

OKANOGAN COUNTRY SNOW MOBILE GUIDE 2024-2025



A Special Publication to The Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle

WELCOME TO SNOWMOBILE COUNTRY

FOLKS WHO LIVE IN AND VISIT OKANOGAN COUNTRY know that winter is a great time to be outside enjoying the area's winter sports.

Okanogan County offers a variety of snowmobiling opportunities through pristine forests, wide-open high desert and groomed trails in snow that's first class. Nearly 400 miles of groomed snowmobile trails exist in Okanogan County alone, running out of nine Sno-Parks sprinkled throughout the county. In the greater Okanogan Country area lie hundreds more miles of trails in mountains and flatter countryside.

Some trails are maintained by snowmobile groups or private resorts, and others are groomed by Okanogan County, which also opens some roads to snowmobilers. Some of those roads are dual-use roads, meaning motorists and snowmobiles share the road and need to watch out for each other.

Many areas feature cabins and shelters in visitors can rest.

Popular Okanogan County trails include Black Canyon in the southern Methow Valley; Bonaparte, north of Wauconda; Boulder Creek and Eightmile, both north of Winthrop, and Kerr, northwest of Conconully.

Favorite Ferry County snowmobiling opportunities are in the Boulder Pass area between Curlew and Orient, and can be reached from the Boulder Pass interpretive center/information site.

Other favorites are the Hall Creek and Empire Lake areas.

Riders should check with national forest offices to make sure forest areas are open; some popular areas have burned in recent wildfires and may have restricted access.

Weekly snowmobile rides are hosted in the Methow Valley.



Maps of groomed trails

Albian Hill Sno-Park	5	Highlands Sno-Park	4
Black Canyon Sno-Park	13	Kerr Sno-Park	6
Bonaparte Lake Sno-Park	3	North Summit Sno-Park	7
Crawfish Sno-Park	8	Twisp River Sno-Park	12
Empire Lake	15	Yellowjacket Sno-Park	9
Hall Creek & Quartz Ridge	14		

Okanogan Country 2024-2025 Snowmobile Guide

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Owned and operated by Thomas and Ann Mullen
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advertising manager

P.O. Box 553 • 618 Okoma Drive, Omak, WA 98841
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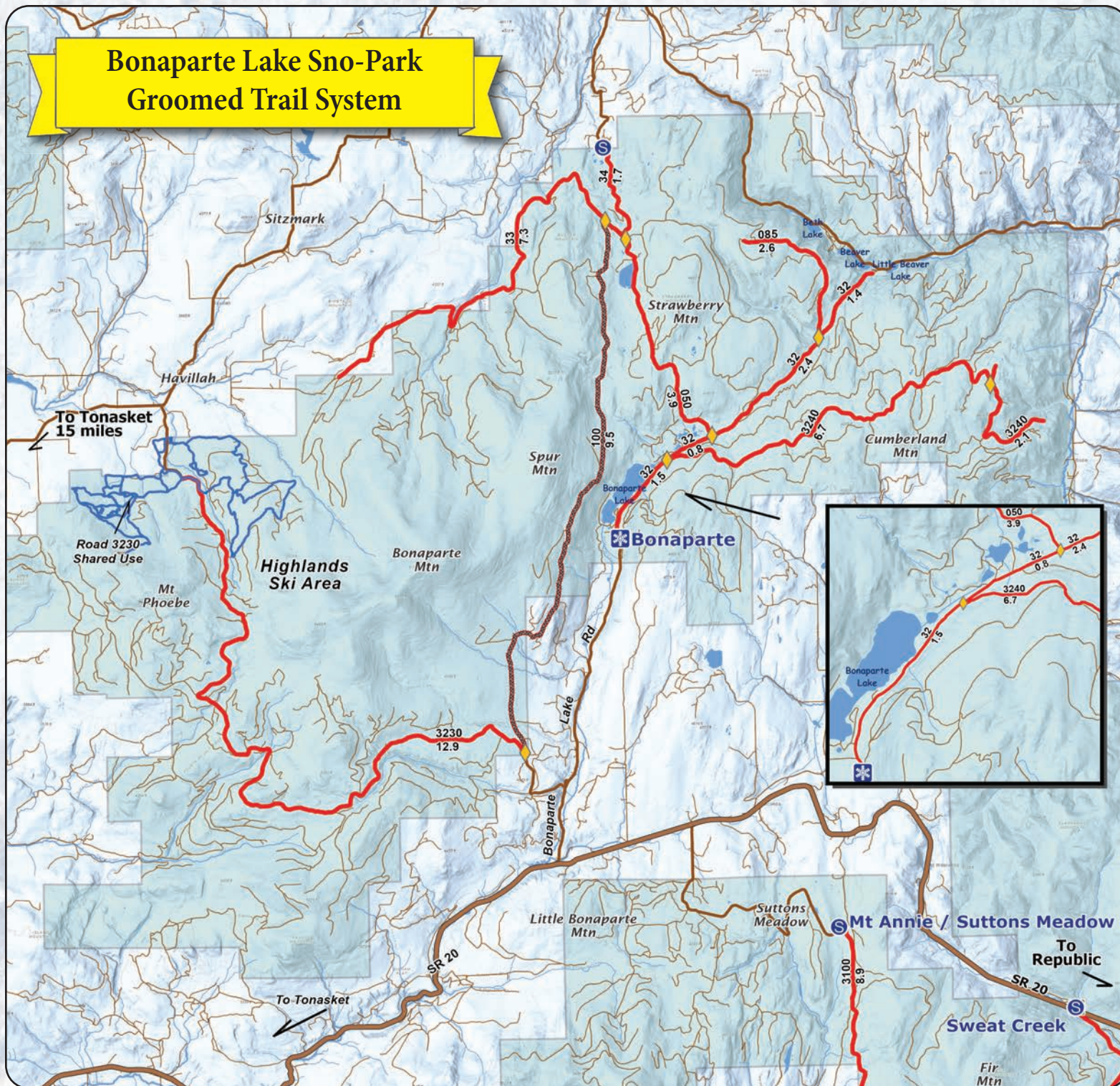
Special thanks to Washington State Parks and
Recreation Commission for the trail maps.

Winter Recreation Program announces closure of 14 motorized Sno-parks for 2024-25 season. According to Washington State Parks, the closures represent 16% of the state's 89 motorized Sno-Parks. The following motorized Sno-Parks are slated for temporary closure: Echo Valley, Skate Creek, Bethel Ridge/Soup Creek, Crow Creek, Cloverland, Elk Heights, Fish Creek, French Cabin, Nile, Taneum, Reecer Creek, Crawfish, Nine Bark and Clear Lake.

