

Matsutake Survey Volunteers Needed



The Deschutes National Forest, in conjunction with Oregon State University, is conducting surveys of matsutake fruiting grounds to identify the impact of forest thinning. The American matsutake is a highly prized edible mushroom, the commercial

harvest representing a multimillion dollar industry. Volunteers will help locate matsutake mushrooms and collect soil samples and field data. Matsutake have a symbiotic relationship with "candystick" plants (see below), which are used by volunteers and mushroom harvesters, to locate the mushrooms.

When: Everyday of the week during the fruiting season, for approximately 2 weeks. Dates to be announced, but expected to be mid-September through mid-October, depending on the rains.

Where: The surveys will be outside of Crescent, Oregon; located near the South end of the Cascade Lakes Highway.

Working conditions: Work will be outside in lodgepole pine and mixed coniferous forests on level to steep ground. Rain is possible. No previous experience is necessary to help.

What is in it for me?:

- You will receive a free commemorative item
- You can pick the delectable edible mushroom while you survey (you must purchase a permit- \$24 for 3 days)
- Free Forest Service housing is available (as well as numerous camping opportunities)
- A chance to participate in research and learn about the natural history of these fungi
- Learn how to use "mycoheterotrophic" in a sentence

Reservations: Please make reservations a minimum of 2 weeks in advance. We are asking that volunteers commit to at least 2 days.

Contact:

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