

Caribou-Targhee National Forest

Christmas Tree Harvest Information

Targhee Zone- Ashton/ Island Park, Dubois, Palisades and Teton Basin



Season's greetings,

We hope the experience of cutting a Christmas tree this season will provide you and your family with special memories for years to come. Before you begin looking for that special tree, please be sure to review this information.

Before heading out into the forest, make sure you have a permit. Permits are \$15.00 for one tree up to 20 feet tall. There is a limit of one tree per household. Christmas tree permits are non-refundable. Permits will be sold at each district office, and through our vendors. A complete list of our vendors is available on the Caribou-Targhee's [website](#). You can also purchase a permit through [recreation.gov](#). Online permits will need to be printed prior to heading out into the forest.

In addition to abiding by **current travel restrictions** (see [visitor maps](#)), please **DO NOT CUT** in or around campgrounds, trailheads, organized sites, summer home areas, administrative sites (guard stations), ski areas, wilderness, wilderness study areas, riparian areas, private, state or BLM lands. If you are unsure, please ASK. Additional district specific area closures to Christmas tree cutting can be found on the attached Christmas tree maps.

Since 2008, the Forest Christmas Tree program has been part of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Portions of your permit fee goes to: solicit additional vendors to make obtaining a permit more convenient, increasing staffing during peak use periods to better assist you with information and directions, increasing compliance patrols and checks to ensure fairness for permit purchasers, security, and safety to the public and other functions and support.

Trees for the Future

Please help us manage trees for future generations and leave the healthiest trees to grow.

If opportunities exist, please select conifer/evergreen trees in aspen stands to allow the aspen trees to expand, or from a clump of conifer trees to allow the remaining trees more space to grow.

Please consider selecting a subalpine fir or lodgepole pine (no larger than six inches in diameter at the base) as other species such as Douglas-fir and Engelmann spruce are harder to regenerate.

Harvest Guidelines

- After selecting your tree, cut stump flat and within six inches of the ground. All branches must be cut free of the stump that is left behind. DO NOT CUT off the top of a larger tree and take only the top.
- Permits are to be signed and attached to your tree prior to hauling off the National Forest. If an online permit was purchased through recreation.gov, please display your permit where it is visible on the dashboard of your vehicle.



Getting your tree home...

Attach your permit to your tree and make it visible. Tie your tree securely to your vehicle. You may want to wrap it in a tarp or old blanket to protect the branches.

If transporting your tree on top or in the bed of your vehicle, remember to have the trunk of the tree facing forward.



Safety Tips

- ✓ Do not park your vehicle where it will block traffic or become a traffic hazard.
- ✓ Ensure that you, your family and vehicle are properly equipped for winter travel before heading into the forest.
- ✓ Check your vehicle's fluids and tires.
- ✓ Make sure you have a properly inflated spare, jack, properly fitted snow chains and a shovel.
- ✓ Plan ahead; listen to weather forecast and let others know your travel plans.
- ✓ Dress properly. Bring additional warm clothing, blankets, drinking water, and food – your trip may take longer than expected. Remember pack it in - pack it out, keep your forest clean!
- ✓ Carry a flashlight with spare batteries, first aid kit, and proper tool for cutting your tree. Also, bring sufficient ropes or straps to secure your tree properly to your vehicle.
- ✓ During your outing, please ensure children and pets are supervised at all times.
- ✓ If you become stranded, DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE!

Caring for your tree....

Your tree will be in fine shape for the holidays if you keep the base of the tree trunk in a mixture of one part sugar to sixteen parts water. Check the water level daily and refill the reservoir with the water and sugar solution.

If you opt to keep your tree outdoors for a while, pack the base of the trunk in snow and wrap the tree in burlap. Keep your tree sheltered from cold winds and store in an upright position.

Place your tree in a location away from heat registers, fireplaces, and stoves. Ensure it is not placed anywhere it will block exits.