Please visit <https://parks.wa.gov/find-sno-parks> for the most up to date snowmobile route information before planning your trip.



Bonaparte Lake Sno-Park Groomed Trail System



EXPLANATION

- Snow-Park
- Staging Area, Limited Plowing & Parking
- Restroom
- Major Junction
- Groomed Cross Country Ski Trail
- Groomed Snowmobile Trail
- Highway
- Sno-Park Access Road
- Road
- Okanogan National Forest
- Road Closure

Area has 52 miles of groomed trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.

Road Number
 Road Miles



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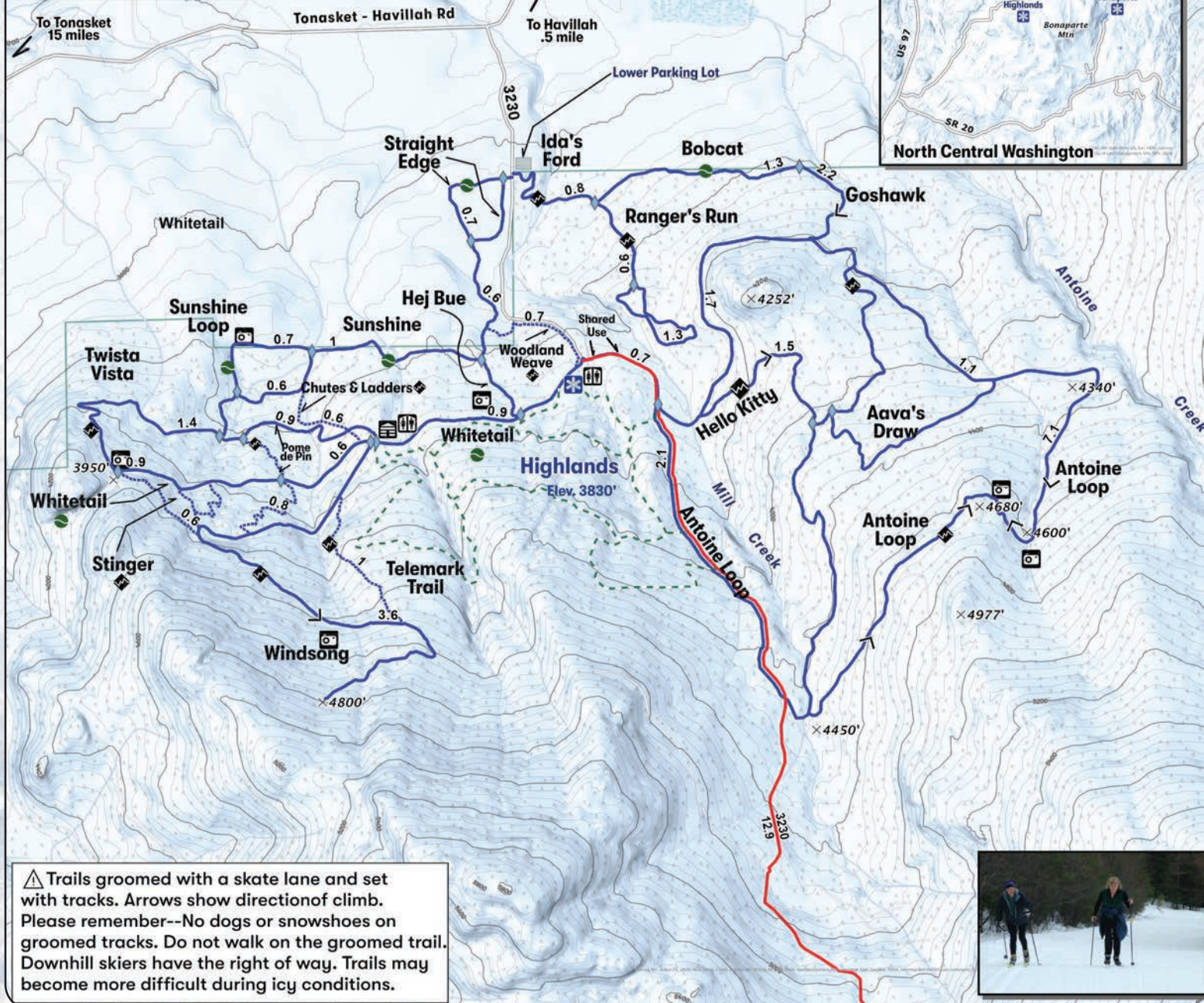
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615 Bonaparte Lake Rd., Tonasket





Highlands Sno-Park Groomed Trail System



⚠ Trails groomed with a skate lane and set with tracks. Arrows show direction of climb. Please remember--No dogs or snowshoes on groomed tracks. Do not walk on the groomed trail. Downhill skiers have the right of way. Trails may become more difficult during icy conditions.



EXPLANATION

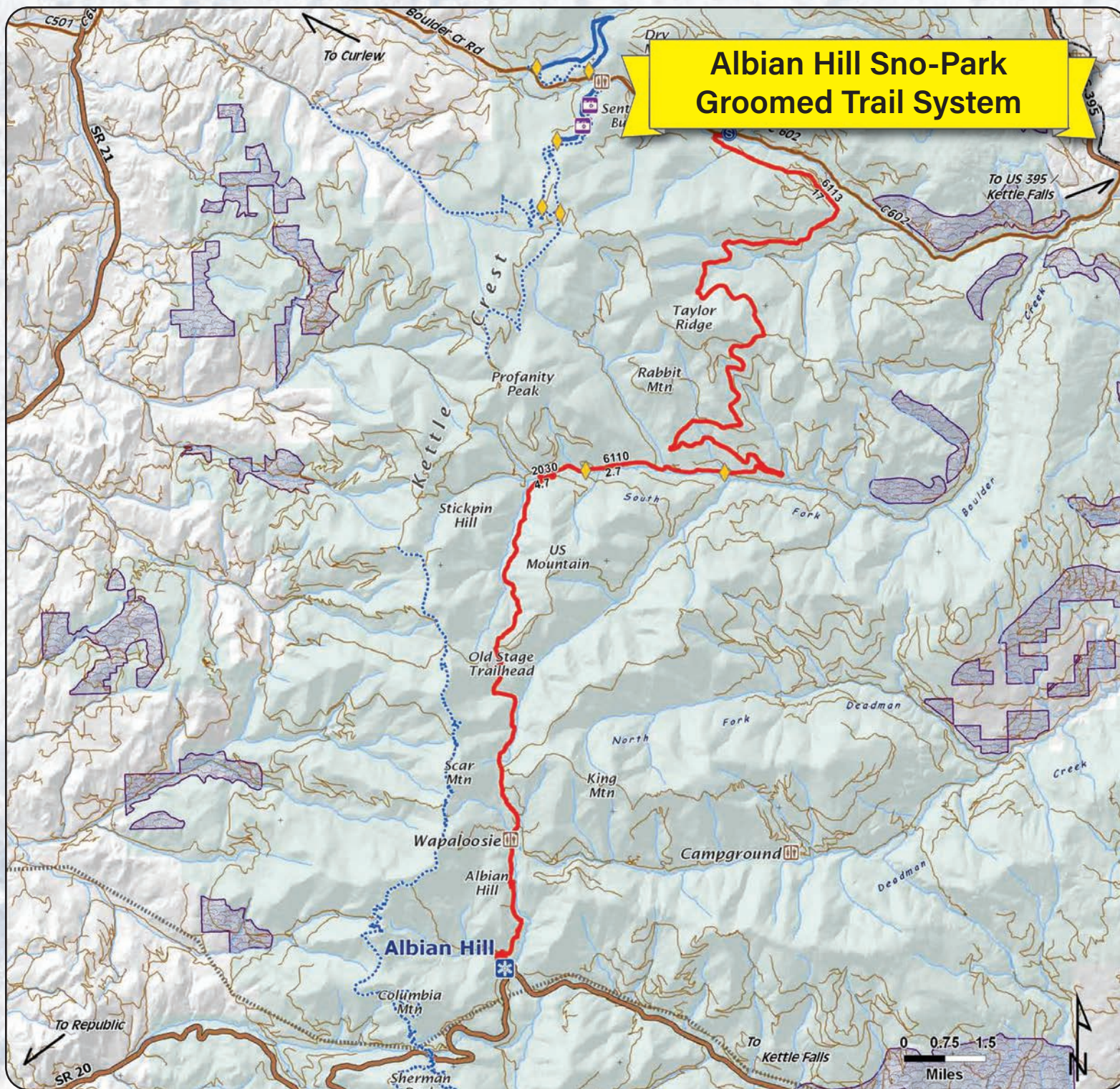
- Non-Motorized Sno-Park
 - Groomed Ski Trail
 - Marked Ski Route
 - Groomed Snowmobile Trail
 - Trail Junction
 - View
 - Elevation in Feet
 - Restroom
 - Sno-Park Access Road
 - Road
 - Okanogan National Forest
 - Private Parcels within USFS
 - Administrative Boundary
- Area has 30 kilometers (18 mi.) of groomed cross country ski trails. Trail name and distance labeled between intersections
- Kilometers
- Easiest
- More Difficult
- Most Difficult

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EXPLANATION

- View
- Sno-Park
- Staging Area, Limited Plowing & Parking
- Restroom
- Shelter
- Major Junction
- Groomed Ski Trail
- Marked Ski Trail
- Groomed Snowmobile Trail
- Highway
- Sno-Park Access Road
- Road
- Utility Corridor
- Winter Wildlife Closure Area
- Colville & Okanogan National Forest

Albion Hill has 32 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.

Road Number
 Road Miles

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Kerr Sno-Park Groomed Trail System

Pasayten
Wilderness
Closed to
Motorized Use

Numerous road, trail and area closures exist in this area. For a complete map, please see the current Okanogan National Forest Travel Plan, available at Forest Service offices in Winthrop, Tonasket, Okanogan, or contact those offices for further information.

EXPLANATION

- View
- Sno-Park
- Major Junction
- Groomed Snowmobile Trail
- Restroom
- Highway
- Sno-Park Access Road
- Road
- Wilderness Area

Area has 128 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.

