



Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Recreation Report

fs.usda.gov/okawen

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TREAD LIGHTLY
ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND



Editor's Note: Recreation Reports are printed every other week.
December 20, 2016

All national forest offices will be closed on December 26 and also on January 2.

**Happy Holidays and Happy New Year from the employees
of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.**

Be Avalanche Aware

Avalanches can occur wherever there are large amounts of snow, and a lot of snow has recently accumulated in north central Washington. Many avalanches occur each year in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, so forest visitors need to be avalanche aware.

No matter what backcountry recreation activity one might be involved with, or the skill level that a person may have in that activity, ALWAYS contact the Northwest Avalanche Center for a forecast of avalanche conditions prior to any trip into the backcountry.

Please note that the Northwest Avalanche Center no longer has recorded avalanche information via telephone. Current snow avalanche information is only available on-line at www.nwac.us. The Northwest Avalanche Center obtains weather information from a network of remote automated weather stations and forecasters produce daily mountain weather and avalanche forecast summaries normally from mid-November to mid-April depending upon snow accumulations. More frequent updates are disseminated when slopes and ridges are most unstable or when conditions change rapidly. Most of the remote stations are automatically linked to the Northwest Avalanche Center web site on the Internet to help provide the public with real-time avalanche data.

When obtaining information from the avalanche center it is beneficial to understand some of the terms used to describe avalanche hazard conditions.

A **low** danger level means that most human-caused or naturally occurring avalanches are not likely and that travel is generally safe. A **moderate** danger level means that natural avalanches are unlikely, and that human-caused avalanches are possible (caution is advised for backcountry travel).

Considerable avalanche danger indicates that naturally occurring avalanches are possible and that human-caused avalanches are probable. A **high** danger level represents a situation in which natural and human-caused avalanches are likely to occur. The highest avalanche rating, **extreme**, means that widespread avalanches, both natural and human-caused, are certain.

Avalanche forecasts are invaluable to thousands of backcountry recreationists and to those traveling over snowy mountain passes. For your safety, please remember to be as prepared as possible, and always check the avalanche forecast prior to any trip to the woods. For more information about snow conditions, please contact any Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest office.

QUICK AVALANCHE HAZARD DANGER LEVEL DEFINITIONS:

1. **Low** (green) = backcountry travel is generally safe
2. **Moderate** (yellow) = backcountry travelers should use caution and be aware that heightened avalanche conditions exist on specific terrain features.
3. **Considerable** (orange) = dangerous avalanche conditions
4. **High** (red) = very dangerous avalanche conditions, travel in avalanche terrain is not recommended
5. **Extreme** (black) = avoid all avalanche terrain

Other Forest Related Information

OFFICE ADDRESSES, OFFICE HOURS and PHONE NUMBERS:

Chelan Ranger District, 428 W. Woodin Ave., Chelan, WA 98816; 509-682-4900; hours M-F 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., closed for lunch 11:30 to 12:30

Cle Elum Ranger District, 803 W. 2nd Street, Cle Elum, WA 98922; 509-852-1100; **winter hours** 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat; closed for lunch 12:30-1:15 p.m.

Entiat Ranger District, physical address 2108 Entiat Way, (P.O. Box 476), Entiat, WA 98822; 509-784-4700; hours M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Methow Valley Ranger District, 24 West Chewuch Road, Winthrop, WA 98862; 509-996-4000; hours M-F 8 a.m. a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Naches Ranger District, 10237 Hwy. 12, Naches, WA 98937; 509-653-1401; hours 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; closed for lunch noon to 12:30 p.m.

Omak Visitor Center, 401 Omak Ave., Omak, WA 98841; 509-486-5145; **winter hours** hours Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed for lunch 11 a.m. to 11:45

Okanogan-Wenatchee NF Headquarters, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, WA 98801; 509-664-9200; hours M-F 8 a.m.-4:30; closed for lunch 12-1 p.m.

Tonasket Ranger District, 1 W. Winesap, Tonasket, WA 98855; 509-486-2186; hours M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; closed for lunch 12:30 to 1 p.m.

Wenatchee River Ranger District, 600 Sherbourne, Leavenworth, WA 98826; 509-548-2550; starting Nov. 1, **winter hours** Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

NEW FOREST SERVICE OFFICE IN OMAK:

Forest Service visitor information services for the central and south part of Okanogan County have moved to 401 Omak Ave in Omak WA, near the Omak Stampede Grounds. We share a building with the Omak Visitor Center; there is a separate Forest Service entrance. During the winter, this office is staffed **Monday through Friday** from **7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**; the office is closed for lunch from 11-11:45 a.m. The new phone number is **509-486-5145**. Visitor services are no longer available in Okanogan. Recreation and forest product permits are available at this office.

CHRISTMAS TREE CUTTING INFORMATION:



Be aware most forest roads are now snow covered and inaccessible to wheeled vehicles.

Christmas tree permits are on sale for \$5 each at all ranger stations and the forest headquarters office.

The \$5 permit allows a family to cut a tree (maximum height 15 feet) or dig a live transplant tree, and only two permits will be issued per household. Permits are not refundable and are only good on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The Christmas tree permit must be validated and securely attached to the tree trunk between the limbs and be visible during transportation. Christmas trees cannot be harvested in Wilderness areas, campgrounds, developed recreation areas, or tree plantations.

Remember to mark the month, day and year on the permit before transporting the tree from the national forest. Even though there are multiple years listed on the permit, it is good for one use only.

If parking at a Sno-Park, you must have a valid Washington State Sno-Park permit displayed on your windshield. Visit our website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/okawen/passes-permits> for more information. If parking at a location that requires a Northwest Forest pass, these passes may be purchased at any national forest office.

For those who can't make it into national forest offices during daily business hours, many local businesses are also selling Christmas tree permits. Following is a list of local vendors.

