



Applying for Commercial Filming and Photography Permit

How to Apply

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED A MINIMUM OF 10 BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE SHOOT

1. Contact the correct [Ranger District Permit Administrator](#) to discuss your proposal. You can view an interactive map with District boundaries [here](#).
 2. Complete and submit your [Special Use Permit Application](#) along with ***all*** the following required documentation:
 - **Detailed Map** pinpointing your proposed areas & trailhead locations. You can create and print your map to .pdf to include with your application [here](#) or [here](#).
 - **Certificate of Insurance:** 1 page certificate, not the entire policy. Insurance requirements are [here](#).
 - **Business License or Certificate of Good Standing**
 3. Pay **application fee**. You will be billed once your application is accepted regardless of whether or not you are issued a permit.
(Fee does not include applicable land use fees as per the fee schedule [here](#)).
 4. Commercial filming in **congressionally designated Wilderness Areas** requires meeting additional criteria.
-



Insurance Requirements

- **One (1) Million General Liability is required, submitted on ACCORD 25 2010/05 form. If aircraft is involved, the Minimum Coverage Amount is \$5 million.**
 - The Certificate of Insurance and the Insurance Policy Endorsement must show the following as additionally insured:
“It is understood and agreed that the United States Government is additionally insured solely as respects liability arising from operations of the name insured.”
 - The certificate AND the endorsement page must be submitted to the **District Office** as the **certificate holder**, either with the permit request or immediately upon approval of the request, and before activities commence.
-

2025 Fee Schedule & Payment

Permitted commercial filming and still photography activities are subject to a per-day land use fee as determined by the size of the cast and crew present, in addition to the application fee. A unique site fee may also be charged per day. (See Fee Schedule below)

FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN UNIVERISTY:

Land use fee may be waived if students produce a letter on letterhead from the educational institution stating that the project is a class requirement and has no commercial value. Student filmmakers/photographers are still required to pay the application fee.

Processing and Monitoring Fee Schedule for Applications and Authorizations

Cost Recovery Fees – Processing Applications and Monitoring Authorizations—2025		
Category	Estimated Federal Work Hours	2025 Fee
Minor Cat 1	>1 and up to and including 8	\$155
Minor Cat 2	>8 and up to and including 24	\$549
Minor Cat 3	>24 and up to and including 36	\$1,033
Minor Cat 4	>36 and up to and including 50	\$1,481
Master Agreement Cat 5	Varies with the agreement	As specified in agreement
Major Cat 6	>50 hours	Full actual costs
Region 4 Land Use Fees for Still Photography and Filming for 2025		
Number of People (Cast & Crew)	Still Photography	Filming
1-10 persons	\$50/day	\$150/day
11-30 persons	\$150/day	\$200/day
31-60 persons	\$250/day	\$500/day
Over 60 persons	\$250/day	\$600/day

Forest Service Commercial Filming & Photography Permit Application

(page 1 of 3)

District Location Name

Proposed Production Date(s)

Date of application

Film/Photography Company Info

Legal Business Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Express mail #:

Tax id #:

Project Title

Primary Contact Information

Name & title:

Email:

Phone:

Secondary Contact/Agent Information

Name & Title:

Email:

Phone:

Forest Service Commercial Filming & Photography Permit Application

(page 2 of 3)

Production Information: Please describe proposal in detail with attachment if necessary.**Type: Filming, Still Photography, Both?****Proposed Location(s)***Area Description(s):***COPY OF MAP MUST BE ATTACHED!****Total Number of People Onsite:***Date(s):**Number of People Per-Day:***Times Onsite** (e.g. 8:30 am to 3:00 pm)**Breakdown & Restoration***Start/stop Dates:**Number of People Per-Day:***Alternative Filming/Photography Date(s)****Vehicles, Trailers, Aircraft & Equipment***Parking Plan:**Arrangements and Staging Area(s):**Such as: Equipment, Dressing rooms, Catering Set-up, Portable Toilets, etc.***INDICATE AREAS ON YOUR ATTACHED MAP.****Proposed Stunts, Special Effects, and Props***Attach a detailed description of each:*☐ Pyrotechnics☐ Aerial Stunts☐ Drone/Helicopter/Plane Shoot*(Attach a Plan of Activity & Safety Plan (Required). Include:
Tail number, color, make & model, flight path, etc.)*☐ Night shoot (additional monitoring fee may apply)☐ Hazardous Materials☐ Domestic Animals (list):☐ Wild Animals (list):☐ Adjacent Waterway (Riparian Areas):☐ Developed Recreation Sites (Visitor Centers, Campgrounds, etc.)☐ Involves overnight set storage and/or security guard☐ Requires special weather effects (describe):☐ Involves Wilderness Areas☐ Other (describe):

Project Information (cont.):

Detailed Project Description:

Attach storyboard, outline all activities, describe intended use of stills and footage

Action Involving Vehicles and/or Equipment

Proposed Large Props and/or Weapons

Traffic Control Plan If Operating on Roadways

Additional Requirements

- Attach detailed map with all filming locations identified.
- If part of the shoot is on adjacent non-National Forest System land (private or other government entity) attach copies of other agency permits and/or letter of permission.
- Attach copies of any required road encroachment permits.
- Attach Aviation Safety Plan/POA and/or FAA drone pilot's license card and drone serial #.

District Office Contact Information

1. Salt Lake Ranger District

Phone: 801-733-2660

Contact: Stephen Gardner, stephen.gardner@usda.gov

2. Pleasant Grove Ranger District

Desk: 801-794-6768

Cell: 385-539-8614

Contact: Joshua Bernhard, joshua.bernhard@usda.gov

3. Spanish Fork Ranger District

Desk: 801-794-6768

Cell: 385-539-8614

Contact: Joshua Bernhard, joshua.bernhard@usda.gov

4. Heber-Kamas Ranger District

Phone: 435-783-4338

Contact: Polly Bergseng, pollyanna.bergseng@usda.gov

5. Ogden Ranger District

Phone: 385-405-7100

Contact: VACANT, please call

6. Logan Ranger District

Phone: 9435- 755-3620

Contact: VACANT, please call

7. Evanston-Mountain View Ranger District

Phone: 307-783-3963

Contact: Brandon Flyr, brandon.flyr@usda.gov

8. Forest Headquarters (Headquarters Office)

Phone: 385-321-9805

Contact: Shannon Sawaya, shannon.sawaya@usda.gov