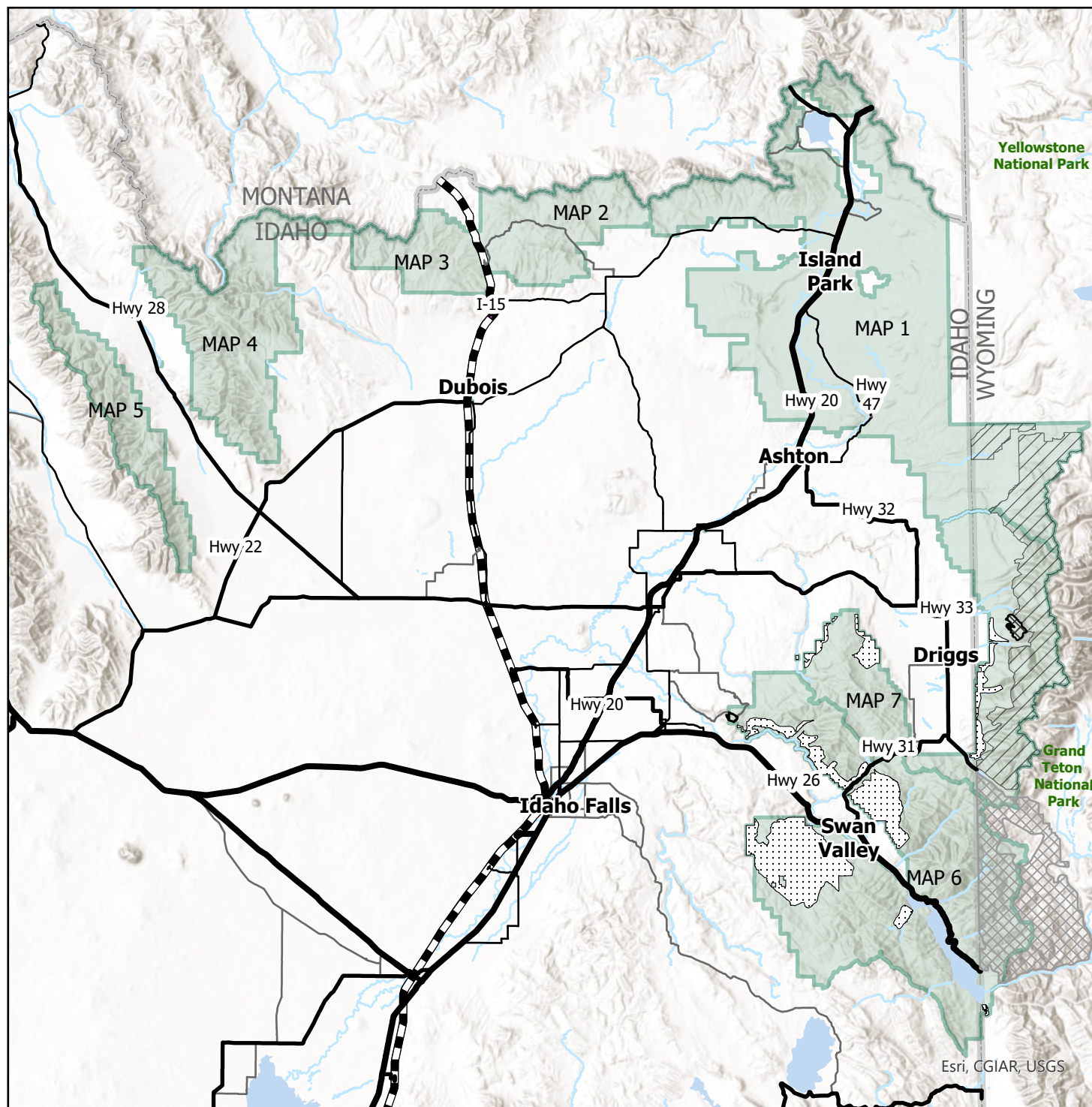
Use only inspected electrical cords; an electrical short can cause a dry tree to burn within seconds!

Never use lighted candles on a tree or near any evergreen decorations.

Use non-combustible or flame-retardant decorations. Keep evergreen decorations away from any open flame source.

From everyone here on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a safe and successful tree hunt!

