



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. The following routes are recommended. For winter parking within the Park, as of 2011, a Discover Pass is required for roadside parking outside of designated Sno-Park lots. A regular Sno-Park is required at the Lower Loop Road parking lot during the Sno-Park season (November-April). A Discover Pass is not required for those with a Sno-Park pass. A Sno-Park permit with the additional special grooming sticker is required to park in the snowmobile parking lot and the Selkirk Lodge parking lot. Likewise, the Discover Pass is not simultaneously required. To obtain Sno-Park and Discover Passes online and for more information, go to www.parks.wa.gov.

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, and a Discover Pass is needed for parking. 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 Loop Road parking (Sno-Park permit required). Cross the plowed road and hike past the gate on the Lower Kit Carson Loop Road. Hike 1.3 miles to Smith Gap. Just past the vault toilet, head up Trail 140 through 4 switchbacks to the edge of the Kit Carson meadow. Turn right on a wider trail, slightly uphill. Turn right at the next junction to head downhill to Saddle Junction. Turn right again and head downhill on Trail 110. Bear left where Trail 110 overlaps Trail 100. At the junction with Trail 110, head down Trail 110 if the stream crossing ahead is too difficult. Then turn left on the Kit Carson Loop Road to return to the parking lot.

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 (Sno-Park permit required) and hike out the Lower Kit Carson Loop Road. Stay on the Loop Road to Smith Gap, where there is a picnic table. 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 are several streams 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 (Discover Pass needed), 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 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.