

**File Code: 2720 (123)**

**Date:** February 25, 2025

To: Zigzag Ranger District, Recreation Residence Permit Holders (Cabin Owners)

**RE: Zigzag Ranger District Recreation Residence Downed Tree Clean-up Operating Plan**

- You may cut up any sections of the tree which landed on your cabin, or within a ten-foot perimeter of your cabin to use for firewood at your lot only.
- Driveways and pathways may be cut open to the width of the access, plus an additional two feet on each side. The cut-out wood sections may be used as firewood at your cabin.
- No wood (firewood, logs, sections of trunk) may be removed from the recreation lot.
- **Leave the rest of the logs down on the ground in the longest possible uncut sections to enhance watershed quality and wildlife habitat.** Tree crowns may be limbed to enhance views. Tree roots within proximity to the cabin may be mechanically pulled back into place, or felled back in place if clearance allows and upon discussion with the permit administrator. **Tree roots attached to trunks along the watershed are required to be left in place – no trimming is allowed.**
- You may scatter branches and bark over your lot, or on adjacent unused in-lieu recreation lots.
- Prior to running the chainsaw at your lot, you must check the Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL), and follow any restrictions listed on the website for **Unit 2** <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mthood/fire>. A one-hour fire watch is required after chainsaw operation at IFPL Level 1. At IFPL Level 2, chain saw operation is only allowed between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m., with a one-hour fire watch.
- You must have a fire extinguisher with a minimum capacity of 8 ounces, and a long-handled shovel with a minimum 8-inch blade readily available during saw operation and the fire watch.
- **Departure from the clean-up operating plan is considered a violation of Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 261 and could result in a fine or mandatory appearance in Federal Court.**
- **Any tree service contractor working on your behalf must contact your permit administrator for a copy of this operating plan and provide their acknowledgement to adhere to these environmental requirements.**

Please read the Operating Plan carefully and contact you permit administrator if you have questions by email at [SM.FS.mthcabins@usda.gov](mailto:SM.FS.mthcabins@usda.gov).

Sincerely,

Greg Wanner  
District Ranger

Name and signature of Tree Service Contractor working on your behalf:

