

Snowshoe Information



Snowshoers, remember to share the snow, not the trails. **Please help us keep our ski trails intact by walking on the shoulders outside the ski tracks.** This is also a safety matter. The area between the ski tracks is reserved for skate skiers. Keep in mind also: Hannegan Road is often groomed by the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club for snowshoers, and skiers with dogs. Thank you!

The parking area is a Washington Ski Sno-Park and a permit is required to park. Here are suggestions of other trails for you to enjoy that are nearby.

CAUTION: An awareness of avalanche risk is vital. Know the hazard level of the terrain and current conditions. For current avalanche conditions, refer to the Northwest Weather & Avalanche Center on the web at www.nwac.us Info: (206)-526-6677

Coal Pass, FS 39: More Difficult. Just east of the town of Glacier and milepost 34, turn south on **Glacier Creek Rd/FS 39**. Park at the snowline. The road travels for several miles through both forests and open vistas.

Excelsior Trail: There is a sizeable parking lot at the trailhead on the north side of SR 542, east of milepost 42. A steep, forested trail leads to the open meadows of Welcome Pass. Route finding skills recommended. **AVALANCHE DANGER:** The area above treeline is prone to avalanches. Parking is at 1800 feet.

Hannegan Road: Easy-More Difficult. Just east of the DOT equipment sheds by milepost 46. There is a sizeable parking area where Hannegan Road meets SR 542. Snowshoe up Hannegan Road for several miles, or along the Nooksack River to Ruth Creek. The area above treeline is prone to avalanches. The parking area is at 2,000 feet. You need to have a US Forest Service Pass to park here. Hannegan Road is also groomed when there is enough snow, so avoiding the ski tracks there is also encouraged. Snow-Mobiles and Pick-Up Trucks are allowed on this road, so be aware.

Silver Fir Campground: Easy. Across from the large SnoPark east of milepost 46. Flat, amid old growth, by the Nooksack River. SnoPark is at 2,000 feet. A snoPark pass is required.

Bagley Lakes: Easy. Just west of Mt. Baker Ski Area. Drive SR 542 to the end. Park in the farthest corner of the farthest parking lot to access the Bagley Lakes Trail. Parking lot is at 4200 feet. **AVALANCHE DANGER**

Artists Point: More Difficult. Follow SR 542 to the end. Park in the farthest corner of the farthest parking lot. Follow the edge of the downhill ski area uphill; where the cat track turns left, go straight beyond an "out of bounds" sign. Avoid this area during times of high avalanche danger. Parking lot is at 4200 feet.

For snowshoeing opportunities on the Baker Lake Road, such as **Schreiber's Meadows**, on the Mountain Loop Highway and Stevens Pass, check out the Forest Service website.



REI, the Mount Baker Club, and Whatcom Events have partnered to bring you the first Whatcom County Snowshoe Demo Day on February 20, 2011. The Mount Baker Club has many snowshoe outings each winter. Join the club and snowshoe with a group.

A big thank-you to the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club as they had the foresight to install these trails around Razor Hone Road (lower) and White Salmon Road (upper) over 15 years ago. The Sno-Park Passes help to pay for maintaining these trails.

Websites:

Mt Baker Club - www.MountBakerClub.org

REI - www.REI.com/Bellingham

US Forest Service Pacific NW - www.fs.fed.us/r6/

Nooksack Nordic Ski Club- www.NooksackNordicSkiClub.org

Whatcom Events - <http://site.whatcomevents.org>

NOAA Weather Forecast - www.wrh.noaa.gov/sew

Parking Permit Requirements: Salmon Ridge (including Silver Fir, Anderson Cr Rd): State Sno-park permit; Hannegan Pass Road: NWFS parking permit; White Salmon Rd: None Currently; White Salmon Lodge, none but gate locks in evening.

WANT MORE SNOWSHOE EVENTS? When you are home, please log onto the Ski to Sea website at www.SkitoSea.com and click on the RACE GUIDE "drop down menu" link that says SURVEY. Your name will not be shared, but your comments will be read. Whatcom Events may hold more snowshoeing events in the future based on your comments.

Thanks for your participation. Make it a fun and safe day in the snow!