

Catamount Yurt Information

It is the responsibility of the yurt user to locate the yurt. Yurt rental fees will not be refunded if the yurt is not located. The yurt is locked. Review the combination in your confirmation email before heading out for your trip.

Trail Head: Drive to the end of the plowed portion of McNabb Road. McNabb Road can be reached by driving 7 miles out of Inkom on Rapid Creek Road. *Parallel park in the designated area about 100 feet from the end of the road. Vehicles parked in the turn-around area or in front of the private drives will be ticketed.*

Route Description: From the parking area, follow the snowbound McNabb Road for a little more than a mile until you reach a yellow gate on the righthand side of the road. Turn right onto the road behind the gate. Follow this road for about a mile. At this point the road continues straight and forks left towards a hill. Take the fork towards the hill. If you pass this junction a no trespassing sign is your marker that you have gone too far. Follow the road up from the junction for about a quarter of a mile, the yurt is in the trees on the left. **Yurt is not visible from the road.**

Route Finding Caution: The route to the yurt goes across rolling wheat field country over a snow-covered road. During times of poor visibility and new snow covering the road, it can be difficult to locate the route to the yurt. **The local landowner has specifically asked that no snowmobiles are used to access the Catamount Yurt.**

Difficulty: Beginner to Intermediate.

Distance and Elevation Gain: 2.25 miles distance. 816 feet climb. **Avalanche Potential:** Low

GPS Location: All information is in WGS84 datum

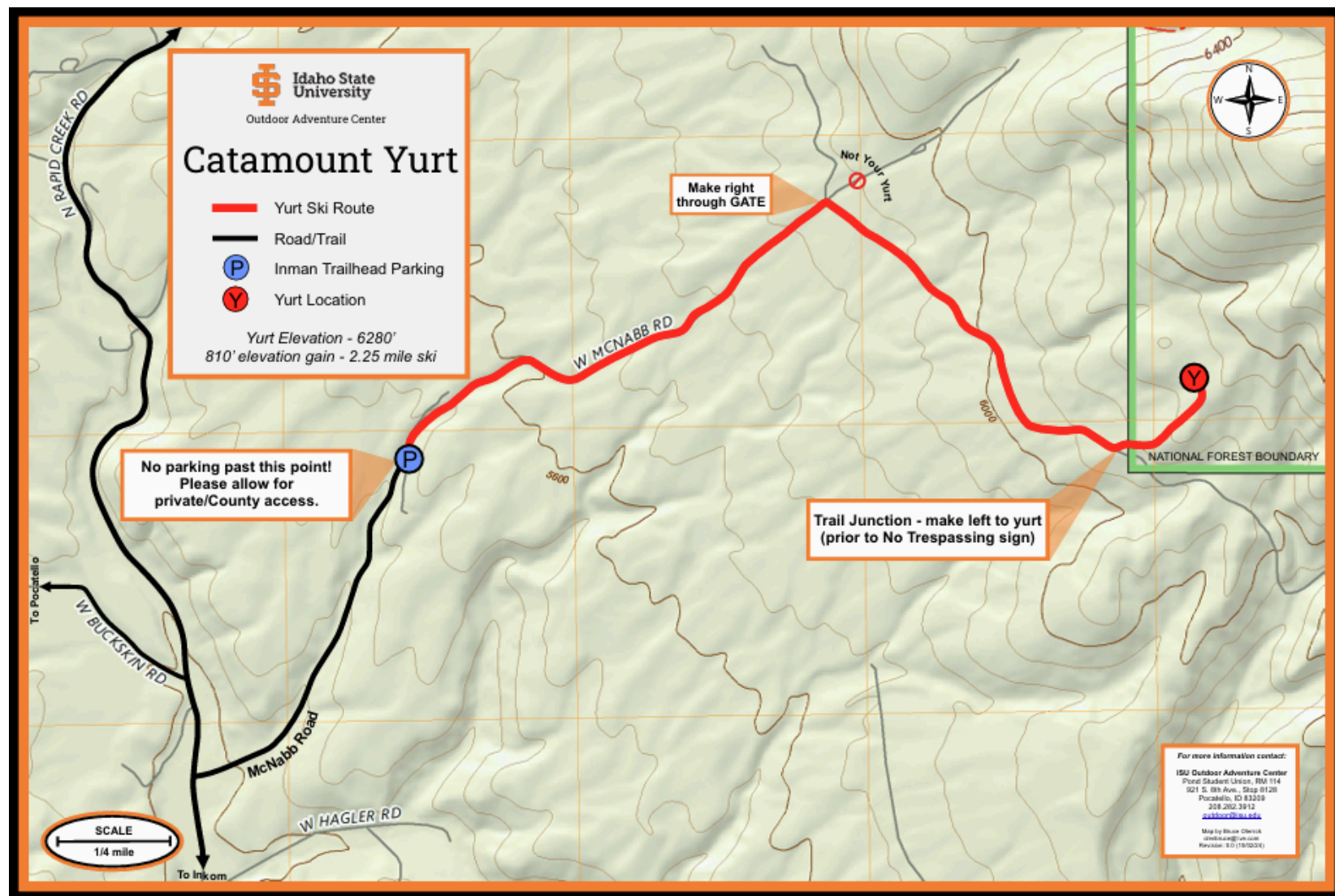
	UTM Coordinates	Lat/Lon hddd°mm.mmm'
Trailhead	12 T 0399485 47478042	N 42°52.702' W 112°13.845'
Gate	12 T 0400878 4748766	N 42°53.100' W 112°12.829'
Ridge Junction	12 T 0401870 4747901	N 42°52.648' W 112°12.082'
Yurt	12 T 0402160 4748093	N 42°52.750' W 112°11.881'