- **In Chelan:** Chelan Shell Foodmart Gas Station, 301 E. Woodin Ave., phone (509) 682-2221
- **In the Cle Elum area:**
 - o Mac A Bee Gifts of the Southwest, 1401 Airport Road in Cle Elum, phone 509-674-4548
 - o Pioneer Coffee, 121 N. Pennsylvania Avenue in Cle Elum, phone 509-674-3864
 - o Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, 314 W. 1st Street in Cle Elum, phone 509-674-6880
 - o Intermountain Radio Shack at 208 E. First Street in Cle Elum, phone 509-674-5859
 - o Sportland Mini-Mart located between Cle Elum and Roslyn on Hwy 903, phone 509-649-2260
 - o Basecamp Books and Bites at 110 W. Pennsylvania in Roslyn, 509-649-3821
- **In Ellensburg:** Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, 609 N. Main Street, phone 509-925-2002
- **In Entiat:** Entiat Food Center, 2038 Entiat Way in Entiat, phone 509-784-1415 and Cooper's General Store & Café, 8855 Entiat River Road in Ardenvoir, phone 509-784-2267
- **In Leavenworth:** Dan's Food Market, 1329 Hwy 2 in Leavenworth, phone 509-548-5611 and the Chevron gas stations.
- **In the Naches area:**
 - o Naches Chinook Center, 10450 Hwy 12, phone 509-653-2797
 - o Slim's Market, 9951 Hwy 12, phone 509-653-2268
 - o Oak Creek Ace Hardware, 10400 Hwy 12, phone 509-653-1294
 - o Eagle Rock Resort, 8590 State Route 410, phone 509-658-2905
 - o Whistlin' Jack Lodge, 20800 State Route 410, phone 509-658-2433
 - o Rimrock Grocery Store, 34090 Hwy. 12, phone 509-672-2251
- **In Selah:** Helms True Value Hardware, 475 North Wenas Road, phone 509-697-8222 and Save-On Foods, 800 North Park Center, phone 509-697-6184
- **Sunnyside Bi-Mart** store, 110 West South Hill Road in Sunnyside, phone 509-839-0781
- **In the Twisp area:** Hank's Harvest Foods, 412 Hwy 20/Methow Valley Hwy in Twisp, 509-997-7712 and Hank's Mini Mart, 410 E. Methow Valley Hwy in Twisp, 509-997-4332
- **In the Tonasket/Omak/Conconully areas:**
 - o Omak Visitor Center, 401 Omak Ave., phone 509-486-5145
 - o The Conconully Store, 201 N. Main Street in Conconully, 509-826-3374
- **Wenatchee:**
 - o Arlberg Sports, Grand Central Building, 25 N. Wenatchee Ave., phone 509-663-7401
 - o Hooked on Toys, 1444 N. Wenatchee Ave., phone 509-663-0740
 - o Stan's Merry Mart, 733 S. Wenatchee Ave., phone 509-662-5858
- **In Winthrop:** Pardner's Mini-Mart, 99 WA-20 in Winthrop, 509-996-2005 and Winthrop Mountain Sports, 257 Riverside Ave., 509-996-2886
- **In Yakima:** Bi-Mart stores located at 1207 North 40th Ave., phone 509-457-1650 and 309 South 5th Ave., phone 509-457-5175

WOODCUTTING PERMITS:

Woodcutting permits expire on **December 31. Most forest roads are now inaccessible.**

INTERAGENCY PASS PROGRAM (America the Beautiful National Parks & Federal Recreation Lands Pass):

This pass combines the benefits of existing recreation passes from five federal agencies into one comprehensive Interagency Pass called "**America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass.**"

- The pass covers recreation opportunities on public lands managed by National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Forest Service.
- The pass applies to those locations that currently have entrance or standard amenity fees.
- The annual pass sells for **\$80**, the lifetime senior pass is **\$10**, and the lifetime access pass and the volunteer passes are **free**.
- Passes are valid for **one full year** from the month of purchase.
- Passes provide entrance or access to the pass holder and accompanying passengers in a single, private, non-commercial vehicle at federally operated recreation sites across the country.
- Passes cover the pass holder and three (3) accompanying adults age 16 and older at sites where per person entrance fees are charged. No entry fee for children 15 and under.
- Passes are **NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-TRANSFERABLE**, and **cannot** be replaced if lost or stolen.
- This program replaces the **Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and the Golden Access Passports as well as the National Parks Pass. Existing passes will remain valid until expired, lost or stolen.**
- These passes can be used in lieu of the Northwest Forest Pass.

RECREATION PASS PURCHASE INFORMATION:

A \$5 day use fee is required at many trailheads and day use sites across the national forest. The Northwest Forest Day Pass, Northwest Forest Annual Pass, and America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass are honored at all Forest Service-operated recreation sites where a day use fee is required. For a complete list of recreation sites where a day use fee is required, please visit <http://go.usa.gov/2YXA> or call your local ranger station.

Passes are available at **all ranger district offices** and the **forest headquarters** office in Wenatchee. The cost is **\$30** for an annual pass and **\$5** for a day use pass. For information about the Northwest Forest Pass call 1-800-270-7504 or to order it online go to www.discovernw.org.

- **Wenatchee area:** Northwest Forest passes are available at Arlberg Sports Inc., Hooked on Toys, Bi-Mart, and Big 5.
- **Chelan area:** Passes are available at the Chelan Ranger District office.
- **Entiat area:** Passes are available at Cooper's General Store and at the Entiat Ranger District office.
- **Lake Wenatchee area:** Passes are available at Midway Village Grocery, Parkside Grocery and Plain Hardware.
- **Leavenworth area:** In Leavenworth passes are available at Der Sportsman, Icicle Quik Stop 76 gas station, Sleeping Lady Mountain Retreat Gift Shop, and Pioneer Market in Cashmere.
- **Cle Elum area:** Northwest Forest Pass vendors include Cle Elum Ranger Station and
 - Sportland Mini Mart Shell Station, 4402 Bullfrog Road, Cle Elum. Located 1 mile north of the Ranger Station on Hwy 903. Their phone number is 509-649-2260.
 - Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce Cle Elum Visitor Center, 312 W 1st, Cle Elum, 509-674-6880
 - Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, 609 N Main, Ellensburg, phone 509-925-2002.
 - Mountain High Sports, 105 E 4th Street, Ellensburg, phone 509-925-4626.
 - Bi-Mart, 608 East Mountain View, Ellensburg, phone 509-925-6973.
 - Mac A Bee Gifts of the Southwest, 1401 Airport Road, Cle Elum, phone 509-674-7055.
 - Stewart Lodge LLC, 805 W 1st St Cle Elum, phone 509-674-4548
- **Methow Valley area:** Passes are available at the **Methow Valley Ranger Station office, 24 W. Chewuch Road in Winthrop, and**
 - Winthrop Mountain Sports, 257 Riverside Avenue, Winthrop, phone 509 996-2886.
 - Methow Cycle and Sports, 19210 Hwy 20, Winthrop, phone 509 996-3645.
 - Valley Hardware/Do-It Center Hardware, 429 E. Methow Valley Hwy., Twisp, 509-997-3355.
 - Mazama Country Inn, 15 Country Road, Mazama, phone 509-996-2681 (Day passes only).
 - Goat Beard Mountain Supply, 50 Lost River Road in Mazama, 509-996-2515.
 - Do It Center Valley Hardware, 309 Highway 20 South in Twisp, 509-997-8541.


- **Naches area:** Northwest Forest passes can be purchased at the following locations.
 - Naches Ranger District office, 10237 U. S. Hwy 12, Naches, phone 509-653-1401.
 - Slim's Market, 9951 US Hwy 12, Naches.
 - Rimrock Grocery Store, 34090 U.S. Hwy 12, Naches, phone 509-672-2251.
 - Bi-Mart stores in Yakima, Sunnyside and in Ellensburg.
 - Naches Chinook Center, 10450 Hwy 12, Naches, WA 98937, 509-653-2797

CHELAN RANGER DISTRICT

Office phone number: (509) 682-4900

OFFICE HOURS: The Chelan Ranger District office is located at 428 West Woodin Avenue in Chelan with office hours of 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday **with a one hour closure for lunch from 11:30 to 12:30.** The Chelan Ranger District also serves as an information center for the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

SNOW LEVEL: Snow covers the ground starting around 1,100 to 2,000 foot elevation level; everything above this level will have 8 to 12 inches of snow. Expect more snow at higher elevations.

CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS: Permits are available at the Chelan Ranger District office and at  Chelan Shell Food Mart gas station at 301 East Woodin Avenue in Chelan. All forest roads are closed to vehicles, please contact the Chelan Ranger District for suggestions to locate a tree.

