



Commercial Mushroom Gathering in Specified Fire Areas in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest



Permits

Permits are required for all commercial mushroom gathering on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Individuals are required to have their mushroom permit in their possession at all times when gathering mushrooms. Commercial permits are available at all Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest offices during regular business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Washington State forest product transportation requirements can be found under RCW 76.48.060 and at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=76.48>

Commercial Mushroom Permit fees are \$20 for a 4-day permit, \$50 for a 30-day permit or \$100 for the season. Seasonal permits are valid April 15 through July 31 and August 1 through December 31, 2013.


Maps

Individuals with commercial mushroom harvesting permits will be able to harvest mushrooms only from areas listed on ranger district mushroom maps.

Personal Use Mushroom Gathering of three gallons per day is free. No permit is required. **Personal use mushroom pickers are required to make a vertical cut through the stems of the mushrooms immediately upon harvest.**



Camping

 **Designated camps** are available for commercial mushroom harvesters planning to stay overnight on National Forest lands. Commercial harvesters are required to use these designated camps, which are shown on the attached maps.

Commercial harvesters shall not camp within 200 feet of streams, lakes, riparian areas, and other wet areas such as wetlands and meadows, at trailheads, or trailhead parking areas, or in other high use recreation or special use areas. This permit allows the permittee to camp in designated areas only.

Garbage Removal

All garbage must be picked up and taken off National Forest lands for proper disposal unless a commercial harvester is camping in a designated camping site where a garbage disposal repository is provided.

Buying & Selling

Selling, buying, or drying mushrooms is not allowed anywhere on National Forest lands.

Closures



Areas closed to commercial mushroom picking include Wilderness Areas, Research Natural Areas, administrative sites, botanical areas, scenic corridors, developed recreation sites, campgrounds, and private property.



Road closures will be in effect within some commercial mushroom harvesting areas. Road closures will remain in place for areas where hazards exist and to protect soft roadbeds until they dry out. Some Burned Area Emergency Response work will require temporary area or road closures.



Motorized Off-Route Travel is not allowed within burned areas. Motorized equipment, including ATVs or motorbikes, is permitted only on existing roads open to the public. All motorized equipment must be street legal.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

Northwest Forest Pass Required at Some Trailheads

A day use fee is required at many trailheads and day use sites. A valid pass must be displayed on the vehicle windshield when using a fee site. Passes cost \$5 per day or \$30 for an annual pass and are available at all national forest offices and some fee sites.

Campfires

Campfire restrictions will be posted on information boards at designated camps. If fires are allowed:

- Keep camp or warming fires small
- Build camp or warming fires several feet from overhanging branches, steep slopes, dry grass, logs, rotten stumps, etc.
- Never leave a camp or warming fire unattended
- Keep plenty of water handy and have a shovel for throwing dirt on the fire if it gets out of control
- Drown and stir the fire with water until all embers and coals are cool-to-the-touch
- Keep vehicles off dry grass—heat from exhaust systems can ignite fires

Safety

Driving Safety: Many forest roads are single-lane roads. Please travel slowly. Be prepared to encounter vehicles, animals or people around corners.

Post Fire Hazards:

- **Walking:** Tread cautiously, the fire may have burned roots creating unseen walking hazards.
- **Falling Trees:** Trees burned by fire may fall at any time, with no warning; always look up for possible hazards. **THIS IS A MAJOR HAZARD—BEWARE!**
- **Fire Restoration Work:** Hazardous trees may be felled along some roads. Roads will be closed while tree falling operations occur. Road and culvert work will mean increased traffic.
- **Due to flooding potential in burned areas, we recommend commercial mushroom pickers monitor National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Service radio stations.** Monitor weather forecasts and be alert for flood watches and warnings. Be aware of the possibility of flooding from rains upstream of your location. Monitor local radio stations for public safety bulletins and flood information. Scan NOAA Weather Radio for real-time weather conditions; these broadcasts require a scanner or special radio receiver.

Emergency Services

911 is the local emergency services phone number. Hospitals are located in Ellensburg, Wenatchee, Leavenworth, Chelan, Omak, and Brewster.

Other Agencies



Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will not issue commercial mushroom harvest permits. Therefore, DNR lands and developed campgrounds are closed to commercial harvesters. Personal-use harvest is allowed without a permit. ATV/ORV travel is allowed on open roads only. ATV/ORV travel off any road, behind gates, or on trails is strictly prohibited. In undeveloped and dispersed campsites, camp fires are prohibited and camping is limited to 14 days. Garbage – Pack it in – Pack it out. For more information contact DNR at 509-925-8510.



Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife does not allow commercial mushroom harvesting or camping for commercial harvesters. For more information call 509-575-2740 or 509-754-4624.



Okanagan County Sheriff's Office: 509-422-7200

Chelan County Sheriff's Office: 509-667-6875

Kittitas County Sheriff's Office: 509-962-7525

Who to Call—National Forest Contact Information

Chelan Ranger District, 428 W. Woodin Ave., Chelan, WA 98816; 509-682-4900

Cle Elum Ranger District, 803 W. 2nd Street, Cle Elum, WA 98922; 509-852-1100

Entiat Ranger District, 2108 Entiat Way, (mailing address P.O. Box 476), Entiat, WA 98822; 509-784-4700

Methow Valley Ranger District, 24 West Chewuch Road, Winthrop, WA 98862; 509-996-4000

Naches Ranger District, 10237 Hwy. 12, Naches, WA 98937; 509-653-1401

Okanogan Valley Office, 1240 South Second Ave., Okanogan, WA 98840; 509-826-3275

Okanogan-Wenatchee N.F. Headquarters office, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, WA 98801; 509-664-9200

Tonasket Ranger District, 1 W. Winesap, Tonasket, WA 98855; 509-486-2186

Wenatchee River Ranger District, 600 Sherbourne, Leavenworth, WA 98826; 509-548-2550



Forest website:
www.fs.usda.gov/okawen