Road Number
Road Miles



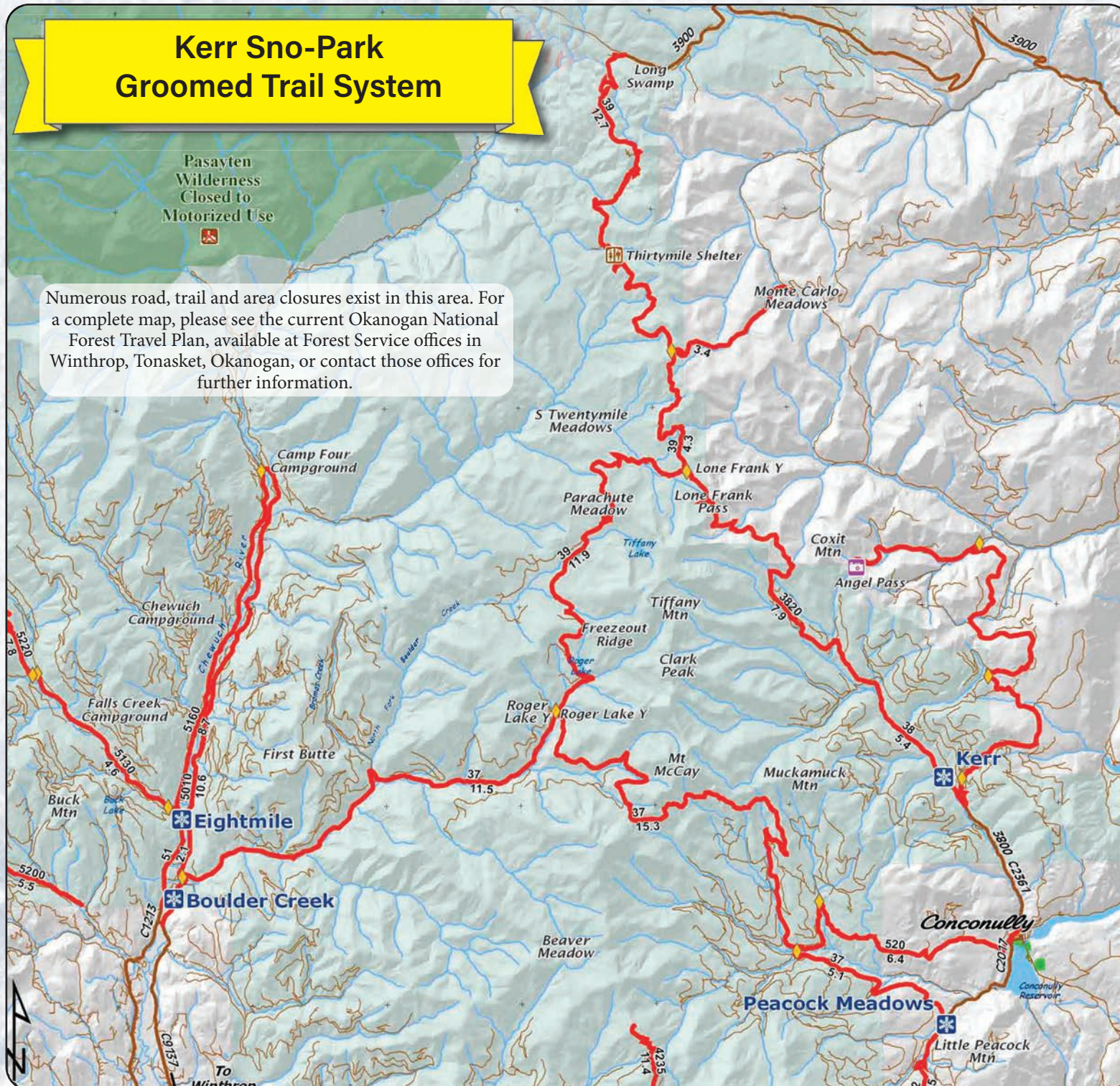
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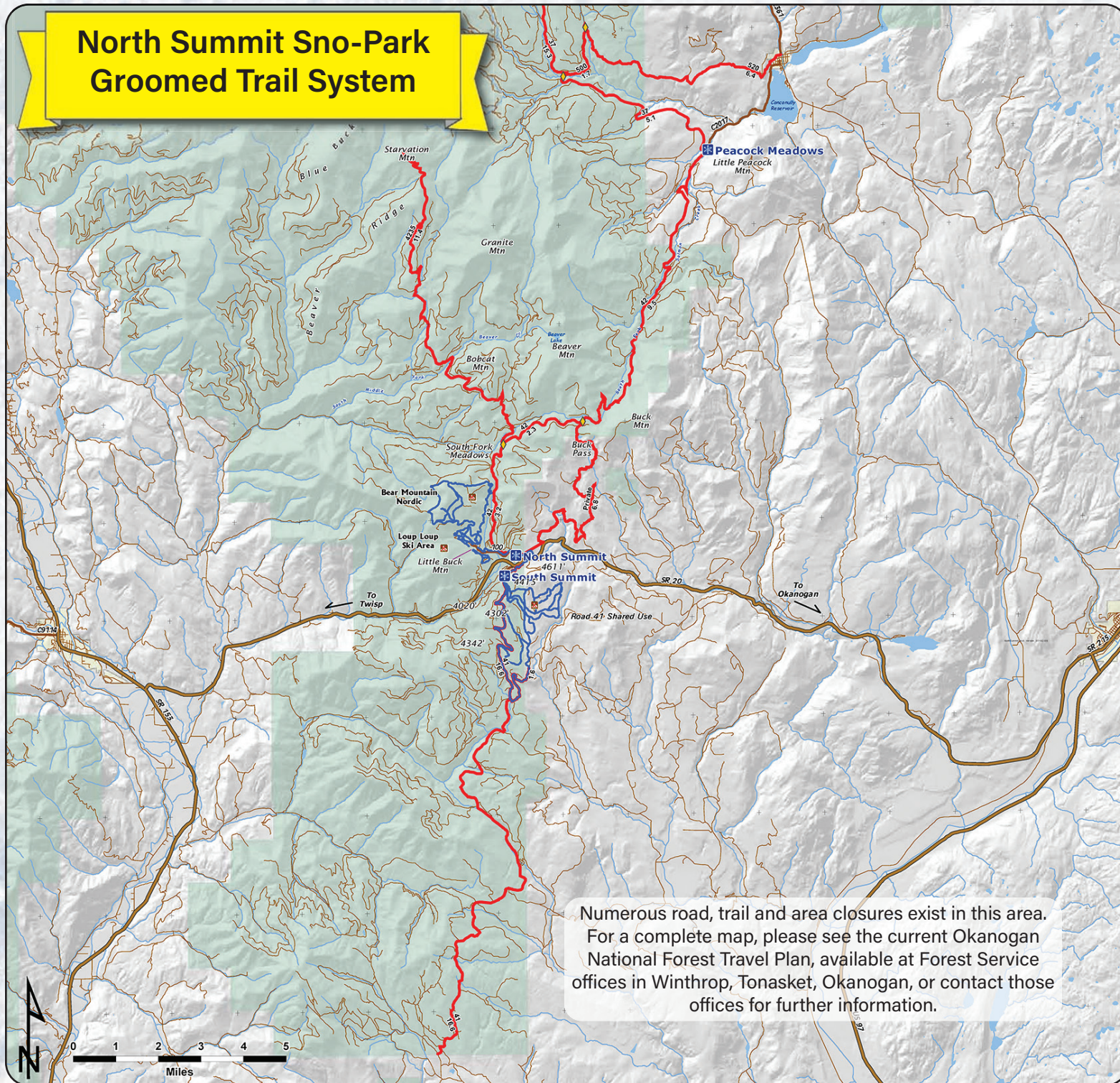


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North Summit Sno-Park Groomed Trail System



EXPLANATION

 Sno-Park

 Restroom

 Major Junction

 Groomed Cross Country Ski Trail

 Groomed Snowmobile Trail

 Highway

 Sno-Park Access Road

 Road

 Utility Corridor

 Okanogan National Forest

Area has 34 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.

 Road Number
Road Miles



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Crawfish Sno-Park Ungroomed Trail System

EXPLANATION



Sno-Park



Major Junction

Ungroomed Snowmobile Trail



Restroom

Sno-Park Access Road

Road

Okanogan National Forest

Area has 33 miles of ungroomed snowmobile trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.



