

Welcome Tree Cutters...

The Holiday Season is now upon us. For a growing number of people, heading to the Forest and tracking down the ideal Christmas tree has become a family holiday tradition. In order to preserve the scenic and natural resource values of your forest, we ask for your cooperation by complying with the regulations listed in this brochure. Thank you and Happy Holidays!

Shaun McKinney
Forest Supervisor

Things You Should Know Before You Go

- * Christmas tree permits sell for \$5.00 each. We request that you only purchase one permit per household. **These permits are Non-refundable.**
- * Permits may be purchased at any Wallowa-Whitman NF Ranger District Office. In addition, permits can be purchased through recreation.gov.
- * Christmas Tree Permits can also be used on the Umatilla National Forest, if accompanied by their printed information.

How to Use Your Permit

- * Wrap the permit around the tree trunk, between limbs and secure ends together with the self-stick tape. Remember... once the permit is connected it cannot be undone and the permit is no longer valid.
- * Keep the permit on the tree while in transit.

Be Prepared for Winter Weather!

- * Dress appropriately in warm socks, boots, coats, hats & gloves.
- * Bring plenty of snacks and water.
- * Have supplies available to build a fire, if necessary.
- * Make sure your vehicle is equipped for winter travel.
- * Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to be home.

Where Can You Cut a Christmas Tree?

The Annual Christmas Tree Cutting Program on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest remains simple and easy to follow. The Christmas tree permit is valid on any Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Ranger District. Please follow these few simple regulations:

- * Cut your tree at least 50 feet away from the road and clean up any trimmings or limbs.
- * Leave stumps no higher than 10 inches. It is illegal to "top" a tree.
- * Cut off any green limbs left on the stump (they can be used for Decorating!).
- * The maximum height of trees to be cut is 15 feet tall, with no larger than a 6-inch stump diameter.
- * Do not cut in active timber sales or areas that have been planted with new trees. Do not cut on private land, in wilderness areas, designated campgrounds, or existing plantations.
- * Do not cut trees in the following areas: Baker City Watershed, Anthony Lakes Campground or Ski Area, Starkey Experimental Forest, La Grande Watershed, Hurricane Creek and Lostine drainages.
- * Do not cut trees within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of wild and scenic river corridors.
- * Christmas tree cutting within sight distance of State Highways is prohibited.

Helpful Hints

- * Carry your tree carefully out of the woods. Dragging the tree will rub off the needles and bark.
- *If the tree is too big to transport inside your vehicle, wrap it in canvas to prevent wind damage.
- *Once home, cut the bottom of the trunk off and place the freshly cut trunk in a bucket of water. Replenish the water frequently.
- *Store your tree in an area protected from the wind, such as the north or east side of your house or under a shaded tree.

What about after Christmas?

There are many local non-profit groups that collect Christmas trees for a nominal fee or donation. Call your local Chamber of Commerce or watch your area newspaper for more details.

Permits are also available at these Locations

Whitman RD-Baker Office
Baker City, OR
(541) 523-6391

Hells Canyon NRA
Clarkston, WA
(509) 758-0616

York's
Baker City, OR
541-523-2577

Wallowa Mountains Office**
Joseph, OR
(541) 426-5546

Dollar Stretcher
Enterprise, OR
(541) 426-5833

Sports Corral
Joseph, OR
(541) 432-4363

La Grande RD
La Grande, OR
(541) 963-7186

Burnt River Market
Unity, OR 97884
(541) 446-3660

Wallowa Food City
Wallowa, OR
(541) 886-3691

Island City Market & Deli
Island City, OR
(541) 963-7140

D&B Supply
Baker City, OR
(541) 523-6442

Miller's Home Center
La Grande, OR
(541) 963-3113

Halfway Market
Halfway, OR
(541) 742-6174

Hitchin' Post Grocery
Richland, OR
(541) 893-6175

Bi Mart
Baker City, OR
(541) 523-0680 or
La Grande, OR
(541) 963-2166

Hometown Hardware
Union, OR
(541) 562-5472

The Gold Post
Sumpter, OR
(541) 894-2362

WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS 2025 GUIDE



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Forest Service
Pacific Northwest
Region

Wallowa-Whitman
National Forest

****Vending machine for after-hours purchases at Wallowa Mountains District Office.**



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