ECHO RIDGE is now open and is being groomed daily. Passes are required for both ski and snowshoe trail use at Echo Ridge. Day passes are available on-site, at the Upper and Lower Trailheads, for \$10 per adult; there is no charge for skiers or snowshoers age 17 and under. Season passes cost \$70 and can be purchased at the Chelan Ranger District office. For updated information about grooming please visit www.lakechelannordic.org/echoridgegrooming/.

- On Saturday, January 7, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Lake Chelan Nordic Ski Club will be hosting a non-competitive **Ski Loppet** at the Echo Ridge Nordic Area. For more information please visit <http://www.lakechelannordic.org/events/>.

LAKE LEVEL: For information on lake level, please visit the Chelan County Public Utility District website at <http://www.chelanpubd.org/parks-and-recreation/lake-chelan-lake-levels>.

ROADS: All forest roads are closed due to snow. Roads normally groomed for snowmobile use are not being groomed at this point due to low snow levels. Please visit this link for updates <http://parks.state.wa.us/441/Leavenworth-Chelan>

CAMPING: All campgrounds are snow covered. Boat-in campgrounds may be inaccessible due to lower lake level and access to some docks may be impossible. If accessing docks, remember dock surfaces may be very icy and slippery.

CLE ELUM RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is **(509) 852-1100**.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a 45-minute closure for lunch from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Office hours will change to Monday through Friday beginning Jan. 1, 2017.

SNOW: As of December 5, the snow level was at approximately 2,000 feet elevation.

SNOQUALMIE PASS VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER will open for the winter season on December 22. Hours of operation will be 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through January 1, 2017. The visitor center will be closed at noon on Christmas Eve and all day on Christmas day. After January 1, the visitor center will be open Thursday through Sunday until the end of March.

Ranger led snowshoe walks will start on January 6. For information or to make a reservation for one of the snowshoe walks, please visit www.discovernw.org/store_snowshoe-walks_SNOWSHOEMBS/.



CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS are still available. They may be purchased at the Cle Elum Ranger Station or from the following vendors:

- **Mac A Bee Gifts of the Southwest** located at 1401 Airport Road in Cle Elum, phone 509-674-4548
- **Pioneer Coffee** located at 121 N. Pennsylvania Avenue in Cle Elum, phone 509-674-3864
- **Both Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce locations**, 314 W. 1st Street in Cle Elum, phone 509-674-6880, and 609 N. Main Street in Ellensburg, phone 509-925-2002
- **Intermountain Radio Shack** at 208 E. First Street in Cle Elum, phone 509-674-5859
- **Sportland Mini-Mart** located between Cle Elum and Roslyn on Hwy 903, phone 509-649-2260
- **Basecamp Books and Bites** at 110 W. Pennsylvania in Roslyn, 509-649-3821

FIREWOOD: 2016 Firewood permits expire December 31. Collection areas on the Cle Elum Ranger District are now covered in snow. Access is permitted by snowmobile.

ROADS: Please report road damage or other concerns to the Cle Elum Ranger Station. Do not drive through or around washouts.

- **North Fork Teanaway Road No. 9737:** The road has sustained numerous washouts near the Esmerelda basin and Ingalls Way Trailhead. The road is closed to motorized use at Iron Peak Trail which is about a mile and a half before the Esmerelda and Ingalls Way Trailhead. There is no estimated date when the road will reopen. Please do not block the road or park in front of the barriers.
- **Liberty Beehive Road No. 9712** is closed below its junction with Road No. 9718 due to a washout.

The following roads are now closed to wheeled vehicles for the winter season:

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| • FS Road No. 5400 | • FS Road No. 9701 | • FS Road No. 9716 |
| • FS Road No. 4305 | • FS Road No. 9737 | • FS Road No. 35 |
| • FS Road No. 4308 | • FS Road No. 9738 | • FS Road No. 3350 |
| • FS Road No. 4330 | • FS Road No. 9714 | • FS Road No. 4510 |
| • FS Road No. 46 | • FS Road No. 9715 | • FS Road No. 4818 |
| | | • FS Road No. 9700-140 and 141 |

TRAILS: Trails are now snow covered. Expect to encounter snow on trails above 2,000 feet elevation.

MOTORIZED TRAILS: Closed to wheeled vehicles until June 15, 2017.

CAMPGROUNDS: Developed campground are closed for the season. Those which are not gated can continue to be used with no fees and no services. Please pack out your trash.

The Wish Poosh boat launch at Lake Cle Elum and the Kachess Lake boat launch at Kachess Campground are closed for the winter season.

Reservations can now be made for individual **campsites** at Kachess and Salmon La Sac Campgrounds and Cayuse Horse Camp. Go to www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777 to make reservations.

Reservations for **group sites** need to be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service by calling their toll free number 877-444-6777 or by going online to their web site at www.recreation.gov.

CABIN RENTALS: During the winter there is just one cabin rental available on the Cle Elum Ranger District. The Teanaway Guard Station **will not be available** for the winter season 2016-2017 due to a seasonal stream channel that has changed course and floods the toilet during the wet season. Plans are in place to relocate the toilet in the spring of 2017.

Taneum Guard Station Cabin is the only cabin rental available during the winter. It is a small four room Forest Service cabin located approximately 20 miles from Ellensburg, WA. The cabin is located on Taneum Creek in a quiet secluded area. There is a small campground just up the road, less than a quarter of a mile from the cabin. There is running water in the cabin and propane is used for lighting, cooking and operating the refrigerator and water heater. There is a fire ring and picnic table outside. The cabin is available by reservation only Memorial Day through Labor Day. To make reservations, phone 1-877-444-6777; TDD 877-833-6777; International 518-885-3639 or visit www.recreation.gov.

ENTIAT RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is **(509) 784-4700**.

OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SNOW: On December 19 there was 22 inches of snow at Pope Ridge at 3,590 feet elevation.

WOODCUTTING: Wood cutting permits are valid through December 31, 2016.

CAMPGROUNDS: The Entiat River Road is gated closed at about mile post 31. Snowmobiles, motor vehicles, motorcycles, livestock, bicycles, and foot traffic are prohibited on the road beyond that point. The road is closed for public safety due to impacts from wildfires.

Campground	Location	Status
Pine Flats	14 miles from Highway 97A, Mad River Road	Closed for the season. Overnight camping and day use are permitted behind the locked gate. No amenities. Bring drinking water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Lake Creek	28 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	Closed for the season. Overnight camping and day use are permitted behind the locked gate. No amenities. Bring drinking water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Fox Creek	27 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	Closed for the season, no overnight camping. Walk in day use is permitted behind the locked gate. No amenities. Bring drinking water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Silver Falls	30 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	Closed for the season, no overnight camping. Walk in day use is permitted behind the locked gate. No amenities. Bring drinking water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
North Fork	33 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	Closed to overnight camping due to impacts resulting from wildfires. Day use is permitted. No water, toilet or garbage services are available. Bring drinking water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Spruce Grove	34 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road.	
Three Creek	36 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	
Cottonwood	38 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	

ROADS: Snow is building up making most Forest Service roads impassable. Turn around to avoid being stranded. The snow level is down to the Entiat Valley floor.