Road Number
Road Miles



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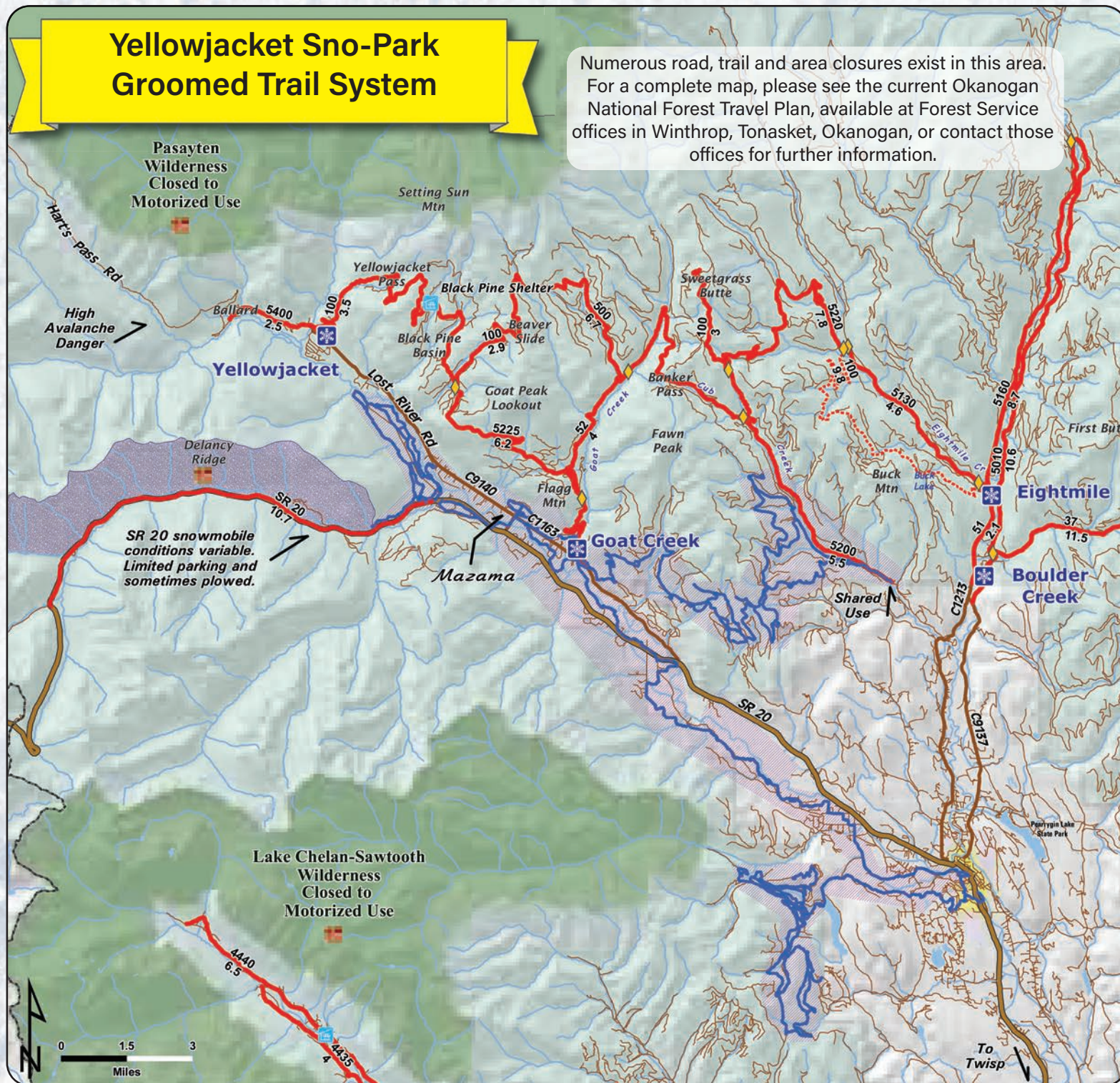
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Miles

Yellowjacket Sno-Park Groomed Trail System

Numerous road, trail and area closures exist in this area. For a complete map, please see the current Okanogan National Forest Travel Plan, available at Forest Service offices in Winthrop, Tonasket, Okanogan, or contact those offices for further information.



EXPLANATION

- Sno-Park
- Groomed Snowmobile Trail
- Groomed Intermittently
- MVSTA Groomed Cross Country Ski Trail
- Major Junction
- View
- Highway
- Sno-Park Access Road
- Road
- Ski Area, No Snowmobiling
- Wildlife Closure Area
- Wilderness Area
- Okanogan National Forest

Area has 119 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.

Road Number Road Miles



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Sno-Parks offers trails for snowmobilers

SEVERAL SNOWMOBILE SNO-PARKS are available for recreational use in Okanogan and Ferry counties. State Sno-Park permits are required for almost all of the areas.

They include:

Black Canyon — Offers access to groomed trails to Chelan Ridge, Parrish Peak, Cooper Mountain, Oss Peak and Ski Peak. Leave state Highway 153 in the Methow Valley on Black Canyon Road 4010 and drive one mile to the sno-park. Has one vault toilet.

Bonaparte — Head east of Tonasket on state Highway 20 for 20 miles to Bonaparte Lake Road. Travel another six miles. The site, at 3,560 feet, has 25 spaces. It gives access to 52 miles of trails. The site has no bathrooms.

Bottle Spring Trail No. 398 — The nine-mile trail connects to Woodpile Ridge and

Sarsapkin Creek on state Department of Natural Resources land. From Loomis, take County Road No. 9425 for two miles, turn west on County Road No. 4066, which becomes Forest Service Road 39, for 20 miles. Drive 13 miles on Forest Road 39 to the junction with South Fork Toats Coulee Road, then go two miles more. (Not a state sno-park.)

Boulder Creek — Six miles north of Winthrop. Take County Road 1213 north to County Road 9137, then go northeast for a mile. The Sno Park is at 2,050 feet elevation at Forest Service Road 37. The area has 30 spaces and gives access to 134 miles of trails. There is a restroom.

Eightmile — Six miles north of Winthrop. Take County Road 1213 north to County

Road 9137, then north for 2.5 miles. The area is at 2,100 feet elevation and has 50 spaces. It gives access to 134 miles of trails. Offers one vault toilet.

Empire Lake — The area is 12 miles from Republic. Take County Road 270, then turn left on County Road 201 and then right on County Road 517. The 20-space area, at 3,200 feet elevation, gives access to 57 miles of trails.

Goat Creek — Located 16 miles north of Winthrop. Cross Weeman bridge, then take Goat Creek Road south for two miles to Forest Road 52; travel another 0.25 mile. The site, at 2,200 feet elevation, has 20 spaces and gives access to 100 miles of trails. The site has a vault toilet.

