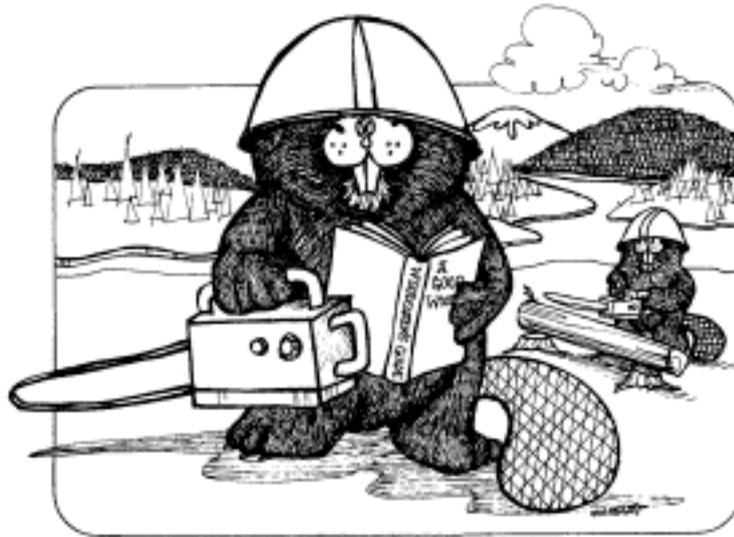


2004

Umatilla National Forest Firewood Maps Attachment – Part 2 (Part 1 is Your Permit Form)



Is Today a Cut Day?



It's Your Responsibility to
Find Out Before You Head Out!



Yes or No! It's easy to determine whether the Umatilla National Forest is open for firewood cutting. Just call our **TOLL-FREE** information line at **1-877-958-9663**. An updated recorded message will let you know if firewood cutting is allowed, restricted to certain areas of the Forest, or closed completely due to hot, dry weather conditions. Your permit is not valid in areas where firewood cutting restrictions are in effect.

Call Toll-Free 1-877-958-9663

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Umatilla National Forest's 2004 Program

The Umatilla National Forest strives each year to provide a firewood program that is easy to understand while complying with all of the laws and regulations that govern our forest management. Three policies that apply to almost every area on the Umatilla National Forest are: 1) 24-inch maximum stump diameter; 2) no cutting of ponderosa pine; and, 3) firewood cutting is allowed within 300 feet of an open road. See individual map "Special Conditions" for any exemptions. Below are more indepth descriptions of the minimum price increase and policies.



THE MINIMUM CHARGE FOR A FIREWOOD PERMIT IS \$20, THE COST PER CORD IS \$5
Woodcutter's should plan ahead when purchasing permits.

Firewood cutters need to plan ahead when buying firewood permits, due to last year's increase in the minimum charge for forest product permits. Though the minimum price for a firewood permit increased to \$20, the cost per cord is still \$5. This increase equates to a minimum permit of four cords for \$20.

You will still be able to purchase a 2-cord permit, though with this change in minimum charge, there will be no cost difference between purchasing a 2-cord permit and a 4-cord permit. If you expect to purchase several permits during the season, it will be helpful to plan ahead. Purchasing the right combination of permits, could save you some money. Permits can be purchased for any amount between 1-10 cords; however, the permit will cost a minimum of \$20. Each household is allowed a maximum of 10 cords per calendar year.

Last year's increase, the first in over 20 years, was nationwide and reflected the increased costs to support, administer, and prepare these small sales for all forest products such as firewood, mushrooms, and posts and poles. The one exception is for the personal-use Christmas tree permit that remains at \$5.00 per tree.

Firewood Permits will be available at all Umatilla National Forest Offices and at several local vendors. Woodcutters are reminded to cut their firewood early in the season to avoid the fire-danger related closures that are typical for August and September.

***IMPORTANT:** This year, most vendors will only be able to sell four-cord permits. If you normally cut 5, 6, 7 or 10 cords, you will need to obtain your permits at a Umatilla National Forest Office.

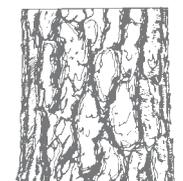
24" STUMP DIAMETER

The Blue Mountains of northeast Oregon and southeast Washington are home to over 60 species of mammals and birds that use snags for nesting and shelter. Some areas on the Umatilla National Forest are "snag deficient." This means there are not enough snags (larger than 18" in diameter) in the area to provide habitat for these critters.

