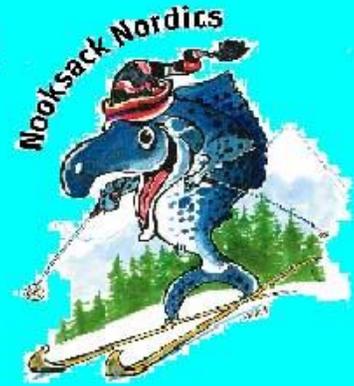


Snow News IS Good News

Newsletter of the Nooksack Nordic Ski Club

P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228
Website: www.Nooksacknordicskiclub.org



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FEBRUARY 2021



Club Meeting – Meet with NNSC on Zoom!

When – Tuesday, February 9th

Check your email or the NNSC website for details and an invitation.

<http://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org/meetings/>

Meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

Who - Anyone is welcome!

Visit Our Website for the Latest Information: www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, February 9, 2021: 7:00 PM – Using the Avenza Mapping App at Salmon Ridge or How to follow the little blue dot on the SnoPark map as you ski around our SnoPark. Join us for an informal Zoom meeting with a chance to ‘meet and greet’ and chat with members of the club. And Pete Tryon will discuss installing the free mapping app, Avenza, on your smartphone (both iPhone and Android) along with the map of our SnoPark. He will show how to use it to keep track of location and distance while skiing. With Zoom’s screen-share option, it is hoped that you can see sufficient details to make it work for you! Want to get a head start? Read [our Avenza page](#) (which is in the process of being updated for the meeting.)

Information about connecting to the Zoom meeting is as follows:

NNSC general membership meeting

Time: Feb 9, 2021 07:00

PM <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83181236671?pwd=UlltcTBaYVF5RkpWdEx3Y3NlL1E2Zz09>

NOTES FROM MEMBERSHIP PERSON

Is this the winter that everyone wants to ski at Salmon Ridge? Is this the winter that you will need to get up early to get a parking spot? Is Nordic skiing the way to enjoy snow, stay socially distant, exercise, and have fun all at the same time? I think it is. Thank you, new members, for your support! In the last 12 months, our club has gained 39 new memberships, both individual and family.

Not only do we have new members, but they are joining us at our monthly Zoom meetings and providing muscle on our work parties. Thank you!

NNSC supports Nordic skiing in Whatcom County through

- Maintaining ski trails at the Salmon Ridge SnoPark with groomed, set classic tracks and a skating lane.
- Up-to-date grooming reports for our trails
- Monthly club meetings and socials
- Organizing trips to Salmon Ridge and other cross country ski areas
- The Nordic Ambassadors – welcoming new participants to winter recreation at the SnoPark.
- Skiing and waxing clinics to help improve techniques
- A monthly (winter) newsletter, *Snow News Is Good News*

So, let’s keep this going. See someone on the trails at White Salmon? Talk to them about what the club does. How about talking with some of your friends and encouraging them to join us? People can join or renew membership online ([Join / Renew | Nooksack Nordic Ski Club](#)). Have an idea that you would like to work on to support Nordic skiing? Let us know!

Interested in the board’s activities? Watch your email for an invite to join one of our Zoom Board meetings, or contact me at pete@tryonhayes.com.

And speaking of wanting to ski at Salmon Ridge – I’m sure that you are aware that there is no snow there (as of January 18). But in checking my notes, the last couple of years have had marginal skiing in January, but pretty nice conditions in February. (and skiing into April, depending on your standards) Maybe this year too!

Hope to see you on the trails!

President, NNSC



PETE TRYON

TRAIL OF THE MONTH - HUCKLEBERRY TRAIL

This is the winter to spend time in our local winter-wonderland! Members of NNSC have been putting in efforts to make our trails more accessible and user friendly. My goal is to make tracks on every one of them this winter!

I started this season, thinking I’d write an article each month about local trails – and that by now I’d be ready to write about a beautiful ski out the groomed tracks of Razor Hone. Unfortunately, that is going to have to wait another month (but the optimist will remind you that oftentimes the snow in January is marginal, but that we have great Februarys! And even Marches!) But enough of dreaming – back to a trail for current conditions.

