### Background

Truffles, mushrooms, bark, needles, firewood, conks, cacti, and berries are some of the many special forest products found throughout Oregon. People harvest these products for personal use and to sell.

Property owners and law enforcement learned that some people were harvesting truffles and other forest products without landowner permission. Truffles and other forest products weren’t listed as special forest products, which require harvesters to first get the landowner’s permission before harvesting. In 2013, the legislature fixed this by directing the Board of Forestry and the State Forester to revise the administrative rules to include Special Forest Products.

The fungi family includes both mushrooms and truffles. HB2615 amended the state statute on the harvesting of special forest products, ORS 164.183, to read “edible fungi” instead of “edible mushrooms” in order to capture truffles as a special forest product. Buyers must also keep records of landowners they purchase from.

### Goals

1. Define special forest products to include all fungi and items not previously included, such as truffles.

2. Provide landowners a form agreement to use with persons harvesting special forest products, also known as a permit. This permit is issued by the landowner to the harvester.

3. Revise the harvest permits, for landowners and harvesters to create a private contract for harvesting.

### Timing

By July 1, 2014, the Board of Forestry will finalize the revised special forest products administrative rules. The Board will look to State Forester Decker and the Department of Forestry staff to work with the public to revise the rules. The public will have opportunities to help do this through public comment opportunities at hearings located at ODF offices on:

March 4 - Springfield (3150 Main Street)

March 18 - Salem Office (2600 State Street)

Both hearings will start at 6 p.m. on each date.

### Questions or need more information?

HB 2615 can be located at: https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2013R1/Measures/Overview/HB2615

For more information about the updates to the Special Forest Products rule changes, please contact Angie Johnson at (503) 945-7387 or ajohnson@odf.state.or.us

[Contact Information]

Oregon Department of Forestry
Private Forests Division
2600 State Street
Salem, OR 97310

http://www.oregon.gov/odf/privateforests/Pages/HB-2615-Special-Forest-Products.aspx

(503) 945-7200