Overview Map: Targhee Zone



FOLLOW TRAVEL GUIDELINES AND MOTOR VEHICLE USE MAP FOR OPEN ROADS

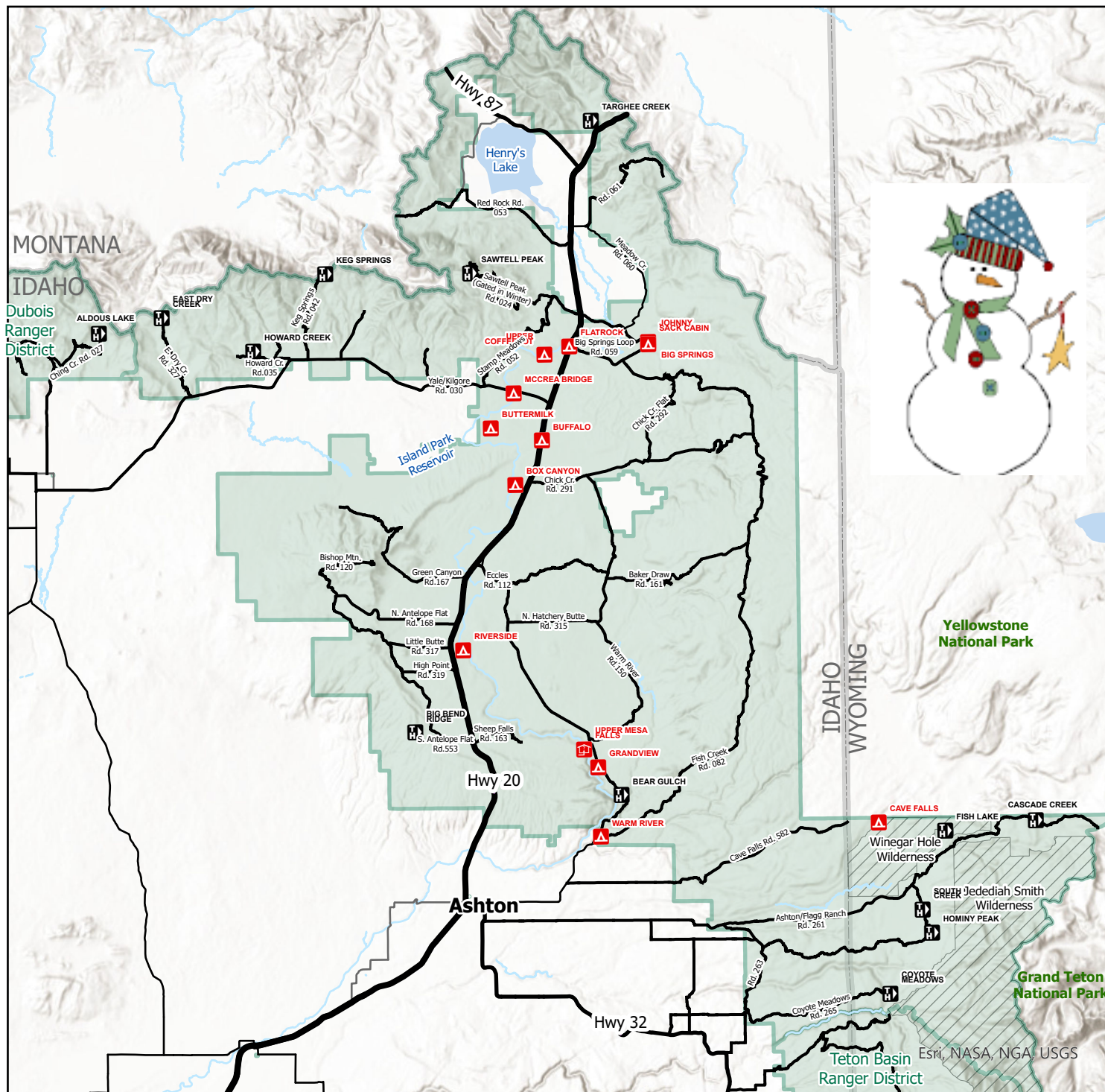
DO NOT CUT Christmas trees in or around campgrounds, trailheads, organized sites, summer home areas, administrative sites (guard stations), ski areas, wilderness, wilderness study areas, riparian areas, private, state or BLM lands.



- | | |
|---|---|
|  Caribou-Targhee NF: Targhee Zone District Boundaries |  Wilderness |
|  No Human Entry from Thanksgiving Day to April 15 on the Teton Basin RD & December 15th to April 15 on the Palisades RD (Wildlife Winter Range Closure) |  Freeway or Other Major Road |
|  Palisades Wilderness Study Area |  Important Local Road |
| |  Local Connecting Road |
| |  Other Major Road |
| |  Secondary Road |