Due to heavy rains in October and November be alert to unexpected washouts. Four-wheel-drive and high vehicle clearance are always recommended for travel on forest roads. If roads are muddy and your vehicle is damaging the road surface, please turn around to prevent further road damage. Remember, there is limited turn around space available on most forest roads.

Road and trail conditions can change quickly so check for current conditions and closures before you go. The best way to be prepared is to think ahead about what you would do in a potential emergency and have proper equipment and supplies with you.

Road Name	Road #	Status
Entiat River Road	5100	The road is gated closed at about mile post 31 and the road is closed to the Cottonwood/Entiat River Trailhead. Vehicles, motorcycles, livestock, bicycles, and foot traffic are prohibited on the road. Anticipate encountering snow. The county only plows snow up to the sno-park at the 25 mile marker.
Mills Canyon/ Entiat Ridge	5200	Open, anticipate encountering snow.
Dinkelman	5210	Open, anticipate encountering snow.
Preston Creek	5501	Open, anticipate encountering snow.
Tommy Creek	5605	Open, anticipate encountering snow.
North Fork Entiat Road	5606	The road is gated closed at about mile post 32. Vehicles, motorcycles, livestock, bicycles, and foot traffic are prohibited on the road. Anticipate encountering snow.
Tyee	5700	Open, anticipate encountering snow.
Tillicum Creek	5800	Open, anticipate encountering snow.
Forest Service Road/ Moe Ridge	5801	Open, anticipate encountering snow.
Shady Pass	5900	Gated closed to vehicles at the junction of Entiat River Road (approximately 28.5 miles up from Hwy 97A). No through access to the Chelan side. Anyone starting from the Chelan side on Shady Pass Road will not be able to connect to the Entiat River Road and travel out from the Entiat River Ranger District. Anticipate encountering snow.
Oklahoma Gulch Road	County Road #63	Gated closed from Hwy 97A north to Johnson Creek. This seasonal closure is at the request of WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife.

ATVs, WATVs & SIDE BY SIDES: All Entiat Ranger District Forest Service roads and trails are closed to these vehicles.

TIPS TO SAFE DRIVING ON FOREST SERVICE ROADS:

- Drive defensively. Although most Forest Service roads are unpaved with infrequent traffic, drivers still must expect to encounter other cars and trucks, dirt bikes, hikers, equestrian riders, and logging trucks.
- Obey the rules of the road. You may be in the middle of nowhere, but the rules of the road and basic common sense still apply.
- Be careful braking on gravel roads. Give yourself more time and distance when coming to a stop.
- Keep to the right.
- Be prepared. Expect to encounter rocks and boulders, road washouts, downed trees, and other hazards.
- Recreation trails sometimes cross the road... and are not always visible. Drive slowly and be aware of other recreationists using the roadway.
- Obey road closures. Roads and trails are closed for a variety of reasons, which may include unsafe conditions or environmental reasons.

UPPER MAD RIVER SEASONAL TRAILS CLOSURE: All Upper Mad River trails are now closed. Blue Creek Trail No. 1426, Upper Mad River Trail No. 1409.1, Alder Ridge Trail No. 1523 and Upper Chikamin Trail No. 1561 are closed.

The annual seasonal closure is to protect natural resources, minimize damage to trails, and maintain quality trail systems. The seasonal closure protects trails from damage caused by wheeled and stock travel on muddy trails. **When closed, the trails are open to hikers only.** The trail will be posted open when the snow melts and the trails dry out. Trails historically open in July once snow has melted off.

TRAILS: Winter conditions exist on the trails. **The snow level is down to the Entiat Valley floor, making all Forest Service trails difficult to navigate.** Be prepared with snowshoes, crampons, ice axe, and layered winter clothing. Good resources to check for recent postings and conditions from fellow hikers are www.NWHikers.net <http://www.wta.org/> and www.Cascadeclimbers.com .

METHOW VALLEY RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is (509) 996-4003.

OFFICE HOURS: Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

WEATHER: A local weather forecast is available at <http://go.usa.gov/f4y> . There is snow accumulating above 2,000 feet elevation.

SNOW: Snow is accumulating at higher elevations, with 9 inches at Mazama at 2,170 feet elevation, 59 inches reported at Washington Pass at 5,500 feet elevation, and 51 inches at Hart's Pass at 6,490 feet elevation.

GROOMED SNOWMOBILE TRAILS: Each year from December 1 to April 1 most Methow Valley Ranger District access roads become groomed snowmobile routes and are closed to wheeled vehicles.

When roads close to wheeled vehicles, barriers are placed at the beginning of roads. Only snowmobiles can be driven on groomed snowmobile routes. A snowmobile is a track driven, **ski steered** vehicle less than 50 inches over-all width. Horses, ATVs and bicycles are not allowed on groomed snowmobile routes. Use of a snow cat requires a permit to operate on groomed snowmobile routes. Fat bikes are not allowed on groomed snowmobile routes.

Hart's Pass Road No. 5400 is closed to wheeled vehicles and open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1. The gate is open so snowmobiles can make it up the road. Road No. 5400 is barricaded closed at the snow plow turn-around at the junction with Hart's Pass Road 5400 and Lost River Road/County Road 9140.

NORTH CASCADES HIGHWAY 20 is closed for the winter from milepost 134 to milepost 171 at the Silver Star Gate.

CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS are sold in Winthrop at the Methow Valley Ranger District office, Pardner's Mini-Mart and Winthrop Mountain Sports. They are also available at Hank's Market and Hank's Mini-Mart in Twisp.

SNO-PARK PERMITS: Sno-park permits are available for purchase at the Methow Valley Ranger District Office. They are also sold at Goat's Beard in Mazama, Hank's Harvest Foods and Loup Loup Ski Education Foundation in Twisp, and in Winthrop at Pardner's Mini Market and Winthrop Mountain Sports.

LOGGING: Winter logging operations have started in the Siegel's Slough area near Buck Lake. Logging trucks will be coming down Buck Lake Road No. 5130-100 from Buck Lake to Eightmile Road No. 5130 Road and out West Chewuch Road No. 5100. Snowmobilers may access Eightmile Road No. 5130 above Road 5130-100 near Flat Campground by using the groomed Falls Creek Road No. 5140 reroute. Log hauling will begin later in January and will occur out of First Creek Road No. 220-025 down Cub Creek/County Road No. 1251. Weekend log hauling is also permitted on Saturdays until 8 a.m. and after 6 p.m. on Sundays. Unloaded trucks will likely be using the East Chewuch/County Road No. 9137 road loop.

ROADS: Snow is accumulating in Winthrop with 6 inches at the district office in Winthrop at 1,800 feet elevation. Expect to encounter snow on all district roads and trails.

Each year from December 1 to April 1 most Methow Valley Ranger District access roads become groomed snowmobile routes and are closed to wheeled vehicles.

In the Thompson Ridge and upper Rendezvous areas some district roads became groomed cross-country ski routes and are closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles. Barriers have been placed at the beginning of these roads.

Check for current conditions and closures before you go. The best way to be prepared is to think ahead about what you would do in a potential emergency situation and have proper equipment and supplies with you. It is a good idea to let someone know where you are going and when you expect to be back. Many forest roads close October 1 for use as non-motorized hunting areas.

For the most current road information go online to <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/okawen/alerts-notices/?cid=stelprd3820244>.