Ready for a bit more of an adventure? Ready for exploration? How about a hike

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out to the bridge over Bagley Creek, but by way of the Huckleberry Trail? Start in the Salmon Ridge parking lot and hike out the main Razor Hone road trail for 1.3 miles. Or you could take Mom's for a more sylvan feel. 100 feet past the first bridge, look for a well-marked trail heading up the hill to the right. (Thanks, Lynne for the signs!) The trail climbs up through some big trees, levels out a bit, and continues on through the woods, coming out on the Near Cougar Loop. Crossing that, the trail continues on, more or less directly, joining the Cougar Loop again, just before the bridge (turn left when you come out on the main trail). Overlooking the bridge and the little canyon/creek would make a great lunch spot. You could return by way of the Cougar Loop, or back the way that you



came. The round trip from the parking lot is about 5 miles, but you could shorten it by going back at the first Cougar Loop crossing.

The trail is well marked with blue blazes and there is only one tree that you have to duck under. (Well, at least before the last windstorm – but I don't think this trail was affected much by it.)

The trail is ungroomed, but was brushed out this fall by club members. It should be a straightforward hike (although with some uphill portions – and

don't expect a 'hardened' surface – it's a trail through the woods) and should be an ideal snowshoe hike for those looking for something more than the River Trail / Mom's Loop. With good snow conditions, I'd like to ski it with my backcountry skis or my short, wide Hoks, but I might do it as a loop – up Huckleberry and down Cougar.

I looked through my collection for a picture, and couldn't find one – how about sending me one if you are out on this trail?

Check out descriptions of all of our SnoPark trails online at <http://www.nooksacknordicskiclub.org/trails/descriptions/>

Watch your emails for a scheduled ski tour of the Huckleberry Trail this winter! –

PETE TRYON

STRANGE YEAR?

This has been a strange year. The life we are used to has been replaced by something different; new rules and restrictions. While we are currently very much under the sway of this new reality, I hope that in another 12 months, we will find ourselves in a post vaccine world, where we can once again resume our normal lives. With the border shut, most of our ski destinations are unavailable to us. The crowded I-90 SnoPark's do not appeal to me but we also have one of the largest groomed cross-country ski systems in North America just five and one-half hours away in the Methow Valley. I have yet to ski this season and will drive to Winthrop tomorrow (January 19), for four days of skiing. The weather reports look good and I am looking forward to skiing on the many groomed trails in the

Methow Valley. One trip, that's all I have planned this season. The fact is, I will spend most of my free time at Cornwall Park, pulling out invasive weeds.

This is not a good year for travel and it is safer to stay home and stay safe. It is surprising to me, how much I miss skiing at Silver Star or Logan Lake but this year I will have to content myself with my memories of past trips to Canada.

Yes, this year of Covid19, your trip coordinator has no trips to coordinate!

KURT DUEY

SKI TRIPS FOR 2020-2021 AND PROTOCOLS

This season, we will have to take the Covid-19 epidemic into account. Our trips will reflect this current reality. As you probably know, the Canadian Border has been shut to recreationists since March and will not reopen for the foreseeable future. That leaves us with ski opportunities only on this side of the frontier. I have been reviewing our options and would like to share some places we can try this season:

Stevens Pass 2 hr. 22min. The XC area, located off Hgwy.2, is 5 miles east of the summit. They have 30km of trails with elevation 3,000-3,800' stevenspass.com

Lake Wenatchee 2hr. 37min. is over Stevens Pass, then turn off on Rt. 207 for Sno-Parks. Nason Ridge, Wenatchee State Park, Kahler's Glen and Chiwawa Rd. are fairly close to each other and offer 35-40km of trails.

Leavenworth 3hr. Continuing on Hgwy 2 takes you into the town. There is skiing at Icicle, Waterfront Park, Golf Course

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and Ski Hill, for a total of 23 km of trails.

Echo Ridge 4hr. Near Chelan. Drive from Leavenworth to Wenatchee and continue on Hgwy. 97 north along the Columbia River to the turnoff for Chelan. Hgwy. 150 west will take you to Boyd's Rd. and the ski area at 3,400ft.

Methow Valley/Winthrop 5hr. 15Min. Follow Hgwy. 97 north past Chelan Rt. 153 then 20, which will take you through Twisp to Winthrop. The valley has 3 main XC areas; Sun Mt., Rendezvous and Mazama, all connected by the Community Trail, over 200km of groomed trails. Altitude range from 1,500-4,000ft. The area has the second most extensive trails system in the USA.