Ranger District: Ashton/Island Park

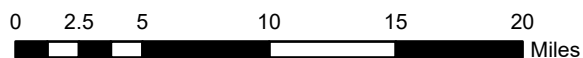
MAP 1



FOLLOW TRAVEL GUIDELINES AND MOTOR VEHICLE USE MAP FOR OPEN ROADS

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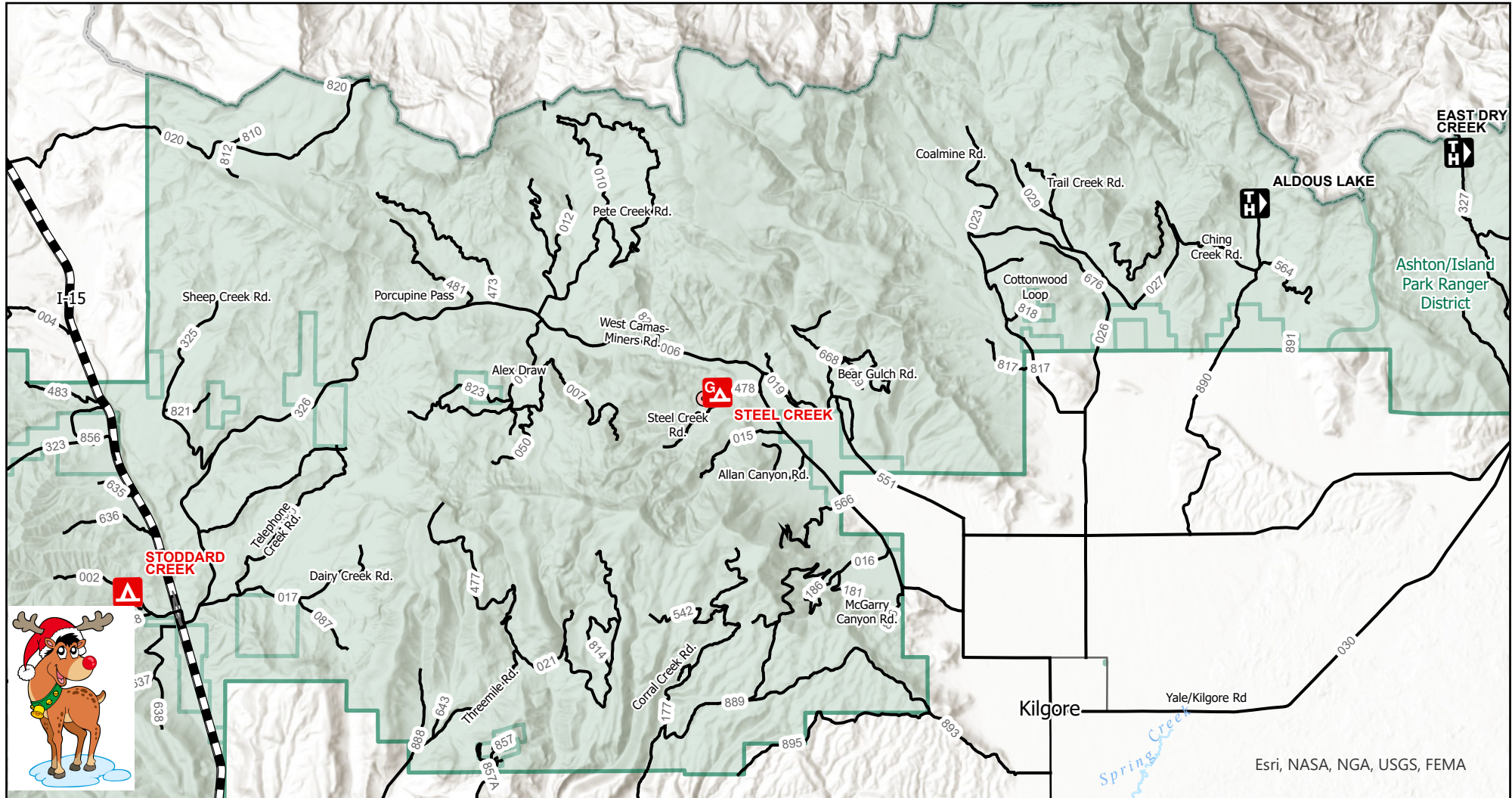
***DO NOT cut in the Mesa Falls and Big Springs Bridge areas.**



- Legend**
-  Caribou-Targhee NF: Targhee Zone District Boundaries
 -  Wilderness
 -  Important Local Road
 -  Local Connecting Road
 -  Other Major Road
 -  Secondary Road
 -  Lakes
 -  Rivers and Streams

Ranger District: Dubois
East Side of I-15

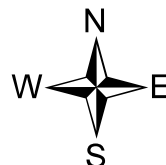
MAP 2



FOLLOW TRAVEL GUIDELINES AND MOTOR VEHICLE USE MAP FOR OPEN ROADS

DO NOT CUT Christmas trees in or around campgrounds, trailheads, organized sites, summer home areas, administrative sites (guard stations), ski areas, wilderness, wilderness study areas, riparian areas, private, state or BLM lands.