Road Name and Number	Conditions as of Dec. 19, 2016
Squaw Creek Road 1004-200	Open, with winter snow accumulating.
McFarland Creek Road 1020-200	Open but unplowed to the Road 4330-600 junction. Road 4330-600 is CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
McFarland Creek Road 1020-400	The road is closed, there is a road washout just past the cattle guard.
Alder Creek 1065-200	Open, with winter snow accumulating.
Alder Creek 1065-225	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Alder Creek / Look-out Mountain 1065-250	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Finley Mountain 1590-4100--300	The road is closed to all motorized vehicles due to road damage.
Finley Canyon 1590-4100-370	The road is closed to all motorized vehicles due to road damage.
Bear Creek 1631-100	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Bear Creek 1631-200	The south end of the road is closed Oct. 1 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Cougar Creek 1631-225	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Ramsey / Tripod 1631-100	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Ramsey / Boulder 1631-200	The north end of the road is closed Oct. 1 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Ramsey 1631-300	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
State Route Highway 153	Open
North Cascade Highway State Route 20 (West to Washington/Rainy Passes)	Closed for the winter from milepost 134 to milepost 171.
State Route 20 (east of Twisp to Loup Loup Pass)	Open
Jack Creek Hwy 20-103	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Boulder 37	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Boulder Creek to Rogers Lake 39	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Black Canyon 4010	The road is closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles from Black Canyon Sno-Park due to a large washout after a 2015 fire.
Black Canyon 4010-050	The access road is closed due to a large washout after a 2015 fire.
Black Canyon 4010-100	The access road is closed due to a large washout after a 2015 fire.
South Summit 4100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Finley Mountain 4100-300	The road is closed to all motorized vehicles due to a road washout.
Finley Canyon 4100-370	The road is closed to all motorized vehicles due to mud and water on the roadway.
Forest Road 4108-670	The road is closed to all motorized vehicles from the intersection with FS Road No. 4108-665 to the terminus at the state land.
Benson Creek 4150	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Leecher Look-out 4150-100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Yockey Creek 4150-200	The road is damaged and closed to all motorized vehicles.
Benson Creek 4150-300	Closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles as this area becomes a deer winter range and lynx habitat December 1 to April 1.
Pole Pick 4150-500	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Pole Pick 4150-535	The road is closed Oct. 1 through March 31 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Pole Pick 4150-600	Open with snow accumulating.
Pole Pick 4150-630	The road is closed October 1 through March 31.

Road Name and Number	Conditions as of Dec. 19, 2016
North Summit 42	From December 1 to April 1 the road becomes a groomed snowmobile route and is closed to wheeled vehicles. The road from the Road No. 4235 junction was in the 2015 wildfire area and is blocked and closed at Buck Pass until logging is completed.
Bear Mountain 4200-200	Open with snow accumulating.
South Beaver 4225	Open with winter snow accumulating.
Volstead/Blue Buck 4225-200	CLOSED due to road washout damage.
Cougar 4225-230	CLOSED due to road washout damage.
Volstead 4225-400	CLOSED due to road washout damage.
Beaver Summit/Lightening Creek 4230	The road giving access over Lightening Creek Ridge and to Beaver Ridge is closed October 1 through March 1 becoming a non-motorized hunting area.
Starvation Mountain 4235	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Beaver Mountain 4235-100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Lightning Creek Ridge 4235-195	The road is closed October 1 through March 31 for use as a non-motorized hunting area.
Buttermilk Libby (Buttermilk portion) 43	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Buttermilk Libby (Libby portion) 43	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Smith Canyon 1051	Open
Ben Canyon 4300-100	The area is closed to motorized wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles December 1 to March 31 for deer winter range and lynx habitat.
Elderberry Canyon 4300-200	Open with snow accumulating.
Chicamun Canyon 4300-300	Open with snow accumulating.
Poorman Creek 4300-300	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route Dec. 1 to April 1.
Buttermilk Butte 4300-400	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route Dec. 1 to April 1.
West Fork Buttermilk Trailhead 4300-500	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access Road No. 4300 is a groomed snowmobile route Dec. 1 to April 1.
West Fork Buttermilk 4300-550	CLOSED – the bridge is condemned as unsafe. The road is damaged near the bridge from a 2011 washout.
West Fork Buttermilk 4300-560	CLOSED – the bridge is condemned as unsafe. The access road is damaged near the bridge from a 2011 washout.
Buttermilk Creek 4300-600	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access Road No. 4300 is a groomed snowmobile route road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Buttermilk Creek 4300-610	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access Road No. 4300 is a groomed snowmobile route road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Newbutter 4300-800	The road is open with snow accumulating.
Newbutter 4300-820	The road is open with snow accumulating.
South Fork Gold Creek 4330	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
South Fork Gold Creek 4330-600	The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles but closed to wheeled vehicles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Rainy Creek Road 4330-100 (up the South Fork Gold Creek)	Access Road No. 4330 is CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. Road No. 4330 is a groomed snowmobile route closed to wheeled vehicles and open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
North Fork Gold Creek 4340	The access road becomes a groomed snowmobile route, closed to wheeled vehicles, December 1 to April 1.
Middle Fork Gold Creek 4340-100	The area is closed to motorized wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles December 1 to March 31 for deer winter range and lynx habitat.
Crater Creek 4340-300	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access Road No. 4340 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
North Fork Gold Creek 4340-700	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access Road No. 4340 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1
Twisp River 44	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. This road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1
Lime Creek 4400-100	Open with snow accumulating.
Coal Rader/Thompson 4410	The road becomes a groomed cross-county ski route, closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles from November 14 to April 1.
Thompson Ridge 4410-100	The road is closed October 1 through March 31, becoming a non-motorized hunting area. Access Road No. 4410 becomes groomed cross-county ski route, closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles from November 14 to April 1.
Thompson Ridge 4410-200	The road is closed October 1 through March 31, becoming a non-motorized hunting area. Access Road No. 4410 becomes groomed cross-county ski route, closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles from November 14 to April 1.

