

OURAY COUNTY

Cut a Christmas tree on federal lands

PLAINDEALER STAFF REPORT
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U.S. Forest Service offices and BLM offices are offering permits for sale to allow the public to cut a Christmas tree for personal use on National Forest or BLM lands, as authorized on the permit.

Tree cutters must have a valid permit with them while cutting a tree. BLM permits are valid for BLM lands only, and USFS permits are valid for National Forest System lands only.

Permits are \$5 to \$10, depending on the office where they are purchased and the area where the cutting will take place.

No cutting is permitted in campgrounds or other recreation/facility sites, Wilderness and/or near lakes, streams or in wetland areas.

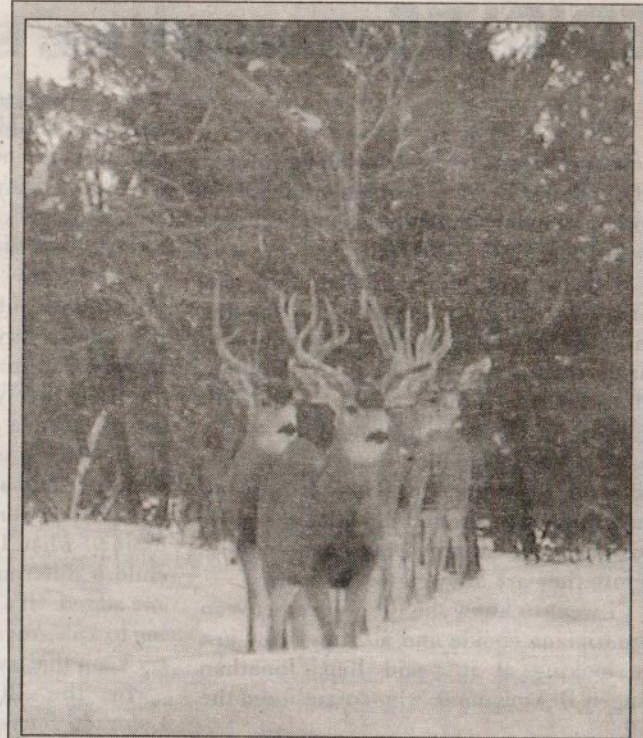
Both BLM and USFS permits are available at the Montrose Public Lands Office, 2465 S. Townsend Ave. and at the Norwood Ranger District office, 1150 Forest.

Log Hill fire district receives safety award

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Pinnacol Assurance, Colorado's leading workers' compensation insurer, has named Log Hill Mesa Fire Protection District as a recipient of its Circle of Safety Award. This is the third year that Log Hill Mesa Fire Protection District has received this honor and they are the only organization in Ouray County to be recognized. The Circle of Safety Award recognizes businesses for their exemplary performance in safety, loss control and financial and claims management. A total of 43 companies across the state were recognized.

"Less than one percent of Pinnacol's 55,000 policyholders meet the criteria for this award," said Phil Kalin, Pinnacol's president and CEO. "The recipients are an elite group whose commitment to safety and sound risk management practices qualify for this honor. We are proud to recognize them and their employees for their exceptional commitment to safety and for setting an example for other Colorado companies to follow."



A herd of deer trekked through the snow last week on Log Hill Mesa. According to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife website, the fourth rifle season closed Saturday, Nov. 16.

Plaindealer photo by Jeanette Cannady

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Level: Expert