



## Christmas Tree Cutting Guidelines

It is our pleasure to offer the opportunity to cut Christmas trees on the Ashton/Island Park Ranger District this year. Please review the following information to ensure that your experience is a fun one:

**Ensure you cut your tree on National Forest lands. If in doubt, ASK !**

Christmas tree permits will be available at \$15.00 per tree for up to a twenty (20) foot tree. There is a **limit of one tree per household.**

We urge you to cut **Subalpine Fir or Lodgepole Pine that are no larger than six (6) inches diameter at the base.** Other species are difficult to regenerate and we would prefer that you leave these trees to grow, i.e., Douglas-fir and Engelmann spruce.

Stump heights are to be cut at six (6) inches from the ground.

Permits (tags) **are to be signed** and trees are to be tagged prior to hauling off National Forest Lands.

Trees may be cut throughout the Ashton/Island Park Ranger District (see map) **with the exception of the following areas:**

**DO NOT CUT IN :**

- ▶ Forest Campgrounds, Summer Home Areas, Private, State or BLM Lands,
- ▶ 500 feet radius of the Howard Springs Picnic Area
- ▶ Big Springs Composite Area
- ▶ Wilderness Areas or Wilderness Study Areas
- ▶ Harriman State Park
- ▶ Within 200 feet of groomed cross-country ski trails
- ▶ Forest Service cabins, lookouts, Porcupine guard station, Government housing areas

The weather can be very unpredictable and extreme at this time of year. Cross-country skis, snowshoes or snowmobiles can make traveling off of roadways much easier, as access into the woods is very limited. *Snowmobile travel off of roadways is prohibited until Thanksgiving Day in areas closed to motorized use.*

Remember to go prepared for your Christmas tree hunt. Equip yourself with a winter emergency kit, dress warmly and have fun. Your tree will be in fine shape for the holidays if you keep the tree trunk in a bucket of water indoors or packed in snow and wrapped in burlap outdoors. Keep your tree sheltered from cold winds and store in an upright position.

Happy Holidays,

*Elizabeth Davy*

District Ranger