To help alleviate this problem, the Umatilla has imposed a maximum stump diameter of 24" for falling or removing any tree, standing or down. On a standing dead snag, you measure stump diameter 12" up from the base of the tree. On dead-down firewood, try to locate and measure the stump of the tree. If that's not possible, measure the tree diameter at its largest end. The diameter is measured from the outside bark to the outside bark.



Ponderosa Pine Needles & Cones



Ponderosa Pine Bark

NO CUTTING OF PONDEROSA PINE

Good Wildlife Home - Poor Firewood The number of snags and the amount of dead-down material on the forest floor continues to decline each year. As they decline, so does the animals habitat who live, nest and feed in snags and logs. Because of this, the Umatilla National Forest has imposed the "no cutting of ponderosa pine".

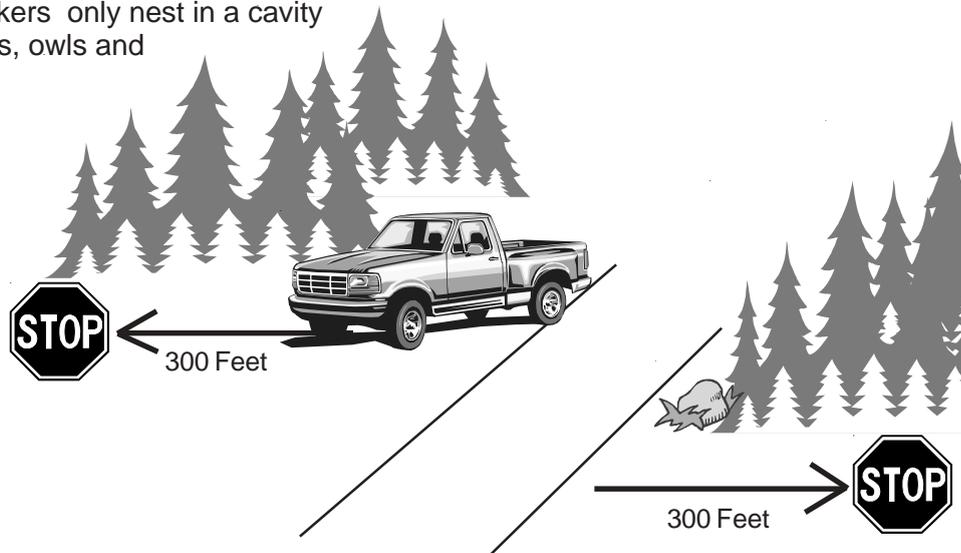
Compared to other kinds of conifer trees growing in the Blue Mountains, ponderosa pine has low density and makes relatively poor firewood. Since heat output is directly related to density, a cord of ponderosa pine generates less heat than other species. However, ponderosa pine is favored by many animals for nesting because of its soft composition.

In fact, in areas where snags are numerous, more than 70% of woodpeckers choose to nest in ponderosa pine. Because woodpeckers only nest in a cavity for one year, other animals such as bluebirds, squirrels, owls and raccoons will inhabit the cavity in the following years!

TRAVEL ALLOWED WITHIN 300 FEET OF AN OPEN ROAD

You may drive a motor vehicle up to 300 feet lateral slope distance off of an open road, or to a guardrail or barricade/green gate to cut and gather firewood. You may not travel beyond 300 feet lateral slope distance from any road open to motorized travel. Do not travel beyond or around a guardrail or barricade/green gate.

Please remember, your vehicle can easily damage soils and vegetation when traveling off of open roads. It is illegal to cause this kind of resource damage with your vehicle.





Can I Cut Today?

Weather Conditions Affect Woodcutting
Find Out Before You Head Out



Yes or No! It's easy to determine whether the Umatilla National Forest is open for firewood cutting. Just call our **TOLL-FREE** information line at **1-877-958-9663**. An updated recorded message will let you know if firewood cutting is allowed, restricted to certain areas of the Forest, or closed completely due to hot, dry weather conditions. Your permit is not valid in areas where firewood cutting restrictions are in effect.

For example, at times, conditions can vary from cool and moist on the north half of the Forest (Walla Walla and Pomeroy Ranger Districts) to hot and dry on the south half of the Forest (North Fork John Day and Heppner Ranger Districts.) In these instances, firewood cutting may be prohibited on the south half while permitted on the north half.