Hall Creek — Head east of Republic on

state Highway 20 to Forest Road 99 and travel about three miles. The area, at 3,600 feet elevation, has 20 spaces. It gives access to 38 miles of trails.

Kerr — Four miles north of Conconully on County Road 2361 to Forest Road 38. The 25-space area is at 3,050 feet elevation and gives access to 134 miles of trails. There are no bathrooms.

North Summit — Travel 12.5 miles east of Twisp on state Highway 20 to Forest Road 42, then go north for a half-mile. The 50-space area is at 4,040 feet and gives access to 34 miles of trails. There is a vault toilet.

Peacock Meadows — Go three miles southwest of Conconully on County Road 2017, then one mile south of Forest

Continued on next page



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Road 42. The area, at 2,550 feet, has 50 spaces and gives access to 134 miles of trails.

Scatter Creek — Travel south of Republic on state Highway 21 to Forest Road 53/Scatter Creek Road. The five-space area, at 2,205 feet, gives access to 63 miles of trails. No Sno Park permit is required.

Silver Star — West of Mazama on Highway 20. Features parking, turn-around, vault toilet, information kiosk and avalanche beacon.

South Fork Gold Creek — Located on South Fork Gold Creek Road in the Methow Valley. There is a vault toilet.

South Summit — Off state Highway 20 at the Loup Loup summit. The site has a vault toilet.

Twisp River — Head 10 miles west of Twisp on Twisp River Road to Buttermilk Creek Road, then south to Forest Road 4420. The 15-space area, at 2,350 feet, gives access to 58 miles of trails. There is a vault toilet.

Yellowjacket — The area is 6.9 miles west of Mazama on Lost River Road. The site, at 2,400 feet elevation, has 50 spaces and gives access to 100 miles of trails. The site has a vault toilet.



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EXPLANATION

- Snow-Park
- Groomed Snowmobile Trail
- Groomed Cross Country Ski Trail
- Temporary Closure
- Major Junction
- Shelter
- Highway
- Sno-Park Access Road
- Road
- Ski Area
- Wilderness Area
- Okanogan National Forest

Area has 58 miles of groomed trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.

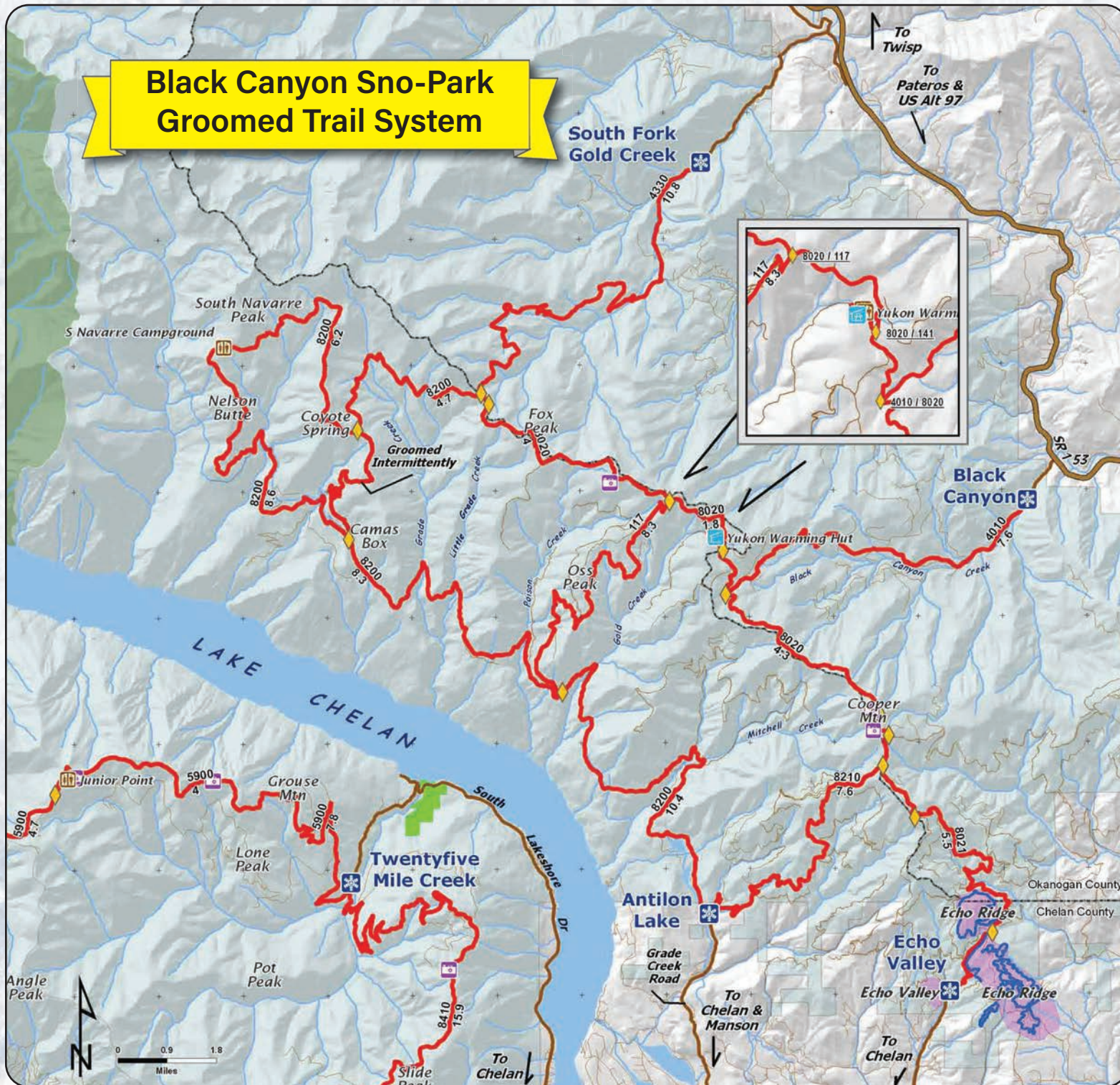
Road Number
Road Miles



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Black Canyon Sno-Park Groomed Trail System



EXPLANATION

- Snow-Park
- Groomed Snowmobile Trail
- Groomed Cross Country Ski Trail
- Major Junction
- Shelter
- Restroom
- Highway
- Sno-Park Access Road
- Road
- Ski Area
- Wilderness Area
- Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

Area has 100 miles of groomed trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.