Road Name and Number	Conditions as of Dec. 19, 2016
Little Wolf Creek 4410-500	The road becomes a groomed cross-county ski route, closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles, from November 14 to April 1.
Little Wolf Creek 4410-520	The road becomes a groomed cross-county ski route, closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles, from November 14 to April 1.
Little Wolf Creek 4410-535	The road becomes a groomed cross-county ski route, closed to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles, from November 14 to April 1.
Little Bridge Creek 4415	Open, with snow accumulating.
Cow Creek 4415-040	Open, with snow accumulating.
Dry Creek 4415-050	Open, with snow accumulating.
Deer Creek 4415-060	Open, with snow accumulating.
Little Bridge Creek Saddle 4415-100	Open, with winter snow accumulating.
South Twisp River 4420	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
West Twisp River 4430	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
War Creek Trailhead 4430-100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access road 4430 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Twisp River Road 4435	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Reynolds Creek TH 4435 100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access road 4435 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Twisp River Road 4440	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
East Chewuch 5010	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Forest Road 5010-115	CLOSED yearlong to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles.
Twentymile Creek 5010-700	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access road 5010 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
West Chewuch 51	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Eightmile 5130	The beginning portion of this road is plowed for winter logging activities, it is closed to all non-logging traffic. The remaining unplowed road is closed to wheeled vehicles as this is a groomed snowmobile route above Flat Campground open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1. Snowmobilers may access Eightmile Creek Road 5130 above Flat Campground by using the Falls Creek Road No. 5140 groomed reroute.
Buck Lake 5130-100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles not involved in logging operations. Winter logging operations have started in the Siegels Slough area near Buck Lake. Logging trucks will be coming down Road 5130-100 from Buck Lake to the Eightmile Road 5130 and out the West Chewuch Road 5100. This year the road is closed to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1 due to winter logging activity. Snowmobilers may access Eightmile Creek Road 5130 above Road 5130-100 by using the groomed Falls Creek Road 5140 reroute, rejoining the Eightmile Creek Road 5130 near Flat Campground.
Buck Lake 5130-105	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles until winter logging activities are completed.
Buck Lake 5130-115	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles until winter logging activities are completed.
Buck Lake 5130-140	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles until winter logging activities are completed.
Buck Mountain 5130-155	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles until winter logging activities are completed.
Buck Mountain 5130-160	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles until winter logging activities are completed.
Falls Creek 5140	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The beginning part of this road becomes a groomed snowmobile reroute Dec. 1 to April 1 coming out near Flat Camp avoiding the beginning closed portion of Eightmile Creek Road No. 5130 which is plowed for winter logging.
Doe Mountain 5140-100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The beginning portion of access road 5140 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Chewuch 5160	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access road 5100 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Lake Creek 5160-100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access road 5100 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Chewuch/30-Mile 5160-250	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access road 5100 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Cub Creek/Goat Creek 5200	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The access road 5100 is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
First Creek 5200-025	CLOSED to all non-logging traffic until winter logging activities are completed. Logging trucks will haul out of First Creek Road 5220-025 down Cub Creek beginning later in January. Weekend hauling is also permitted on Saturdays until 8 a.m. and after 6 p.m. on Sundays.

Road Name and Number	Conditions as of Dec. 19, 2016
Second Creek 5200-115	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1. Caution --watch for logging traffic on Cub Creek Road.
Second Creek 5200-126	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1. Caution --watch for logging traffic on Cub Creek Road.
Fifth Creek 5200-150	The road is closed to snowmobiles October 1 to December 15 so it can be used as a non-motorized hunting area. The access road becomes a groomed snowmobile route, closed to wheeled vehicles December 1 to April 1. Caution --watch for logging traffic on Cub Creek Road.
Forest Road 5200-155	The road closed October 1 to wheeled vehicles becoming a non-motorized hunting area. The road is also closed to snowmobiles October 1 to December 15 for use as a non-motorized hunting area. The access road becomes a groomed snowmobile route, and is closed to wheeled vehicles December 1 to April 1. Caution --watch for logging traffic on Cub Creek Road.
Short Creek 5200-400	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Long Creek 5200-500	CLOSED--the road is washed out.
Ortell Creek 5220-200	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Goat Peak 5225-200	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Rendezvous Pass 5215	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles November 15 to March 21. The road is a groomed cross-country ski trail.
Rendezvous/Fawn 5215-100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles and snowmobiles November 15 to March 21. The road is a groomed cross-country ski trail.
Blackpine Basin 5225-600	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Sweetgrass Butte 5220-100	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is a groomed snowmobile route open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Cutthroat 5310-400	Highway 20 access road is closed to wheeled vehicles for the winter season. The right side of road is groomed for snowmobiles and the left side of road is groomed for cross-country skiing about 3 miles from Silver Star Creek parking area to Cutthroat Creek Road.
Hart's Pass 5400	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles and open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1. The gate is open so snowmobiles can make it up the road. Road No. 5400 is barricaded closed at the snow plow turn-around at the junction with Hart's Pass Road 5400 and Lost River Road/County Road 9140.
Slate Peak 5400-600	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.
Chancellor 5400-700	CLOSED to wheeled vehicles. The road is open to snowmobiles Dec. 1 to April 1.

WOODCUTTING: Most Forest Service access roads become groomed snowmobile routes, closed to wheeled vehicles December 1 through April 1, limiting access to roads for firewood cutting. All firewood permits expire on December 31.

CAMPGROUNDS: During the winter, campgrounds have no potable water or garbage dumpsters so remember to bring drinking water and pack out all garbage. Access to Hart's Pass, Meadows and Lone Fir Campgrounds is blocked due to snow accumulation.

From December 1 through April 1 most Forest Service access roads become groomed snowmobile routes and are closed to wheeled vehicles limiting access to all campgrounds.

TRAILS: Snow is accumulating on all trails. From December 1 through April 1 most Forest Service access roads become groomed snowmobile routes and are closed to wheeled vehicles limiting access to all district trailheads. Check weather forecast and be prepared for potential snow storms.

NACHES RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is (509) 653-1401.

OFFICE HOURS: The Naches Ranger Station foyer is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week with handouts and forest information available to the public during non-office hours. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office is closed daily for lunch from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. No permit sales after 4 p.m.

SNOW: The snow level is at approximately 1,000 feet elevation.

SKI AREA: White Pass Ski area is open. For more information please contact White Pass Ski Area at 509-672-3101.

GROOMING: For snowmobile grooming updates, please go to <http://parks.state.wa.us/439/Greewater-Yakima> . For non-motorized grooming information go to <http://parks.state.wa.us/132/Non-Motorized-Recreation> .

SNO-PARK PERMITS are now available at the Naches Ranger Station and from the following vendors.

- ❖ Slim’s Market, 9951 Hwy 12, Naches, phone 509-653-2268
- ❖ The Little Red School House, 12691 Hwy 12, Naches, phone 509-653-2041
- ❖ Whistlin’ Jack Lodge, 20800 State Route 410, Naches, phone 509-658-2433
- ❖ Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission, 1111 Israel Road SW, Olympia, phone 360-902-8844

ROADS: Most district roads are now snow covered. Please contact Naches Ranger District for more information. State Route 410 over Chinook Pass is closed for the winter season.

Please check with the Washington State Department of Transportation for up to date information on mountain pass road conditions. The most current updates on mountain pass conditions are available at <http://www.Wsdot.com/traffic/passes> .

BE AWARE -- DAMAGED ROADS THAT REMAIN CLOSED:

Road Name and Number	Damaged Roads that are CLOSED
FS Road No. 1040 (Bear Creek area)	Closed due to road damage from a washout.
Wildcat Road No. 1306	Closed to all motorized traffic because of a 30-foot slump in the road and a large culvert that is eroded and damaged.
Indian Creek Road No. 1308	Closed due to flood waters and large debris that washed out and blocked the last portion of the road to the trailhead.
Little Rattlesnake Road No. 1501	The road has been decommissioned 5.1 miles from the junction of Forest Road 1500/1501 to the junction of Forest Road 1501/1503.
McDaniel Road No. 1502	Closed to all traffic due to bridge damage and road washout.
Gold Creek Road No. 1703	The road has been decommissioned from Milepost 2.0 to 2.1. Areas below the decommissioned area can be accessed via Forest Road 1703. Areas above the decommissioned area can be accessed via Forest Road No. 1705. The road is open to trail users and snowmobiles.



CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS: These permits are available at the Naches Ranger Station and from the vendors listed on page 3. **Be aware most forest roads are now snow covered and inaccessible to wheeled vehicles.**

MOTORIZED TRAILS: All motorized use trails are closed and open only to snowmobile. These routes are being groomed for snowmobile use only.