Special Notes:

- The access to the yurt is possible because of the generosity of private landowners. Please treat the land with respect.
- Dogs and snowmobiles are not allowed.
- It is the responsibility of the yurt user to locate the yurt. Yurt rental fees will not be refunded if the yurt is not located.
- It is your responsibility to remove the snow from the roof and perimeter of the yurt.
- You will find propane stoves and lanterns in the yurts. Renters must provide their own propane cylinders. Pack used and unused cylinders out with you.
- Pack it in – Pack it out. Pack everything out with you.
- Wood is only for burning in the wood burning stove. You will be assessed an extra fee for burning wood outside of the stove.

Warning: *Winter travel and the use of yurts are dangerous. Do not undertake yurt trips without careful preparation and a serious discussion of the dangers with ALL members of your group. For more information or to report any problems contact the ISU Outdoor Adventure Center (208) 282-3912.*

ISU Yurt Rentals are operated under a special use permit with the Caribou-Targhee National Forest.



ISU Yurt System Manual

Introduction

This manual has been prepared to provide you with important information concerning the ISU Yurt System. It is essential that you and all members of your party read through this information before embarking on a tour to any of the yurts.

You must understand that backcountry travel by ski, snowshoe, or foot is dangerous. Idaho State University cannot provide any assurances of your safety. Travel to and from the yurts and use of the yurts is done at your own risk.

Reservation and Cancellation Policies

Yurt reservations require a complete payment of fees that are non-refundable. A renter may move a yurt reservation **once** during a season. The reservation can only be moved if it is two weeks or more before the date of the reservation. Renters may only transfer reservations within the current season. A reservation may be moved to a yurt of equal or lesser value. If a renter chooses a reservation of greater value, additional fees will be collected before the reservation change is made. **Those who cancel within two weeks of their reservation will be unable to reschedule their reservation and forfeit their fees. It is the responsibility of the renter to locate the yurt. Yurt reservation fees will not be refunded if the yurt is not located.**

The local landowner has specifically asked that no snowmobiles are used to access the Catamount Yurt. Dogs are not allowed.

Before You Start

Carefully read this material and evaluate yourself and your party. If you feel confident that you have the skills and knowledge to safely undertake a yurt tour, follow these steps:

- Make reservations for yurt use at the ISU Outdoor Adventure Center Office located on the 1st floor of the Pond Student Union Building or by phone (208) 282-3912. **Full payment of fees is required to reserve a yurt.**
- Yurts are reserved from 2:00 PM the day of the reservation to 2:00 PM the next day. The yurts are locked, you will find the combination in the main body of the confirmation email.
- Check equipment lists (suggested lists are included within) prior to departing. Make sure everyone in your party is prepared, including the possibility of having to spend the night out.
- Before leaving, always leave word with a friend or relative about where you are going, your route to the yurt, and when you plan to return.
- Check the weather and avalanche forecast.
- If you are in need of assistance during your yurt trip, call:

(208) 282-3912	ISU Outdoor Adventure Center
(208) 251-2691 (After hours)	Ask for Justin Dayley
(208) 221-3405 (After hours)	Ask for Alina Jablonski
(208) 403-2387 (After hours)	Ask for Bryce Walker

Condition of Yurt upon Arrival

It is possible that yurts can be damaged due to extreme weather conditions common in Idaho's mountains. High winds, heavy snow storms, falling branches from trees, accumulation of snow on the yurt's walls can cause rips and tears and/or partial or total collapse. It is also possible that the yurt can be vandalized or items stolen. These possibilities point out the need to be well prepared. In particular, be prepared to spend the night out if it becomes necessary. Please report any problems to the ISU Outdoor Adventure Center (208) 282-3912.

Follow These Procedures When You Arrive

- Check to make sure the stove pipe chimney is clear.
- Start a fire in the wood stove by the following procedure:
 - Open air intake on front of stove fully by turning handle counterclockwise.
 - Open stove. Insert paper, **fire starter** and pieces of kindling and light.

- Leave air intake fully open until fire is going, then turn it down to a comfortable level. **Don't leave stove unattended when air intake is full open.** The stove can get dangerously hot. When leaving the yurt even for a short period of time, close the air intake completely.
- When the fire is burning well, turn down the air intake to a comfortable level. Keep wood and other flammable items from touching the stove surfaces.
- Always use extreme caution. The yurt, lattice frame work and other material in the yurt are flammable and can burn to the ground in minutes if the wood stove or Coleman stove and lantern are not properly used.
- Shovel snow away from the sides of the yurt. To remove snow from the roof, push up on the roof canvas from inside of the yurt with your hands. Do not use a shovel or broom to remove the snow from the roof or skylight. **DO NOT** remove snow from the skylight, it will melt off as the yurt heats up.
- Break a path to the wood pile and outdoor toilet. Shovel away snow from wood pile and dig out toilet.
- For sanitary reasons always use the toilet for urinating or defecating. The snow surrounding the yurt must be kept clean since it is used for drinking water.
- Ash and grey water must be dumped in the designated location.

Follow These Procedures When You Leave

- Stack wood inside of the yurt for the next renter.
- Clean used dishes and the Coleman stove.
- Thoroughly clean out the yurt. Sweep out dirt, wood chips, and snow with broom.
- Carry out everything you carried in including garbage, food and used propane cylinders.
- Close air intake on stove before leaving yurt.
- Move any flammables (paper, kindling) away from wood stove.
- Make sure the toilet seat is closed. Place axe, shovel and broom inside yurt.
- If there are any issues at the yurt, please take pictures and email them to outdoor@isu.edu.
- Securely fasten and lock the yurt door.

Items in the Yurt

In each of the yurts, you should find a wood stove, **propane** cooking stove and lantern, pots, shovel, broom, and axe. You'll also find wooden bunk beds. The beds are made from plywood and you'll want to bring a sleeping pad for comfort and warmth. Near the yurt will be a wood pile and toilet, both of which you will have to dig out. **Items which are not in the yurt include: Propane cylinders for stove and lantern, food, fire starting materials, sleeping pads, and extra mantles for the lantern.**

How Much Propane Fuel and which type to Bring

- You will use propane cylinders for both the stove and lantern.
- Coleman states on their website that propane stoves run up to one hour on a single propane cylinder with both burners on high and lanterns will run for 7.5 hours on high and 13 hours on low.
- Coleman recommends using Coleman, 16.4 oz disposable propane cylinders.

Safety

Everything you do on a backcountry tour should be done carefully. Conducting yourself safely while using the yurts is equally important. Use common sense and care when using the wood stove, Coleman stove and lantern, starting the fire, chopping wood, etc. There is no ski patrol in the backcountry. You and your party must come prepared. Backcountry travel in the winter involves a great personal responsibility upon all members of the party to do everything they can to stay alert, constantly evaluate and minimize potential hazards.