Road Number
 Road Miles

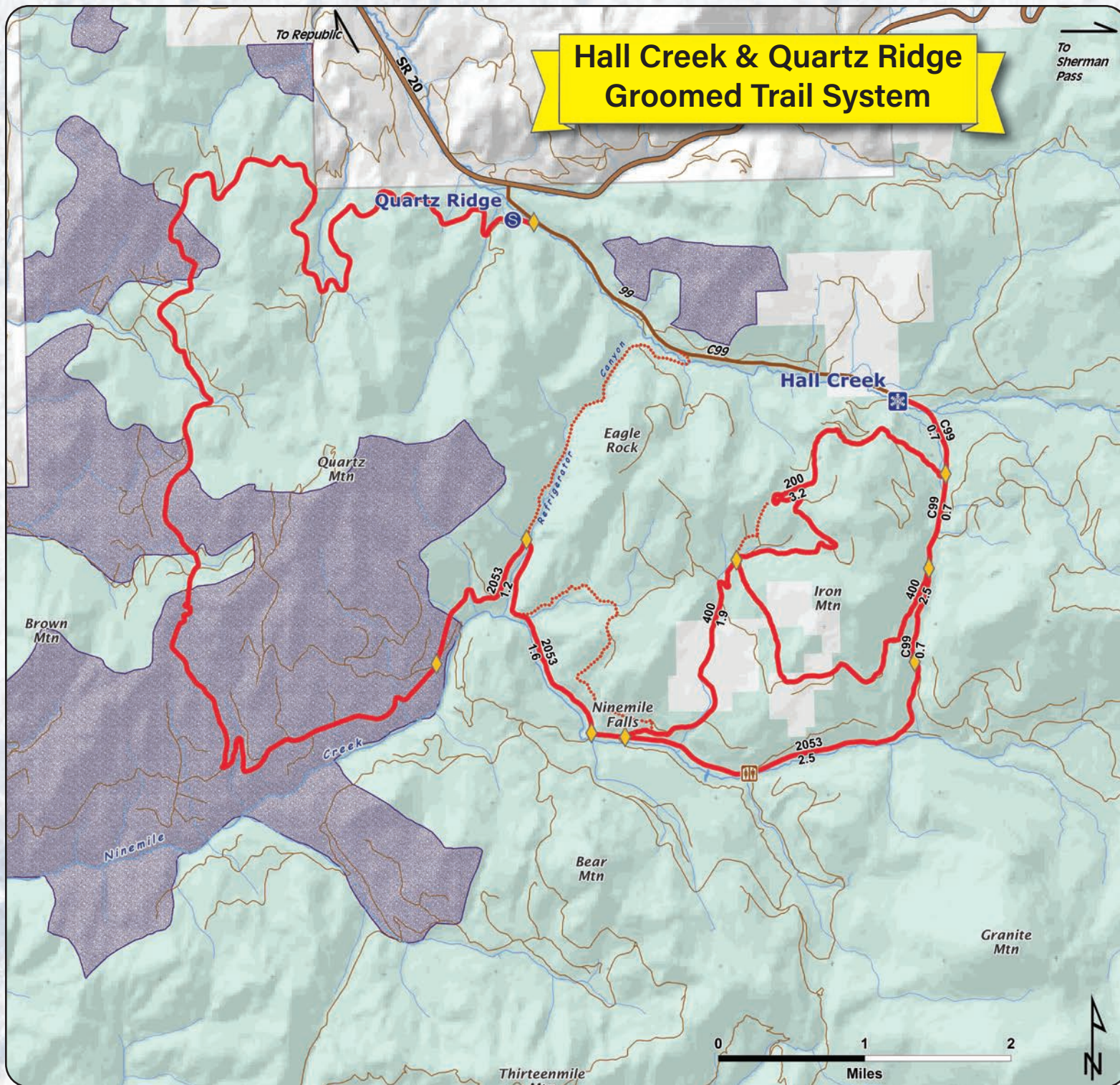


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EXPLANATION

-  Snow-Park
-  Staging Area, Limited Plowing & Parking
-  Groomed Snowmobile Trail
-  Ungroomed Trail
-  Major Junction
-  Restroom
-  Highway
-  Sno-Park Access Road
-  Road
-  Winter Wildlife Closure Area
-  Colville & Okanogan National Forest

Area has 38 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. Road number and mileage labeled between junctions.

 Road Number
 Road Miles



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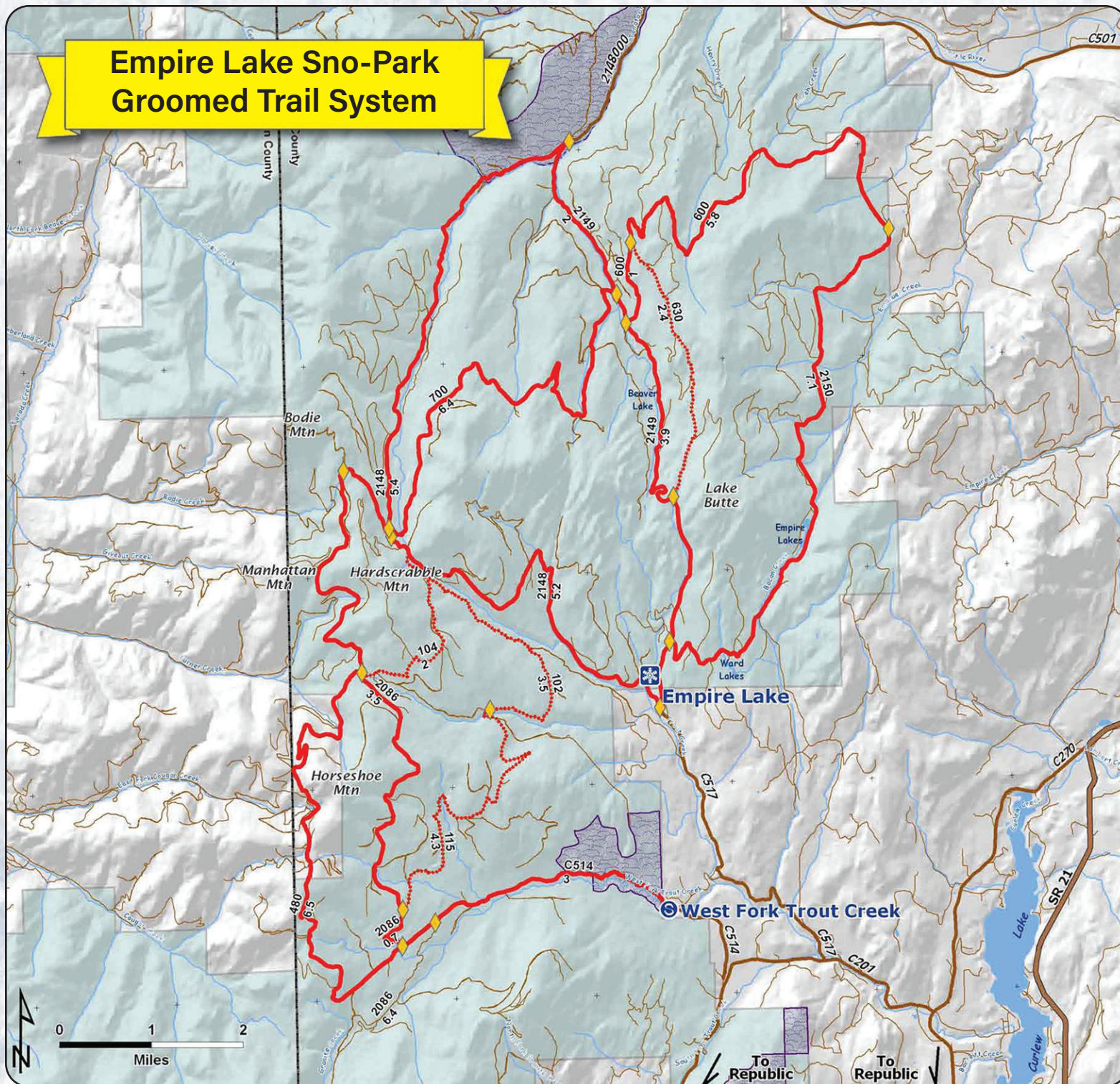
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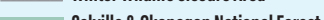
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Empire Lake Sno-Park Groomed Trail System