WILDERNESS TRAILS: Be prepared to encounter trees blown down across trails and snow above 1,000 feet elevation. Crow Lake Way Trail is closed until further notice due to extensive flood damage.

CAMPGROUNDS: All district campgrounds are now closed for the winter but available without amenities for winter-time camping. Please bring water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.

GROUP RESERVATION SITES: American Ridge Lodge and American River Guard Station group reservation sites are open year-round. Other group sites are officially closed. Reservations for group camp sites need to be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service by calling their toll free number 877-444-6777 or by going online to their web site at www.recreation.gov .

Area	Group Reservation Sites	Daily Fee	Registration Fee
Chinook Pass State Route 410	American Ridge Lodge - Open	\$100	\$10
	American River Guard Station - Open	\$ 50	\$10
	Indian Flat - Closed		
	Kaner Flat - Closed		
	Pine Needle - Closed		
	Salmon Cove - Closed		
White Pass U.S. Highway 12	Clear Lake/North Group Site - Closed		
	South Fork - Closed		

BOULDER CAVE, BOULDER CAVE DAY USE SITE and TRAIL are closed to all users. Please stay out of the closed area, violators will be fined.

DAY USE and BOAT LAUNCH SITES are closed.

TRAVEL ESSENTIALS: Always be prepared for any kind of weather and/or road conditions. Bring extra clothes, food and water, map, compass and/or GPS, matches, fire starter, pocketknife, first aid kit, sunglasses, flashlight, and extra batteries. Please have extra blankets, a shovel, flares, tire chains, basic tools, and toilet paper in your vehicle.

WOODCUTTING: Naches Ranger District woodcutting season has ended for this year.

TONASKET RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is (509) 486-2186.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a 30-minute closure for lunch from 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.

SNOW: As of December 19, the snow level was around 1,000 feet elevation.

WASHINGTON STATE SNO-PARK PERMITS are available online at <https://fortress.wa.gov/parks/ecommm/prod/Store/SNO/SnoChoice.aspx> . They are also available for purchase by check or cash at the Tonasket District office. Sno-park permits cost \$42 for an Annual permit and \$22 for a Day Use. Passes are non-refundable.

WOODCUTTING PERMITS are available to purchase at the Tonasket Ranger District office. Woodcutting permits are non-refundable, please review the updated Firewood Removal Guide Map for more information. Keep in mind these expire at the end of the year (Dec 31, 2016)



CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS may be purchased at the Tonasket Ranger Station. Christmas tree permits are \$5 dollars per permit with a limit of two permits per household. These permits are non-refundable.

ROAD CLOSURES: Please refer to the Okanogan National Travel Plan Map for current road closures. This map is available at the Tonasket Ranger Station during business hours and also can be found after hours on the information board in front of the office. Please call 509-486-2186 for more information or visit our website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/okawen/home> .

ROADS: Most forest roads are closed and some are now open to snowmobile use only.

Timber hauling and logging operations are occurring in the Crawfish Lake Area. Roads No. 3000, 3000-20, 3015, and 3010 are still open to snowmobiles but closed to four-wheeled vehicles not involved in the logging operations.

Please exercise caution when traveling on narrow forest roads. Call the Tonasket Ranger District office for road condition information or visit Washington State Department of Transportation’s website www.wsdot.wa.gov. Be sure to look at the free Okanogan National Forest Travel Plan Map for more information (available at national forest offices or online at <http://go.usa.gov/64Kk>). Some road closures are year round and the Travel Plan Map can help you know where you can go.

Road Number and Name	Condition
3200 Bonaparte Lake to Beaver Lake	Closed
3200-050 Strawberry Mountain	Closed
3230 Henderson Creek/Mill Creek	Closed
3235 Phoebe Mountain (Burge Mtn.)	Closed
3300 Meyers Creek and 3300-100 Spur Mountain Road to Lost Lake	Closed
3400 Four Corners to Chesaw	Closed

30 Aeneas/Crawfish	Closed
3000	Closed
3000-200 Aeneas Valley to Tunk Mtn.	Closed
3000-285	Closed
3000-290	Closed
3000-100 Dugout Mountain Road	Closed
3000-100 Barnell Meadow	Closed
3115-100 West Fork Sanpoil Road	Open
3120 Coco Mt Road	Open to snowmobiles only
3125 Gardner Creek Road	Open to snowmobiles only
3575-120 Cow Camp Road	Closed
37 Middle Salmon-Boulder Creek to 3700 West Fork	Open to snowmobiles only
3800 North Fork Salmon Creek	Open to snowmobiles only
3800-025 Ray Road/Muckamuck	Open
3810	Open
3820 Lone Frank Pass	Open to snowmobiles only
39 Toats Coulee to Long Swamp	Open to snowmobiles only
3900-100 14 Mile	Open to snowmobiles only
3900-500 Iron Gate	Open to snowmobiles only
4200 southwest of Conconully	Open to snowmobiles only

TRAILS: Expect to encounter varying amounts of snow on all district trails. Be aware, there may be trees across trails at any time of the year, but especially after storms. Go to the forest website at <http://go.usa.gov/8fKA> for a complete list of trails and directions. Please be safe and prepare for down trees and snow.

CAMPGROUNDS: Beth, Beaver, Lost Lake, and Bonaparte campgrounds are closed for the winter; all other district campgrounds are open. When using these campgrounds remember no amenities are available during the winter, so bring drinking water, toilet paper and please pack out all garbage.

The group sites at Lost Lake Campground and Bonaparte Lake South Loup are available for reservation for the 2017 camping season. Go online at www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777 for reservations. All other campsites on the Tonasket District are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

WENATCHEE RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is (509) 548-2550.

WINTER OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

WEATHER: Go to www.NOAA.gov for current weather conditions; use zip code **98826** for conditions in the Leavenworth and Lake Wenatchee areas. Remember, weather conditions can change quickly.



CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS: Permits are on sale at the Wenatchee River Ranger Station, Dan's Food Market located at 1329 US Hwy 2 in Leavenworth and the Chevron gas stations in Leavenworth. Christmas tree permits are \$5 each with a minimum of two permits per household. **Be aware most forest roads are now snow covered and inaccessible to wheeled vehicles.**

NO THROUGH ACCESS ALLOWED AT THE RANGER STATION IN LEAVENWORTH: There is no public access through the ranger station compound, all gates are locked because of safety issues and vandalism.

BUCK CREEK/SAUL WILDFIRE CLOSURES: Closures remain in effect for the Buck Creek Trail No. 1513 and Chiwawa River Trail No. 1550. These trails will remain closed to public access until trail crews can clear them of hazards next spring.

CAMPGROUNDS: Campgrounds in the Icicle River drainage, except for Chatter Creek Campground, are closed but accessible on a non-fee basis with no amenities such as water, toilet paper or garbage service. **Due to a road barricade located 9.6 miles down Icicle Road, motorized cars and trucks cannot go beyond Bridge Creek Campground.**

The campgrounds in the Lake Wenatchee area are now closed but accessible on a non-fee basis with the exception of Soda Springs, Nason Creek and Phelps Creek which are **closed to all access** for the season. Individuals using closed campgrounds must bring water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.

