

News Release

USDA Forest Service
Bighorn National Forest

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Bighorn National Forest Christmas tree permits are available

Sheridan, Wyo. (November 12, 2014) - Cutting your own Christmas tree can be an enjoyable experience for the entire family. If you would like to make this part of your holiday tradition, Bighorn National Forest Christmas tree permits are now available.

The cost for a permit is \$8.00 for a tree up to 10 feet tall. Cutting a larger tree requires the purchase of additional permits.

Permits are available at Bighorn National Forest offices in Buffalo, Lovell, and Sheridan, which are open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, except legal holidays. Christmas tree permits can also be purchased by mail. Simply complete the form that is available on the Bighorn's website at <http://1.usa.gov/1sV55F7>, mail it with payment to your local ranger district office, and a permit and a copy of the regulations will be mailed to you.

Rules and regulations apply, so please follow the instructions that come with the permit. Here are some of the rules:

- Trees may not be cut in the Cloud Peak Wilderness; marked timber sales; within 300 feet of campgrounds, lodges, summer homes, private land, and ranger stations; or within 100 feet of highways.
- On the Powder River Ranger District, trees may not be harvested along Forest Service Road 19 or along U.S. Highway 16 from the eastern Bighorn National Forest boundary to the Hettinger Group Area sign.
- The required tag(s) must be attached to the tree before it is transported.
- Off-road travel restrictions are in effect throughout the Bighorn National Forest
- When cutting a tree, stumps must be cut six inches or less, and it is important to keep roadways clear of debris and slash
- Boughs may be cut only from trees tagged with a permit.

Most important, be extremely careful when driving in winter weather and use extra caution with saws and axes. Be prepared for winter conditions by checking weather and road conditions before starting out. Safe winter driving tips can be found on WYDOT's web page at

<http://bit.ly/1ssnwR9>. You can check road conditions on your route by calling 511 or checking the WYDOT website.

If you have any questions about cutting a Christmas tree in the national forest, please stop in or call any Bighorn National Forest office.

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Forest Supervisor's Office
2013 Eastside Second St.
Sheridan, WY 82801
Phone 307.674.2600

**Powder River
Ranger District**
1415 Fort Street
Buffalo, WY 82834
Phone 307.684.7806

**Tongue
Ranger District**
2013 Eastside Second
St.
Sheridan, WY 82801
Phone 307.674.2600

**Medicine
Wheel/Paintrock
Ranger Districts**
604 East Main
Lovell, WY 82431
Phone 307.548.6541

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/bighorn/>