0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles



Legend

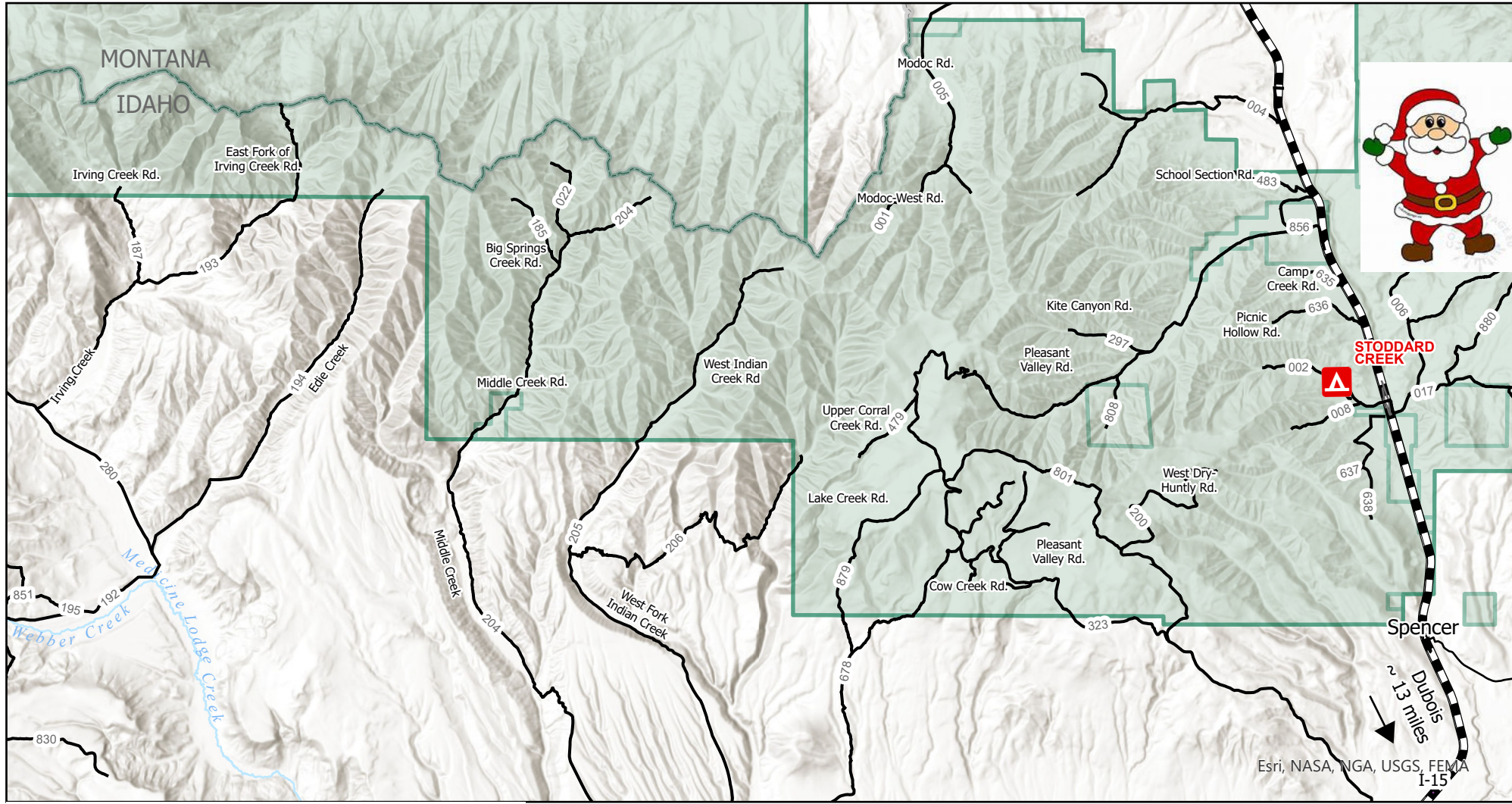
 National Forest
Boundary; District
Boundaries
 Lakes

 Rivers and Streams
 Freeway or Other Major Road
 Important Local Road
 Local Connecting Road

Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA

Ranger District: Dubois
West of I-15 to Irving Cr.