Loup Loup Pass 5hr.30min. Can be reached by taking Hgwy. 20, just east of Twisp. In about 13mi there is a sno-park on the right, that will access 30km of groomed trails. A bit further down the road is a small downhill area that also has 21km of trails, at elevations of 3,500-4,000ft.

Snoqualmie Pass 2hr. 6Min. Located on I-90, The Summit at Snoqualmie is the commercial downhill area, but there is also 50km of groomed trails and The Summit Nordic Center. You take Exit 54, which takes you to the area known as East and The Summit Nordic Center.

Sno-Parks on Snoqualmie Pass 2hr. 30min. There are a few Sno-Parks near the summit. Cabin Creek, with over 10km. Of groomed trails is 10mi East of the Summit, exit 63.

Mt. Rainier/Tahoma Trails

3hrs. Taking the Nisqually entrance to the park, there are trails by Longmire and Paradise. Near Ashford, there are some Sno-Parks for trails maintained by the Mt. Tahoma Trails Assoc. They have 3 or 4 mountain huts, that can be rented for overnight stays.

As you can see, we still have several interesting areas that are open to our use this season. I offer you the list to help our members plan destinations for their winter adventures.

This year, carpooling is out for anyone not already a member of your "safe" cohort. Likewise, we will not be sharing quarters with those not already on your safe list. This leaves us in a state, where we can ski together but not hang out during our non-ski time.

While this may not be an ideal situation, I realize that for this season, it is the new reality and we will be adhering to only "safe" interactions. I myself, have been avoiding needless social interactions and will be weighing any recreational activities against the possible risk involved. Still, after six months of quarantine, I am ready to get in some skiing this season.

The club has been brushing out the snow shoe trails and getting our ski trails ready for the coming season. I predict that there will be a lot of use this season, as outdoor recreation will be a high priority during the coming winter with many people eager to get out.

KURT DUEY



Kahler Glen at Lake Wenatchee

Nooksack Nordic Ski Club Membership Application and SnoPark Order Form

Use this form to purchase SnoPark permits, join the club or renew your membership. Sign and mail to the club with your check. Or, bring it to the next meeting.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____
Street/PO Box
City
State
Zip

Phone 1: _____ (Home, Cell, Work) Phone 2: _____ (H, C, W)

Email 1: _____ Email 2: _____

Dues and SnoPark Information

Check Membership Level: \$20 Individual _____ \$35 Household _____ Amount \$ _____

SnoPark Permit – Vehicle License Required for Permit: _____ \$40 SnoPark Fee \$ _____
Vehicle License

Optional Donation – we are a 501(c)3 \$ _____

Total membership + SnoPark + Optional \$ _____

Please read this agreement carefully before signing and dating:

In signing and submitting this form, I recognize that cross-country skiing involves strenuous activities, is potentially hazardous, and involves inherent risk. I knowingly and voluntarily assume all responsibility and risk for my actions and my family's actions while cross-country skiing, during travel related to Nooksack Nordic Ski Club (NNSC) activities, and during use of facilities and equipment. This includes, but is not limited to falls, collisions, effects of weather, conditions of equipment and trails and other areas while skiing or participating in NNSC activities. I hereby for myself, my heirs, administrators, or anyone else who may bring claims on my or my family members' behalf, covenant not to sue, release and discharge the NNSC, its Board and Committee members, and all related organizations or individuals, from any and all claims of liability for death, personal injury, or property damage arising from my or my family members' participation in NNSC activities.

Name (Print please): _____

Signature: _____

Other family member(s): _____

Other signatures: _____

Date: _____

I would like to receive Snow News is Good News newsletter by: Email: _____ U.S. mail: _____

Select Club Tasks you could help with:

- Serve on NNSC Board _____
- Clear brush from trails _____
- Find speakers/programs _____
- Put up trail signs and sanican base _____
- Help with Ambassador Days _____
- Write an article for "Snow News" _____
- Audit NNSC financial records _____
- Write a grant, or, fundraising _____
- Lead a ski trip _____

Please make checks out to: Nooksack Nordic Ski Club and mail with this form to:
 Nooksack Nordic Ski Club, P.O. Box 28793, Bellingham, WA 98228

<u>Deposit Date</u>
<u>Sno Park #</u>