EXPLANATION

-  Snow-Park
 -  Staging Area, Limited Plowing & Parking
 -  Groomed Snowmobile Trail
 -  Trail Closed for Grooming
 -  Major Junction
 -  Restroom
 -  Highway
 -  Sno-Park Access Road
 -  Road
 -  Winter Wildlife Closure Area
 -  Colville & Okanogan National Forest
- Area has 57 miles of groomed trails. Road # and mileage labeled between junctions.
-  Road Number  Road Miles




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Snowmobiling is a popular winter activity

Snowmobiling is one of the state's most popular winter activities. More than 3,000 miles of groomed trails are provided through the Winter Recreation Program, in cooperation with federal, county, and local agencies, ski areas, snowmobile clubs, and private landowners.

The Winter Recreation Program provides Sno-Parks, cleared parking areas for vehicles in close proximity to groomed and/or backcountry trails. There are two types of Sno-Parks, those for snowmobiles and those for non-motorized sports. A

handful offer both types of activities.

RULES & SAFETY

Age restrictions and Safety Certification Course

Children under age 12 may not operate a snowmobile on or across a public roadway or highway. Children ages 12 to 16 must pass the snowmobile safety education course and carry the certificate of successful completion with them when operating a snowmobile. Youth who operate a snowmobile under the direct and present supervision of a



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qualified adult need not show the certificate.

Persons 12 years of age and older who successfully complete the snowmobile exam will receive a snowmobile safety patch and a snowmobile safety certificate permitting operation. For information on where to take the course, call the Winter Recreation Program at (360) 902-8684.

COMPLETE RULES

View the complete snowmobiling rules in the Revised Code of Washington.

TRAIL TIPS

When enjoying the trails on your snowmobile, remember to:

- Ride at a reasonable and prudent speed relative to existing conditions and other trail uses.

- Use the buddy system for safety. Never snowmobile alone! In case of an accident or machine failure, that second machine and rider may be your only means for a safe return. Before you go, notify someone of where you are headed and when you expect to be back.
- Use your lights between dusk and dawn.
- Obtain permission from landowners before entering private property.
- Respect non-motorized sports trails marked with cross-country ski signs or blue diamonds. Snowmobile traffic ruins cross-country ski tracks.

DO NOT:

- Ride under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

- Ride in a manner that would endanger lives or property.
- Harass or endanger wildlife. Protect winter wildlife populations by viewing animals from a distance, maintaining a constant speed, and staying on your snowmobile when animals are present.
- Enter designated Wilderness Areas.





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Winter Shared Trails Etiquette

Winter recreated shared trails require respect for all user groups. The following are guidelines for different user groups:

SNOWMOBILERS

- In populated areas, snowmobilers should ride to and from the operator's intended destination.
- Obey all rules that apply to automobile traffic.
- Helmets are highly recommended.
- Current registration decal required.
- Do not operate in such a way as to endanger human life, wildlife or animals
- It is unsafe to pass a dogteam unless they know you are there and have waved you by. Be at least two team lengths beyond a musher team before accelerating.
- Yield the right-of-way to all motor vehicles, pedestrians and to uphill traffic.
- When traveling in groups, proceed in single file, do not block the trail when stopping, always respect public and private property, keep to the right, respect designated areas, trail use signs and established trails.
- Slow down and use caution approaching or overtaking another recreationist.
- Snowmobile operators must be 16, or between 12 and 16 and have completed a snowmobile safety course certified by the State of Washington, and be under the direct supervision of a qualified adult snowmobile operator.
- Additional operator skill is required when operating a snowmobile that is towing a cargo sled or another sled.
- Snowmobile operators are subject to Washington State DUI and controlled substances laws.
- Pack out your garbage.

MUSHERS

- Be in control of your animals.
- Wear a head lamp and reflective clothing after dark. Reflective tape should be on dog harnesses and on the dog sled.
- Snowmobilers and Mushers should indicate how many others are coming behind them to oncoming recreationist.
- Mushers should be listening for oncoming and overtaking traffic at all times and should position their team, which may include stopping and holding their dogs for a safe pass.
- Pack out your garbage.

X-COUNTRY SKIERS, SKATERS, SNOWSHOERS

- Pets must be on a short leash.
- Single file.
- Obey rules of the road.
- Please keep to the right.
- Wear reflective clothing after dark.
- Obey trail signs.
- Avoid snowshoeing in the groomed ski tracks used by cross-country skiers.
- Pack out your garbage.

Respect private land and residential areas.

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