MAP 3



FOLLOW TRAVEL GUIDELINES AND MOTOR VEHICLE USE MAP FOR OPEN ROADS

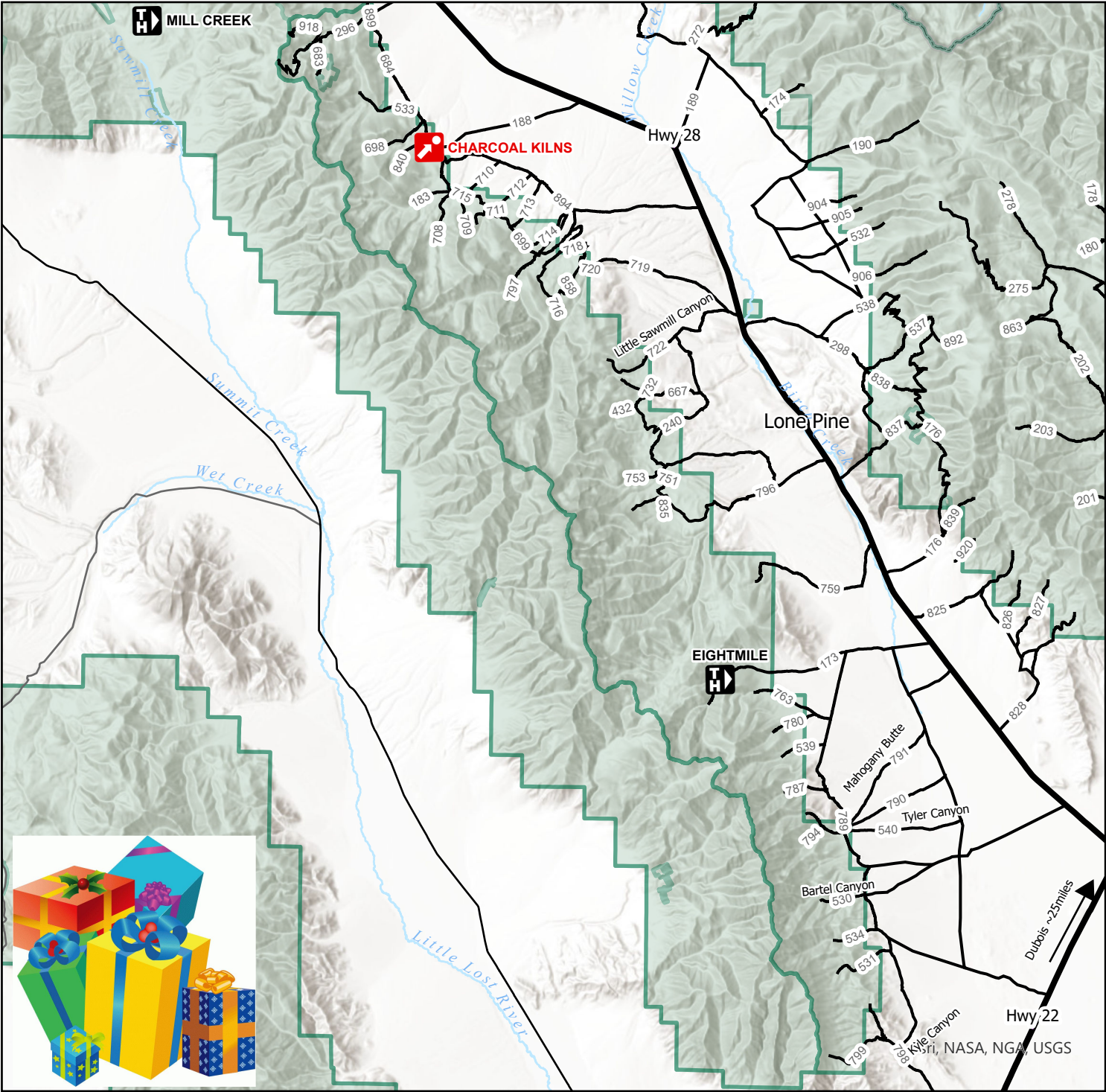
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- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| National Forest Boundary; District Boundaries | Rivers and Streams |
| Lakes | Freeway or Other Major Road |
| | Important Local Road |
| | Local Connecting Road |

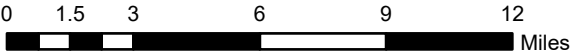
Ranger District: Dubois
West of Birch Creek

