



Snowshoeing at Mt. Spokane State Park

Snowshoeing at Mt. Spokane State Park is generally permitted on any trail with adequate snow cover except for the groomed Nordic ski trails and within the alpine ski area. Snowshoeing is also not recommended on groomed snowmobile trails. A Sno-Park permit is required to park a vehicle in the park during the winter season. The following recommended trails are marked with blue diamonds.

Entrance Loop

Rating: Easy

Round trip: 1.5 miles

Elevation gain: 240'

High point: 3600'

Description: Start at the trail head just past the Park office where there is a vault toilet. Cross the creek on the road and head up the trail marked 121 along a peaceful tributary of Deadman Creek. Turn right onto Trail 120, a groomed snowmobile trail, for a short distance. Then turn right at the next junction on Trail 122 and return.

Burping Brook Loop

Rating: Most Difficult

Round trip: 6 miles

Elevation gain: 1080'

High point: 4980'

Description: Start at the Lower KC Loop Road parking lot. Cross the plowed road and hike past the gate on the Lower Kit Carson Loop Road. Hike 1.3 miles to Smith Gap where there is a new hut. Just past the vault toilet, head up Trail 140 through 4 switchbacks to the edge of the Kit Carson meadow. Turn right on a new single track trail that leads to Saddle Junction. Turn right on Trail 110 and head back downhill. Bear left where Trail 110 overlaps Trail 100. Continue down on Trail 100, past where 110 splits off, cross the stream on a bridge, and turn right on Trail 103 to the Kit Carson Loop Road. Turn left to return to your car.

Smith Gap Loop

Rating: Easy to More Difficult

Round trip: 3 miles

Elevation gain: 400'

High point: 4200'

Description: Start at the Lower Loop Road parking and hike out the Lower Kit Carson Loop Road. Stay on the Loop Road to Smith Gap, where there is a picnic table and a new hut. Either return the same way, or for more adventure, take the first right uphill onto Trail 100. Climb to the top of a hill and turn right again. The trail may be hard to follow at times, and there is still one unbridged stream which may be difficult to cross. Turning right at any of the remaining junctions will bring you back to the Kit Carson Loop Road. Turn left on the Loop Road to return to the parking lot.

Bald Knob Picnic Area

Rating: Intermediate

Round trip: 2 miles

Elevation gain: 600'

High point: 5120'

Description: Park along the road just north of the snowmobile Sno-Park lot, and hike up Trail 131 on the northwest corner of the road junction. Pass the equipment shed on the left and continue uphill. After reaching the snowmobile trail, turn right. Then turn left on 131 at the

next junction and continue uphill. The summer trail eventually turns left onto the B-29 alpine ski run, but winter hikers must avoid the groomed run by turning left through the sparse trees just below the run. Use caution crossing the small creek then climb straight uphill. Once back on Trail 130, turn left and find the Bald Knob Picnic Shelter straight ahead.

Mt. Spokane Summit Route

Rating: Most Difficult

Round trip: 3.25 miles

Elevation gain: 1,357'

High point: 5883'

Description: Hike to the Bald Knob Picnic Shelter, and then site a straight path between the campground restroom building and the main TV tower on the summit. Watch out for alpine skiers, even though the route is outside of the groomed area. Snow conditions are typically icy and the weather is often windy and foggy, so be prepared! The Vista House is open on weekends between 10:30 and 2:30 for hot drinks, chili, and snacks. Return to Bald Knob via the same route.

CCC Cabin

Rating: Intermediate

Round trip: 4 miles

Elevation gain: 720'

High point: 5240'

Description: Hike to the Bald Knob Picnic Shelter, and find the continuation of Trail 130 across the groomed snowmobile trail from the campground entrance. The trail is marked, but may be difficult to follow. Generally it stays at the same level until reaching a junction with the Kit Carson Loop Road. Instead of going down to the Loop Road, turn right and climb the short hill to the CCC cabin on Beauty Mountain. A wood stove and tables are available inside. A vault toilet is nearby.

Trail 260 Loop (New Route!)

Rating: More Difficult

Round trip: 1.25 miles

Elevation gain: 450'

Start at the Selkirk Lodge. If you don't have the correct parking permit, you can get one from the dispenser in front of the lodge. (See Access Permits on the homepage.) Hike northeast and straight downhill (no trail) and cross the Quartz Mountain Road immediately. Continue straight down the fall line through the trees and turn right once on the Condo Road. Hike on the road, passing a logged area, and turn right after crossing a creek in the trees, uphill, into another small logged area. Watch for pink flagging on the right that marks the start of an old logging road (Trail 260) and follow it back up to your starting point.