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Christmas Tree Permits Available

YREKA, CA – For many, holidays officially begin when the perfect Christmas tree is brought home. The Klamath National Forest is happy to announce that Christmas tree permits are now available and can be purchased for \$10 each at any one of the four Klamath National Forest offices in Macdoel, Fort Jones, Happy Camp, and Yreka.

“While permits are available at each of our offices, you can also purchase a permit via the mail,” said Allen Tanner, Forest Service Information Assistant. A permit can be purchased by mailing a check to the Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097. “Mark ‘Christmas tree’ on the outside of the envelope to speed up processing,” added Tanner. Make checks payable to USDA Forest Service, and please be sure to include a return address either on the check or on the envelope so the permit can be returned quickly. Please allow one week for processing your request. Special cutting instructions and a map are available and will be sent with the permit.

One tree permit is allowed per household. Christmas tree gatherers will need a permit from the Siskiyou County Sheriff’s Department if more than five trees will be transported in one vehicle.

Forest Service offices are open for permit sales Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All offices will be closed Thanksgiving Day, but will be open Friday November 26th.

Permits can be purchased in person or by mail at the following locations:

- Klamath National Forest Supervisor’s Office, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097; (530) 841-4569 or 841-4476;
- Happy Camp Ranger District, P.O. Box 377, Happy Camp, CA 96039; (530) 493-2243;
- Salmon River/Scott River Ranger Districts, 11263 N. Highway 3, Fort Jones, CA 96032; (530) 468-5351
- Gooseneck Ranger District, 37805 Highway 97, Macdoel, CA 96058; (530) 397-4391.

(more)

All permit sales are final; no refunds will be made.

The Klamath National Forest offers the following tips:

- Be sure to prepare for cold weather when going Christmas tree cutting. Bring emergency food, water, tire chains, shovel, and have a full tank of gas in your vehicle. Weather in November and December can change quickly, so be prepared.
- Respect private land and private forests—cut only on Klamath National Forest land.
- Do not cut within 100-feet of any road or campground.
- Only cut a tree that has a main trunk diameter of four-inches or less.
- Cut trees within 12-inches of the ground, and do not ‘top’ trees.
- Cut your tree early in the season before many of the popular cutting areas become snowbound.
- Attach the permit to the tree so that it is visible once you load it into your vehicle. Collecting, possessing, or transporting any part of a tree without a valid permit is a Federal and State offense and violators will be prosecuted.
- To slow down the drying out process of your tree, re-cut the trunk one or two-inches above the old cut and immediately place in water. Store the tree in a cool, shaded area and check the water level daily. A six-foot tall tree can ‘drink’ a quart or two of water each day.
- Once in the house, the cooler the room, the longer the tree will last. Keep the tree away from heat sources (including sunny windows).
- Turn down the room heat when leaving the house or retiring for the night.

With a bit of care, your tree should easily last for four weeks – lots of time to enjoy its fragrance and beauty.

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