MAP 4



FOLLOW TRAVEL GUIDELINES AND MOTOR VEHICLE USE MAP FOR OPEN ROADS

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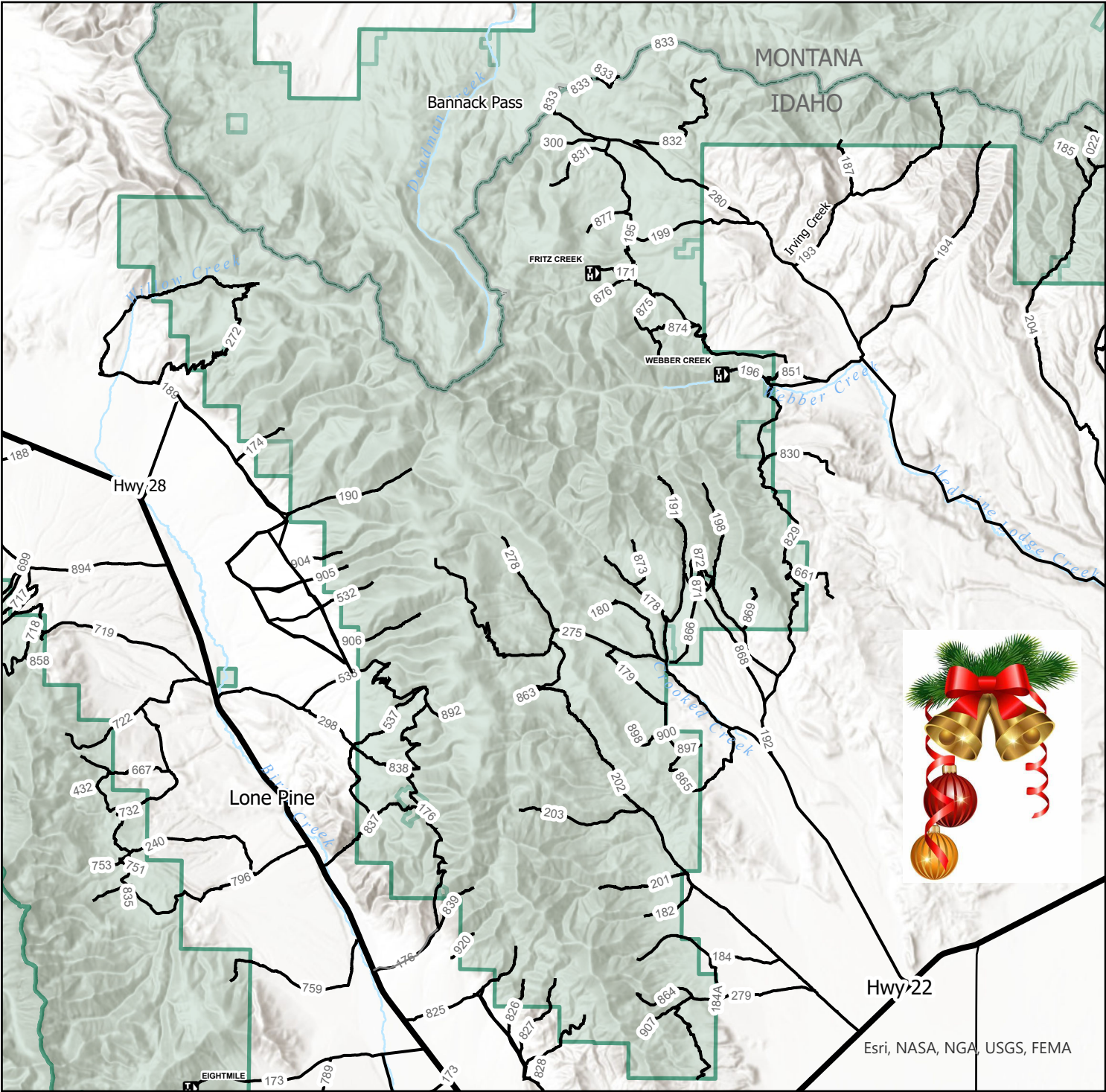


Legend

-  National Forest Boundary; District Boundaries
-  Rivers and Streams
-  Important Local Road
-  Local Connecting Road
-  Highways
-  Lakes

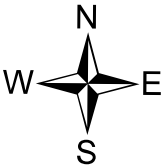
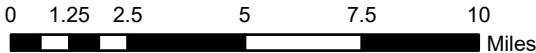
Ranger District: Dubois
West of Irving Cr. to Birch Cr

