfish Lake
Cecil D. Andrus-White Clouds Wilderness
Sawtooth Wilderness
Pettit Lake
Alturas Lake
Hemingway-Boulders Wilderness
Sawtooth National Recreation Area
Fairfield RD
Fairfield RD
Ketchum RD
Easley
Wood River - North Fork
Boundary
Sun Valley Resort
Bear Creek
Canyon
Bird Creek
Baumgartner
Willow Creek
Bowns
Five Points
Basalt
Creek Warming Area
Deer Creek
Soldier Mtn Ski Area
Hunter Creek
Garnett Rd
Galena Lodge
Prairie Creek - Harriman Trailhead
Prairie Creek Trailhead
Baker Creek Camping Area
21
75
26
20