

Merry Christmas from the Bighorn National Forest



This permit is only valid on the Bighorn National Forest. Please do not use this permit to remove trees from Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Wyoming State, other Forest Service, or private lands.

An individual may purchase a maximum of five permits. Each permit is \$8.00 from Bighorn National Forest offices, and is good for one tree, less than 10' tall. If you need a taller tree, an additional permit is required.

<p>Powder River Ranger District 1415 Fort Street Buffalo, Wyoming 82834 307-684-7806 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Medicine Wheel Ranger District 95 US Highway 16/20 Greybull, WY 82426 307-765-4435 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Tongue Ranger District 2013 Eastside 2nd Street Sheridan, WY 82801 307-674-2600 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Mail-in forms can be found at: www.fs.usda.gov/main/bighorn/home Passes & Permits Forest Products</p> <p>Completed forms must be mailed to one of the District offices at the addresses above. Please allow at least a one-week turn-around.</p>

Most of the Bighorn National Forest is open to Christmas tree cutting. Trees cannot be cut within 300 feet of cabins, lodges, resorts, campgrounds, picnic grounds, administrative sites (such as Ranger Stations), or within 100 feet of State Highways, however, you MAY cut right next to Forest Roads.

In addition, tree cutting on the Powder River District is not allowed along Highway 16 from the eastern Forest boundary to the Hettinger Group Area sign. Trees cannot be cut in the Cloud Peak Wilderness.



Each tree must be tagged with a Christmas Tree Permit, R2-2430-14, prior to transporting. Each permit is valid for ONE tree up to ten feet in height. Please attach the tag firmly and visibly to the stem of the tree.

Please cut stumps six inches or lower to the ground. Cut and scatter all limbs from the stump and unused portions of the tree. To avoid waste, please cut a tree that is close to the desired height. **“Topping” a tree is prohibited.** Topping a tree is unhealthy for the tree and leaves it susceptible to disease.

There are several conifer species available for cutting. The most commonly cut trees are sub-alpine fir, Douglas fir, Engelmann spruce and lodgepole pine.

Please do not cut limber pine.

Limber pine grows 30-50 feet high, with a trunk diameter of 15-24". Needles are dark green, and clustered in groups of 5, near branch ends. The very sappy cones are 3 to 10 inches long, cylinder shaped, with thickened scales and large seeds.



Recommended vehicle parking is in snowmobile or skiing turnouts. Park your vehicle in a safe location, off of the road so it is not a traffic hazard. Winter gear, including tire chains and a shovel are recommended equipment for your tree-cutting trip.

Be prepared for deep snow and cold weather. The Bighorn National Forest does not plow snow off of Forest Service roads to allow access to Christmas tree cutting.

To keep your tree fresh and green when you get it home, place it in water as soon as possible. It may take a day or so for it to thaw and begin to drink. Be sure to keep it watered throughout the season so the end of the trunk does not seal and prevent it from absorbing water.

While nothing will make your tree fireproof, a fire retardant recipe may be helpful. If you choose to use a fire retardant, one can be found at

www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r2/recreation/?cid=stelprdb5341325.

Pine Bough's

Pine boughs may be cut from the lowest branches of standing trees as long as 75% of the tree is left remaining. It is preferred that the boughs be taken from several trees. An individual is allowed to cut up to 10 branches at no charge. Additional boughs will require purchasing a Christmas tree permit. Cut the branch 1/2" from the trunk of the tree.

