



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bighorn National Forest Terms and Conditions* for Tribal Free Use Permit 2026

1. Forest products obtained under "Free Use" are for **personal use only and cannot be sold or exchanged (36 CFR 261.6(f))**.
2. No motorized vehicles are allowed off existing roads open to the public, unless otherwise specified within this permit. Access to closed roads is provided through additional consultation and agreement development. Parking should not block traffic. Traditional Harvesters must abide by all Forest rules, regulations, and orders.
3. Traditional Harvesters shall comply with fire requirements and current restrictions to prevent forest fires.
4. All trash and litter resulting from the permittee's activities shall be removed. Dispose of and scatter slash resulting from cutting activities. Take what you cut, and do not damage residual trees.
5. Human waste must be disposed of at least 200 feet from any stream, lake, other water body, or any recreational site, facility, or special permit use area and must be buried at least eight inches deep.
6. Peeling may be done on National Forest land. All debris must be scattered and kept out of road ditches and stream channels. No peeling of standing live trees that are not cut.
7. Live trees must be left on a 14 foot by 14 foot spacing
8. Stump heights must be less than 6 inches in height.
9. Traditional Harvesters are invited to cut anywhere on the Bighorn National Forest except:
 - 9.1. Campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads, administrative sites, research natural areas, or wilderness areas.
 - 9.2. Private lands within the National Forest boundary.
 - 9.3. Cabin areas or established organizational camps and lodges.
 - 9.4. Active timber sales.
10. Traditional Harvesters are required to complete load tickets when moving between collection sites or leaving the Forest. Load tickets must be securely attached to the load and clearly visible from the rear of the vehicle. Load tickets may only be used once and are not transferable. Twenty-four poles may be removed with each load ticket.

*The above-mentioned Terms and Conditions are a summary of the Terms and Conditions contained in the 2400-8 Free Use Permit between the Tribe and the Bighorn National Forest. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

Please contact the Bighorn & Shoshone NF Tribal Relations Specialist, Christine Varah at (307) 674-2649 or email at Christine.Varah@usda.gov if you have any questions.