Firewood cutting restrictions are determined by current and predicted temperatures, humidity, wind speeds and ground conditions. Restrictions will be announced by 6 P.M. on the day prior to the day the restriction will go into effect. Weekend restrictions will be announced by 6 P.M. on Friday. It is your responsibility to check to see if restrictions are in affect before cutting firewood.

An approved chainsaw spark arrester, shovel and 8 oz. or larger fire extinguisher are required to be in the possession of the firewood cutter. Woodcutters are also required to remain in the work area for a minimum of one hour to watch for and suppress any fires or smoldering duff.

For Umatilla National Forest's current public-use restrictions:

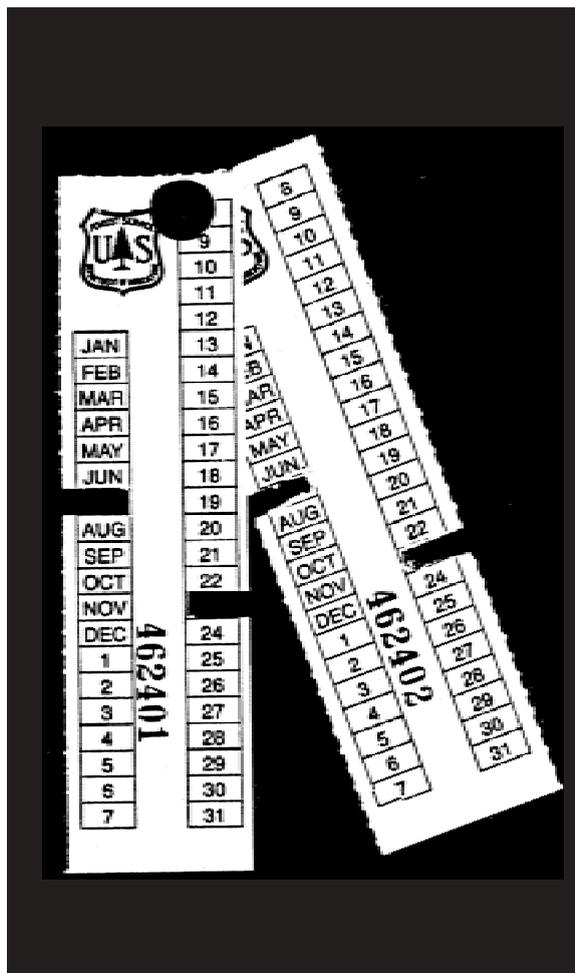
CALL 1-877-958-9663

Validating Your Load Tickets

It's your responsibility to tag your firewood load properly. If you fail to tag your load or validate your tickets, you may receive a violation citation.

To properly validate and tag your load:

1. Punch or cut out the month and day on the colored load ticket so the date is removed completely.
2. Firmly staple, nail, or tack one ticket on the back of the load for each 1/2 cord or portion thereof, on the truck or trailer.
3. Do not stack tickets on top of each other. All tickets must be clearly visible on the back of the load.



Sign Language

You encounter all kinds of signs, ribbons, and markings while out hunting for firewood. What do they all mean, and how should you interpret them? Good question! In fact, it's one of our most commonly asked questions. In this article, we hope to shed some light on this subject so the next time you're out you'll know whether **TO CUT OR NOT TO CUT**.

Timber Sale Boundary Signs

BOUNDARY SALE AREA	BOUNDARY PARTIAL CUT
_____ Sale	_____ Sale, Unit No. _____
This sign faces sale area. Remarks: _____	This sign faces the partial cut unit

The key word in these two signs is "faces". Timber Sale Units are signed on the interior boundary. If the sign "faces" the sale unit and you can see the sign, you are within the unit boundary.

THIS AREA:
OPEN FOR FIREWOOD CUTTING
Until Approx. _____, 20____ <small>(Site Prep. burning planned)</small>
U.S. Forest Service

You may see this sign posted along with any of the two above it. This sign is posted when the harvesting portion of a timber sale is complete but before the site prep burning takes place. This allows woodcutters to cut firewood from slash piles, etc., before the area is burned. We encourage woodcutters to use these areas.



Firewood Cutting is NOT allowed in Old-Growth Management Areas

Ribbons and Paint Marks

Trees, both dead and alive, can be marked with colored paint and ribbons for many reasons. Ribbons are frequently used as markings for timber sale units, while paint marks are frequently used to identify wildlife trees. However, both paint and ribbons can be used to depict other activities too.

Our best advice to the woodcutter is:

"When in Doubt, DON'T Cut"