Ruedi Overlook Christmas Tree Cutting Map

Christmas Tree Regulations for 2015

Aspen-Sopris Ranger District

Most National Forest Lands on the Aspen-Sopris Ranger District are open for Christmas Tree Cutting
Snow and winter conditions may dictate access for Christmas trees

Recommended Christmas tree cutting areas (see maps):

1. **4-Mile Park –** Take 4-Mile Road beyond Sunlight Ski area, ¼ mile beyond the 4-Mile Park Forest Service kiosk and gate on the right. Snow may limit access.
2. **Ruedi Reservoir Overlook Trail –** 15 miles up Frying River Road, across the road from the Ruedi boat ramp entrance
3. **East of Elk Wallow Campground, Upper Fryingpan River –** Road is plowed to the campground in winter
4. **Basalt Mountain (FSR 524 and 509)** until seasonal gate is shut due to snow, snowmobile assisted harvesting recommended after gate closure
5. **Buford-New Castle Road, Rifle Ranger District (FSR 245) –** This road is plowed in winter

Closed Areas (general)

1. Do not cut in wilderness areas & proposed wilderness areas
2. Do not cut in developed recreation areas (campgrounds)
3. Do not cut within ski area boundaries
4. Do not cut within 100 feet of perennial waters (streams, lakes, rivers, wetlands)
5. Do not cut within 100 feet of all roadways & trails
6. Do not cut in commercial timber sale areas
7. Do not cut in Gunnison County areas located on the Sopris Ranger District

Closed Areas (site specific)

1. **Closed – Lenado-** within ½ mile on either side of the Woody Creek Road (FS Road 508) and past the Woody Creek bridge for 1 mile to the Forest boundary at the Kobey Park Road kiosk.
2. **Closed – Along the 4-Mile Road** (FSR 300) from the Sunlight Ski Area to 4-Mile Park Gate (Ski Area Boundary)
3. **Closed – Avalanche Creek**, Crystal River (Wildlife Corridor)
4. **Closed – Highway 133 from Carbondale to McClure Pass** (Scenic Byway)
5. **Closed – Maroon Creek Corridor,** Aspen (Scenic Area)

PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING RULES WHEN CUTTING YOUR TREE:

1. Any species of evergreen tree may be cut except COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE.
2. Trees must be 15 feet or shorter from ground to tip. **Cutting the top of a large tree is prohibited.**
3. Select one tree from a group of trees; this will encourage the remaining trees to grow faster.
4. Cut your tree as close to the ground as possible by cutting stumps no higher than 6 inches above the ground.
5. Your permit must be attached to the tree before cutting and transporting. One permit is required per tree.
6. Trees must be used for personal use and not resold.
7. Permit expires December 31, 2015.

Cutting, Transporting, & Keeping Your Tree Fresh:

1. The best tool for cutting your tree is a small hand or camp saw. You may also need a snow shovel.
2. Wrap your tree in an old blanket to minimize wind damage driving home.
3. Make a fresh base cut before putting the tree into the stand to allow the tree to take up water.

REFUNDS CANNOT BE GIVEN ON CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS

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