

### Where is the Idaho City Trail System located?

There are 4 Park N' Ski lots beginning approximately 18 miles north of Idaho City on Hwy 21: Whoop-Um-Up, Gold Fork, Banner Ridge and Beaver Creek Summit. See the map to locate them.

### Where do I find the latest road and trail conditions?

For the latest Idaho road conditions, call **511** or visit <http://511.idaho.gov/> And for current trail conditions, IDPR has a phone line that you can call: **(208) 514-2423**. This phone line is updated at the end of each grooming shift, usually Wednesday through Friday, December through mid-March.

### When do you start grooming for the season?

We can begin grooming when there is at least a 24" base of snow. This snow depth provides the protection needed to groom safely over the uneven terrain and provides enough snow to fill in the large stream channels and depressions found throughout the trail system. On average, winter grooming usually begins sometime in December.



### When does grooming end?

We typically wrap up the grooming season mid-March. By that time, snow conditions deteriorate, use declines, and funding is depleted.



### How often do you groom?

Our goal is to groom all 25 miles of trails weekly. Grooming usually takes place Wednesday - Friday. However, there are many circumstances that affect this schedule. Large amounts of new snowfall may necessitate the need to groom during a storm so new snow accumulations don't overwhelm the capabilities of the equipment. At other times, it may be necessary to wait several days after a major snowfall for the snow structure to settle, allowing the equipment to proceed. **Bottom line, snow conditions dictate when and how often to groom.**

### What type of grooming is performed?

Staff grooms a 10' packed path with set ski tracks for traditional skiers.

### How long does it take the operator to groom all the trails?

The groomer operator must first travel from Boise to the trail system, which under favorable road conditions, takes approximately 1 ½ hours. His or her shift ends approximately 10-12 hours later. Grooming the entire system normally requires three days.

### What if ski trails don't seem groomed?

Fresh snow can immediately blanket the groomed trails (but it's lots of fun). Sometimes, equipment failure leads to down time waiting for servicing or parts. We do our best to keep up with the conditions, but please keep in mind that our current operating budget provides for three days of grooming per week, beginning in December and continuing through mid-March.

### Do you have marked snowshoe trails?

Yes, we have created snowshoe specific trails throughout the system. We encourage snowshoers to use the trails at the Whoop-Um-Up Park N' Ski area and the snowshoe trails at Banner Ridge, Beaver Creek Summit and Gold Fork areas.

### Can I snowshoe on groomed trails?

Yes, although we encourage snowshoers to be considerate of skiers. Snowshoes leave "divots" behind when used on groomed trails. These divots can freeze and become a safety obstacle for skiers. Please stay off the set Nordic tracks and the center "skate ski lane" and walk single file when shoeing on groomed trails to keep destruction of the ski lanes to a minimum.

### Can I Telemark / Snowboard?

The trails in the Idaho City area also provide access to long slopes of untracked powder for Telemark skiers and backcountry snowboarders. Try out the slopes at Banner Ridge and Beaver Creek Summit for untracked powder.



### How can I make reservations at a Yurt?

Plan for an overnight stay in one of the six Idaho City Backcountry Yurts. View them online at [www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/recreation.aspx](http://www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/recreation.aspx). Choose Non-Motorized then Yurts and click to reserve, or call 1-888-922-6743.

### Are dogs allowed?

Yes! Park N' Ski & Yurts are dog-friendly. You can take your dogs with you on all the Park N' Ski area trails except for the groomed trails at Banner Ridge Park N' Ski. Be respectful of others on the trail by always being in control of your dogs and cleaning up after them.

### How is my permit & Yurt money used ?

Park N' Ski permits and backcountry yurt revenue supports the entire Idaho City Yurt and Trail Program. Winter operations including trail grooming and the clearing of parking lots, takes up the majority of the budget.



### How often are parking lots plowed?

IDPR has an agreement with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) for plowing the parking lots. ITD's first priority is keeping Highway 21 plowed open. Only after the road is safely opened can ITD begin clearing the Park N' Ski lots. This may take over 3 days after a big storm. **Please be patient with the operators.** They provide a valuable service for us, in extremely difficult conditions. It is strongly recommended that you bring a snow shovel and tire chains when visiting any Park N' Ski areas.



### Volunteers

Many special events are held each year to improve the trails and yurt system in the Idaho City Area. If you are interested in helping, contact the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation at: (208) 514-2493.

### Winter Trail Etiquette

- ❄ Control your speed based on ability, terrain, visibility and traffic.
- ❄ Ski so as not to endanger others and keep poles close to body when other skiers pass.
- ❄ If you stop, please leave the track. In case of fall, clear track without delay. Any depression left in the snow should be filled with snow and leveled so as not to create a hazard for others.
- ❄ Do not walk or snowshoe on ski tracks.
- ❄ Keep to your right upon meeting an oncoming skier. A climbing skier should yield the right-of-way to a descending skier.
- ❄ A slower skier should step to the side of the track when being overtaken by a faster skier.
- ❄ Do not litter or leave human waste near the trails.
- ❄ On groomed trails, snowshoe on opposite side of set tracks, in single file.

### Important Phone Numbers

Medical Emergency: dial 911

Boise County Sheriff: (208) 392-4411

Idaho Parks and Recreation: (208) 334-4199

Idaho City Ranger District: (208) 392-6681

This agency's programs and activities are operated free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age or disability. Any one who believes they have been discriminated against or who needs further information regarding discrimination should write: Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, PO Box 83720 Boise ID 83720-0065, or National Park Service, Equal Opportunity Officer (010) PO Box 31127, Washington DC 20013. Costs associated with this publication are available from the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation in accordance with Section 60-202, Idaho Code. HB366: 11/11/M5000/PCA27311.