ISU Yurt System Risk Information for Renters of Yurt

As the renter of the yurt, I understand that I have certain responsibilities:

- I understand that the Outdoor Adventure Center does not guarantee the condition of the yurts or snow conditions.
- I agree to inform the group using the yurt of the inherent risks of winter travel and yurt use. The ISU Yurt System Manual can assist in understanding those risks.
- I understand that traveling to the yurt includes inherent risks. The risks of yurt travel include, but are not limited to: being caught and disoriented in whiteouts or snowstorms, becoming lost and not finding the yurt, falling and colliding with trees, rocks or other objects while skiing or snow shoeing, becoming exhausted while traveling, finding the yurt damaged, being caught in an avalanche, and developing frost bite or hypothermia.
- To minimize the risks, I agree to encourage all members of the party to prepare carefully for the yurt trip. I understand the importance of having some of the members of the yurt party well acquainted with the location of the yurt prior to our trip. Even then, I realize that it is possible that the party may not find the yurt, and I will ask everyone to be prepared, if necessary, to spend the night out.
- I understand that use of the yurts includes inherent risks. Other risks associated with yurt use are injuries from use of the bunk beds, propane stove and lantern, splitting mal, axe or other equipment in the yurt.
- I understand that the yurt or its contents could be damaged, and I understand that it may be necessary to collect additional fire wood for the wood stove.
- I understand that the yurts are locked and I need to obtain the combination to the lock. If I have not received the combination in an email, it can be obtained by calling the OAC at (208)282- 3912.
- I understand that yurt rental requires a complete payment of fees that are nonrefundable. I understand that I may move a yurt reservation **once** during a season and that the reservation can only be moved if it is two weeks or more before the date of the reservation. I may only transfer reservations within the current season. A reservation may be moved to a yurt of equal or lesser value. If I choose a reservation of greater value, additional fees will be collected before the reservation change is made. **Those who cancel within two weeks of their reservation will be unable to reschedule their reservation and forfeit their fees.**
- I also understand that it is the responsibility of the yurt user to locate the yurt. Yurt rental fees will not be refunded if the yurt is not located.
- I understand that if our group burns wood outside the yurt, we will be assessed an additional fee.

By reserving this yurt, I have made a careful decision that I am willing to accept the policies, inform my group of dangers and assume all risks.

Further Information

The ISU Outdoor Adventure Center, located on the first floor of the Student Union Building, maintains an extensive collection of outdoor recreation reference materials on winter backcountry travel. The public is invited to use the resources.

Suggested Equipment List for Yurt Tours

Clothing—Inner Layer

- Long Underwear Top and Bottoms (wool or synthetics)
- Inner Socks (wool or synthetics)
- Liner Gloves

Clothing—Insulating Layer

- Pile Jacket or Down Jacket
- Wool, Synthetic or Pile Top
- Wool, Synthetic or Pile Pants
- Wool or Synthetic Socks
- Wool or Synthetic Hat
- Mittens

Clothing—Protective Layer

- Shell Parka with Hood
- Shell Pants
- Insulated Gloves
- Gaiters

Feet

- Ski Boots
 - Extra Socks
 - Down or Fiberfill Booties
- (Not necessary but comfortable in the yurt)

Sleeping

- Sleeping Bag (Winter Rated)
- Sleeping Pad
- Waterproof Ground Cloth & Nylon Cord

Kitchen

- Disposable Propane Cylinders 16.4 oz
- Matches (Waterproof Container)
- Fire starter
- Water Bottle
- Food for the trip
- Cup & Plate
- Silverware
- Soap and sponge for dishes
- Camp Chair

Navigation

- Topographic Map(s) of the area
- Compass and or GPS

Other Items

- Pack
- Skis & Ski Poles or Snowshoes
- Sunglasses and/or Goggles
- Headlight or Flashlight
- Spare Batteries
- First Aid Kit
- Watch
- Personal Items (Toiletries)
- Cord and Clothes pin to hang clothes to dry
- Toilet Paper
- Candle
- Notebook, Pencil, Reading Material
- Shovel

Repair Kit

- Sewing Needle and thread (or Dental Floss)
- Duct Tape
- Epoxy
- Multi tool
- Extra Screws to Fit Ski Binding
- Binding Repair Needs
- Bailing Wire for General Repairs
- Extra Basket for Ski Poles
- Lantern Mantles

Items for everyone--place in your pocket in the event you become separated from your pack

- Matches (in waterproof container)
- Knife
- Fire starter

Skins / Avalanche Safety

- Climbing Skins
- Avalanche Transceivers
- Avalanche Probes
- Avalanche Shovel