Please do not park vehicles in front of locked gates at campground entrances. Check road conditions before traveling, some roads leading to these sites suffered storm damage.

Campground Name	Status
Tumwater	CLOSED due to flood hazard potential. No camping permitted.
Eightmile	CLOSED. No fee, no amenities, bring water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Bridge Creek	
Upper Johnny	CLOSED—NO ACCESS
Lower Johnny	CLOSED—NO ACCESS. No fee, no amenities, bring water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Ida Creek	
Chatter Creek	
Rock Island	CLOSED—NO ACCESS. No fee, no amenities, bring water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Blackpine Horse Camp	
Nason Creek	CLOSED—NO ACCESS
Glacier View	CLOSED. No fee, no amenities, bring water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Goose Creek	
Grouse Creek Group Camp	
Finner Creek	
Riverbend	
Rock Creek	
Chiwawa Horse Camp	
Schaefer Creek	
Atkinson Flat	
19 mile	
Alpine Meadows	
Phelps Creek	CLOSED—NO ACCESS
Phelps Creek Equestrian	CLOSED—NO ACCESS
Soda Springs	CLOSED—NO ACCESS. No overnight camping is allowed until hazard trees can be assessed and treated in the spring and summer.
Lake Creek	CLOSED. No fee, no amenities, bring water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.
Rainy Creek	
White River	CLOSED. No access due to road damage.

CAMPGROUND RESERVATION SITES: To reserve one of the large group sites at Eightmile, Bridge Creek and Grouse Creek Campgrounds, or campsites at Eightmile Campground, please call the National Reservation line at 1-877-444-6777 or via the Internet at www.recreation.gov . Reservations for campsites may be made up to six months in advance, and group sites one year in advance; reservations **cannot be made less than seven days from the stay date.**

ROADS: As winter arrives many forest roads become inaccessible or are gated closed. The gate on the road at Bridge Creek, which leads to the Eightmile and Colchuck/Stuart Lake trailheads, is now closed. Beehive Road No. 9712 is closed. The gates on Chiwawa River Road No. 6200 and Little Wenatchee River Road No. 6500 are closed. Be aware weather can change quickly this time of year and roads can become muddy and or snow covered causing dangerous conditions. Please use caution and be prepared for changing conditions.

Road Name	Road No.	Status
Beehive	9712	Closed
Upper Devil's Gulch	9712	Closed
No. 2 Canyon	7101	The gate is now closed for the winter.
Mission Creek	7100	Closed
Shaser Creek	7322	The Middle Shaser Road No. 7322-200 has been repaired and is open to ATVs for approximately 2 miles; it has no gate. The gate on Road No. 7322-000 should be closed.
Icicle	7600	Icicle Road is open to the end of the roadway.
Derby Canyon	7400-7401	The gate is closed at Derby Canyon Road No. 7400. Road No. 7401 will remain open approximately 1.5 miles.
Chiwawa Road System	6200	Closed
	6211	The gate is closed, there is no motor vehicle access.
	6300	The gate is closed, there is no motor vehicle access.
Little Wenatchee	6500	Closed
White River	6400	The road will be closing soon as snow accumulates; call for the latest conditions. The road is open to Grasshopper Meadow Campground and closed beyond that point due to major road damage and washouts. There is no estimate for reopening.

Note: Please do not park vehicles in front of any gates whether they are open or closed!

TRAILS: Most district trails are now snow covered. The gate is closed on the road accessing Eightmile Trailhead and Stewart Trailhead. This road closure adds an additional 3 mile hike over the snow to access these trailheads during the winter.

- **Snow Lakes Trail No. 1553:** In early October a landslide occurred between Nada Lake and lower Snow Lake. Use extreme caution. Self-registration permits are available at the trailhead. Overnight permits are required May 15-October 31. NO DOGS ALLOWED.

Good resources to check for recent postings and conditions from fellow hikers are

www.NWHikers.net , www.WTA.org and www.Cascadeclimbers.com .

NEW ENCHANTMENT LOTTERY UPDATES: The 2017 ENCHANTMENT LOTTERY will open online on February 15 at 12:01 a.m. Pacific Standard Time (3:01 a.m. Eastern Time) and go through March 2 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time (2:59 a.m. Eastern Time). Enchantment Permit area overnight lottery applications will be accepted May 15 through October 31, 2017.

All applications received during the lottery will be randomly drawn on March 14, 2017.

The lottery process is a **two-step** process:

1. The applicant must select an **entry date** and **location** and pay the \$6 non-refundable application fee.
2. **After March 14, applicants must return to Recreation.gov and login to their account to determine the results of the lottery.** Successful applicants must provide an exit date and number of persons in the party (up to 8 maximum) and pay for their permit (\$5 per person/per day). **NO ALTERNATE GROUP LEADERS MAY BE SELECTED.**

ENCHANTMENT PERMIT REMINDERS:

- While permits may be reserved as early as May 15, early spring snow and weather conditions may not allow road access to the Stuart Lake or Eightmile Lake trailheads during this time. Even if road access is possible, traveling and camping on snow is highly likely during May and June. Please understand the change and cancellation policy if you choose to apply for permits during early spring or late fall.
- **Fees:** Up to one trip award is granted per person, per zone, per season. A non-refundable application fee of \$6 will be charged for each application. Individuals can submit ONE application to the lottery. The applicant may choose a preferred camping zone, date choice and up to two alternate choices. Successful applicants will be charged a permit fee of \$5 per person per day.
- Plan ahead, permits are non-transferable.

NEW THIS YEAR:

- Alternate group leaders will NO LONGER be accepted. Party leader MUST carry photo ID with permit and show it to a Ranger upon request. Permits are not valid without ID.
- Only one lottery application per person will be accepted.
- ALL group members must begin on the reserved trip start date only and camp with the Party Leader.
- Every group member must carry a copy of the permit.

For more information please go to the [Enchantments Permits webpage](#).

WILDERNESS SELF-REGISTRATION DAY HIKING PERMITS: These permits are required year-round at Alpine Lakes Wilderness trailheads. A Northwest Forest Pass for your vehicle is required at trailheads accessing the Enchantments.

RECREATION PASSES are required at the following trailheads on the Wenatchee River Ranger District. This list includes only the trailhead names and does not show each individual trail.

Alder Ridge	Heather Lake	Red Hill
Basalt Ridge	Hidden Lake	Rock Creek
Buck Creek (Trinity)	Ingalls Creek	Round Mountain
Chiwaukum Creek	Icicle Creek	Snow Lakes
Devil's Gulch (Lower)	Icicle Gorge	Stuart Lake
Dirtyface	Jack/Trout	Twin Lakes
Eightmile	Little Wenatchee	White River
Estes Butte	Nason Ridge	

Recreation day use passes cost \$5 per vehicle per day or \$30 for an annual **Northwest Forest Pass**. Passes are available locally at the Wenatchee River Ranger District office, Dan's Market, Leavenworth 76 gas stations on Highway 2 and at Icicle Junction, Der Sportsman, Sleeping Lady Gift Shop, and Pioneer Market in Cashmere. In the Lake Wenatchee area, passes are available Midway Village, Parkside Grocery and Plain Hardware. Interagency Passes are also honored at trailheads and available for purchase at all Ranger Districts.

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