

Boughs, Bay and Beargrass...

...aka **SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS** on the Six Rivers National Forest

What are Special Forest Products?

Special Forest Products (SFP) are non-timber, renewable plant materials collected for personal or commercial use (e.g., Christmas trees, edible mushrooms, and floral greenery). An important principle of SFP harvest is the maintenance of plant diversity in harvest areas.

Where can I harvest Special Forest Products?

Harvesting of SFPs is only allowed on National Forest System (NFS) lands within the Six Rivers National Forest. Harvesting is not allowed in administrative sites, wilderness areas, research natural areas, or special interest areas including botanical areas. In addition to these special management restrictions, no harvest is allowed in operating contract areas such as forest product sales, pre-commercial thinning areas, etc. NO harvest is allowed within 200 feet of any building, campground, state highway, river, stream, pond, lake, or other water body.

Special Management Areas Closed to Harvest

Harvesting of SFPs is not allowed in wilderness, botanical, geologic cultural, or research natural areas (RNA)—please help us protect these special areas! These areas are not typically marked in the field and it is your responsibility to ensure that you are not in these areas when harvesting (see area map).

Wilderness areas are managed to preserve and protect their natural conditions and to provide opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation pursuant to the Wilderness Act of 1964. *Botanical, geologic, and cultural areas* are set aside to protect the unique ecological values for which they were established. Research natural areas are native ecological communities that are permanently protected and maintained in the natural condition for the purposes of conserving biological diversity, conducting non-manipulative research and monitoring, and fostering education.

The following areas on the Gasquet Ranger District / Smith River National Recreation Area (NRA) are **CLOSED** to harvest (*see area map on flip side*):

- Siskiyou Wilderness
- North Fork Smith Botanical Area
- Bear Basin Butte Botanical Area
- Broken Rib Ecological Area



- Myrtle Creek Botanical/Cultural Area
- L.E. Horton Research Natural Area
- Craig's Creek Research Natural Area
- Upper Goose Creek Research Natural Area

Port-Orford-Cedar Conservation

In addition to the Special Management areas described, roads leading to areas with extensive groves of Port-Orford-cedar (POC) are closed seasonally to protect these valuable trees from a deadly root disease that spreads from wet soil. A water mold called *Phytophthora lateralis* causes the root disease. Its name literally means “plant destroyer.” The mold is similar to a fungus and can easily infect huge POCs.

Root disease moves up through cedar roots to the trunk. Here the mold attacks the water and nutrient carrying part of the tree, called the *cambium*. The cambium is similar to the veins in your body. Can you imagine what would happen if your veins stopped working? You wouldn't be able to function and neither can a POC.

Once the mold works its way into the trunk, the cedars begin to die. The brown leaves of diseased trees stand out against the bright green leaves of healthy trees. Since POC trees are typically found near streams, the mold can easily catch a ride down the river to infect more trees. Cars, bikes, humans, and animals also carry the mold to uninfected parts of the forest. Finding its way to new areas is especially easy in wet conditions when the mold is most active. Muddy tires and shoes are effective in spreading the disease, and that is why roads are closed during the wet season.

For more information about POC root disease and how you can help prevent its spread, visit www.fs.usda.gov/goto/srnf/PortOrfordCedar.



Port-Orford-cedar (POC) infested with *Phytophthora lateralis*.

Need additional information?

Gasquet Ranger District / Smith River NRA
 PO Box 228
 10600 Highway 199
 Gasquet, CA 95543
 (707) 457-3131
www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/srnf/recarea/?recid=11440

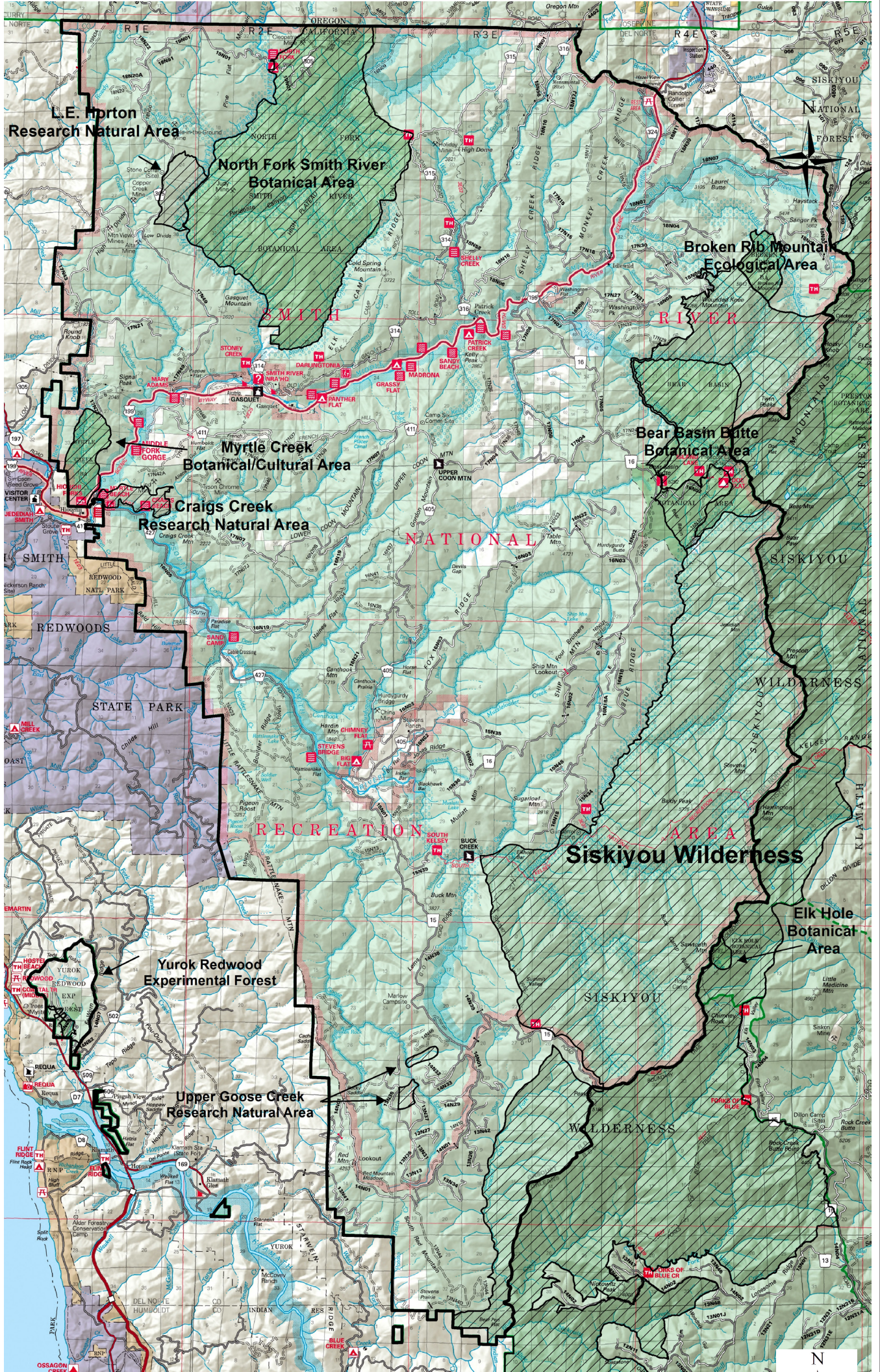


United States Department of Agriculture

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Forest Service

Pacific Southwest Region

Six Rivers National Forest

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