

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION FOUR

March 9, 1959

Memorandum No. 59-24

To: Region Four Superintendents  
From: Regional Director  
Subject: Use of Park Trees for Christmas Trees

The following is quoted from a memorandum dated February 27 signed by the Director:

"As a result of adverse comment by a neighbor, the matter of cutting a few Christmas trees inside National Parks for public programs has been questioned. We do not think any major problem exists, and the practice of cutting a few trees for community, church or school use is one of long standing in some of the Parks.

"In order to carry out the spirit, as well as letter, of the Service's policy of maintaining natural condition which excludes the cutting of trees except where necessary for approved developments and for public safety, the cutting of Christmas trees should be discontinued. Exception should be made only where the removal of the trees is definitely a part of an approved clearing for a right-of-way, construction site or vista and for the maintenance of safe and operational conditions."

This memorandum will remain in effect until further notice.

(Sgd.) Lawrence C. Merriam

Lawrence C. Merriam  
Regional Director