U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Special Stipulations

Christmas Trees

Christmas Trees

- Leave less than a 6" stump.
- Chop up and scatter the branches left behind to speed up decomposition.
- Do not cut the tops out of trees.
- Use power saws equipped with a working exhaust system and a spark arrestor.
- Christmas trees obtained under this Permit are intended for **personal use only**. Inquire at your local field office regarding commercial permits.

General Conditions

- Carry your permit and show it when asked by BLM staff or law enforcement. Copies are **not** allowed.
- Use your permit only for BLM South Dakota Field Office lands. This does not allow Christmas trees to be cut on USFS lands. Remember, it's not transferable or refundable.
- Follow all rules and signs posted on BLM lands. This permit and activities hereunder are subject to all applicable Federal Statutes and regulations and State and local laws. In case of conflict, Federal statutes and regulations shall take precedence.
- Enter only lands where you have legal access.
- Protect cultural, historical, and archaeological sites by leaving them undisturbed.
- Park without blocking traffic or emergency vehicle routes.
- Dispose of all waste responsibly.
- Permittee agrees to hold the Government harmless from any claim for damage or loss of property, personal injury, or death.
- None of the terms or conditions of this permit may be varied or modified, except for unilateral modifications by the Bureau of Land Management.
- Violations of conditions of this permit can result in cancellation and/or legal action.
- **The Bureau of Land Management reserves the right to unilaterally revoke this permit for Permittee's noncompliance with its terms and conditions or when revocation is in the public's interest and/or the Permittee can be fined under Title 43 of the CFR.**

Harvesting Conditions

- Harvest during daylight hours only.
- Be careful not to harm nearby plants or habitats while harvesting. Permittee shall pay for or repair all damage to natural features; riparian areas; other vegetation; and roads, trails, fences, ditches, telephone lines, or other improvements resulting from Permittee's actions under this permit.
- **Christmas tree gathering is prohibited in all developed recreation areas, campgrounds, active timber sale units or other areas signed.**
- Only harvest permitted species and amounts. Buy more if needed from your local BLM office or online at https://forestproducts.blm.gov/
- Avoid harvesting trees marked with paint, signs, ribbons, or other markers.
- Christmas tree gathering is prohibited within 150 feet of any running stream, pond, lake or marshy wet area.
  - Use only hand tools and small mechanical devices for cutting.

Post-Harvesting Conditions

- Concurrent with forest product removal activities, slash and unused vegetative material resulting from Permittee's activities shall be removed from roads and ditches and scattered in the surrounding landscape avoiding power lines, telephone lines, and stream courses. Spread out vegetative debris to a maximum height of 18 inches.

Environmental Respect

- When passing through gates, leave them as you find them, either open or closed.
- Drive only on open roads and avoid muddy terrain to prevent ruts.
- **Motorized vehicles are not allowed off existing roads that are open to the public**, unless otherwise specified under this permit. Permittee parking shall not block traffic or impede fire or emergency vehicles.
- Check regional fire restrictions online at https://www.blm.gov/programs/fire/fire-restrictions before starting any harvesting and follow them.
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- The following are fire regulations for vehicles and chainsaws (during proclaimed fire season):
  - Chainsaw operators must have a serviceable fire extinguisher (liquid chemical 8 oz or dry chemical 1 lb) and shovel available at all times
  - Chainsaws must be equipped with an approved spark arrester screen.
  - All vehicles must be equipped with a baffled muffler and serviceable tailpipe

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