MAP 5



FOLLOW TRAVEL GUIDELINES AND MOTOR VEHICLE USE MAP FOR OPEN ROADS

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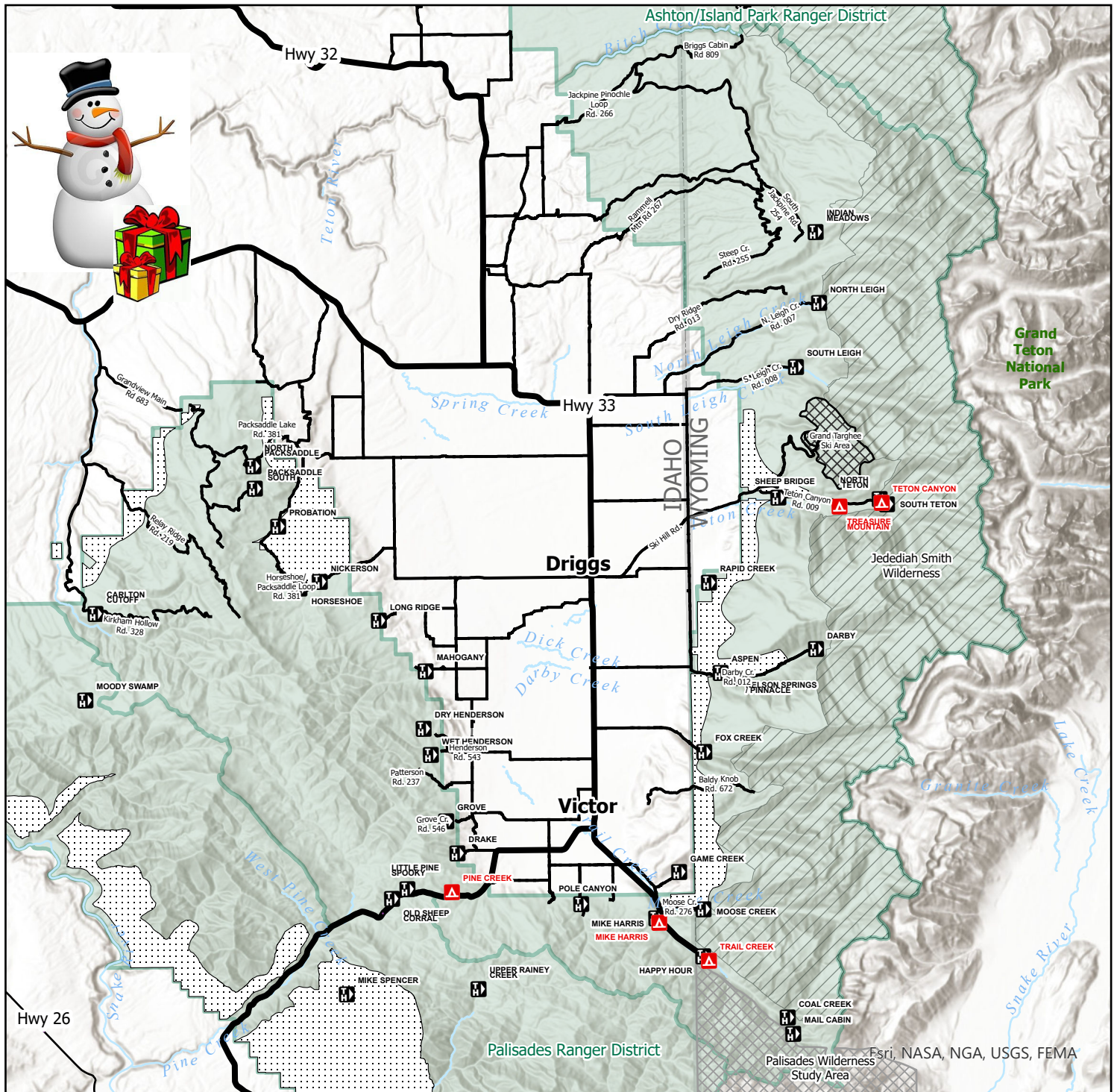


-  National Forest Boundary; District Boundaries
-  Lakes

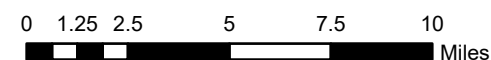
Legend

-  Rivers and Streams
-  Local Connecting Road
-  Highways

MAP 7



DO NOT CUT Christmas trees in or around campgrounds, trailheads, organized sites, summer home areas, administrative sites (guard stations), ski areas, wilderness, wilderness study areas, riparian areas, private, state or BLM lands.



Legend

- Caribou-Targhee NF: Targhee Zone District Boundaries

No Human Entry from Thanksgiving Day to April 15 on the Teton Basin RD & December 15th to April 15 on the Palisades RD (Wildlife Winter Range Closure)

Palisades Wilderness Study Area

Wilderness

Grand Targhee Ski Area

Lakes

Rivers and Streams

Important Local Road

Other Major Road

Highways