

The White Mountains National Recreation Area has more than 200 miles of winter trails offering a variety of challenges and scenery to cross-country skiers, skijorers, dog mushers, snowmachiners, and other experienced winter travelers.

Trailhead parking areas are marked with large highway signs. Trailhead displays provide information on the general area, but are not a replacement for this brochure or topographic maps. The trail routes are intermittently marked with reflective trail markers and have directional signs at trail junctions. In most treeless areas, trails are marked with tripods. Topographic maps are available from the Map Office located on the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus. A georeferenced PDF map of the White Mountains may be downloaded from www.blm.gov/maps.

Trail Conditions

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) attempts to keep the trails packed throughout the winter, but trail conditions can change on a daily basis. Some trails can be difficult to follow in certain weather conditions. You should always carry maps and navigational devices, and be prepared to break trail. A weekly trail conditions report is available at www.blm.gov/visit/white-mountains.

Bureau of Land Management

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Safety

Know Before You Go

Prepare for the unexpected. Even when planning for a day trip, always be prepared to spend the night. Equipment problems, bad weather, or unexpected mishaps can leave you stranded far from help.

File a Trip Plan with a Friend

Always make sure someone knows the following:

- When you plan to leave and return
- Where you are going
- The color, type, and license plate number of your vehicle
- What survival gear you are taking

Emergency and Survival Gear

Be sure to carry at least the following:

- Dry matches, lighter, and fire starter
- Metal pot for boiling water, and extra food
- Sleeping bag, ground pad, and space blanket
- Spare socks, gloves, hat and face mask, snowshoes
- Maps, compass, and first-aid kit
- Axe or handsaw and sharp knife
- Equipment repair tools and spare parts

Unpredictable Conditions

Plan for cold weather, high winds (especially above timberline), deep snow, and unexpected changes in weather. The temperatures in the White Mountains may be as much as 25 degrees colder than in Fairbanks! Be alert for common but often hidden hazards such as thin ice, open leads, and overflow.



Limestone Jags, White Mountains

White Mountains National Recreation Area

Winter Trail Use

Winter trails in the White Mountains National Recreation Area are shared by many types of users such as dog mushers, skiers, skijorers, and snowmachiners. Trapping is allowed in the White Mountains, so dog owners should be alert if they see signs of a nearby trapline.

Motorized Use

The area is open to motorized vehicles, including snowmachines, with a curb weight 1,000 pounds or less, from October 15 to April 30, except as noted below.

- The Ski Loop Trail and Summit Trail are closed to all motorized vehicles.
- Research Natural Areas (RNAs) are closed to all motorized vehicles at all times so they can be preserved in a natural state for research. Camping is allowed in the RNAs.

Contact BLM for an OHV Area Designation Map for more details.

Non-motorized Trails

The Ski Loop Trail begins and ends at the Wickersham Dome Trailhead at Mile 28 Elliott Highway. This moderately challenging, five-mile trail starts on Summit Trail and climbs above timberline for views of the Alaska Range and Denali. The trail descends through a forested area before connecting with Wickersham Creek Trail.

Wickersham Dome, an alpine area suitable for off-trail skiing and camping, can be reached via the Ski Loop and Summit trails. A small, 10-foot by 10-foot trail shelter is located about 8 miles from the trailhead. This cabin is minimally furnished and does not have a woodstove.

Cover photo: Caribou Bluff Cabin, 10 x 12 ft, sleeps 4
GPS: 65.47179 -147.57262

Cabins

Eleven cozy log cabins have been built at scenic locations along the White Mountains winter trail system to enhance the safety and comfort of your winter adventure. An additional road-accessible cabin, the Fred Blixt Cabin, is located at mile 62.5 Elliott Highway.

Reservations

Public recreation use cabins must be reserved in advance and paid for at the time you make your reservations. Shelter cabins are first-come, first-served. Reservations can be made on the Recreation.gov website or by telephone (toll-free) at 1-877-444-6777. A credit card is required for payment. If you need help with trip planning or making reservations, please stop by the BLM Public Information Center in Fairbanks at 222 University Avenue or call 907-474-2200.

Reservations may be made up to 30 days in advance. Stays are limited to three consecutive nights per cabin. Weekends, holidays, and spring breaks are peak use times. Reservations are from noon to noon. Rangers will issue citations to people using cabins without reservations and proof of payment, so don't forget your cabin permit!

Firewood and Water

Firewood is plentiful near some cabins and scarce at others; carry firewood with you, cut some along the way, or be prepared to cut wood upon your arrival. Be sure to cut only dead trees. Cut standing trees at ground level so stumps do not pose a hazard to trail users. Please replace all the wood you burn, and leave a supply of dry kindling and wood in the cabin for the next person. The only sources of water are melted snow and creeks.



Wolf Run Cabin: 12 x 16 ft, sleeps 6.
GPS: 65.55504 -147.65593

Cabin Accommodations

All cabins have a cooking area, table, bunks, and a nearby outhouse. All cabins have a woodstove except the Summit Trail Shelter. The cabins are of different sizes and design, and the number of people they can sleep varies.

The BLM equips each of the shelters and cabins with the following:

- Propane cookstove
- Fire extinguisher
- Propane lantern
- Broom and dustpan
- Axe and bow saw
- Outdoor thermometer
- Shovel
- Cabin logbook

The BLM cannot ensure the condition of these items. Please do not remove them from the cabin, and notify BLM if they are broken or missing. Please leave the cabin clean and ready for the next user.

The following items are not provided, so be sure to bring:

- Propane canisters for the cookstove and lantern
- Personal camping, cooking, and survival gear
- Spare tube-style lantern mantles and candles
- Two, AA-sized batteries for the smoke detector

Backcountry Etiquette

The Alaska Spirit

- Replace the firewood you burn—use only dead trees.
- Leave dry kindling in the cabin for the next person.
- Burn all food scraps and paper, including toilet paper—haul out all non-burnable trash.
- Remove food from cabins—it attracts unwanted animals.
- Ensure the fire is out, clean the cabin, and close the door, windows, and shutters before leaving.
- Leave all BLM-supplied items in the cabin, and notify BLM if things are missing or broken.
- Dogmushers: clean up after your dogs and dump waste materials far from the cabin.
- Respect the privacy of those who have reserved a cabin—don't ask to share the cabin, and camp at least one mile away.

- Do not shoot within one-quarter mile of the cabins.
- Do not disturb trapping activities in the area.
- Camp at least 25 feet away from the trail. Do not camp or build fires on the trail.
- Operation of motorized vehicles, including snowmachines, while intoxicated is prohibited.

Rules of the Road

- When meeting head-on, snowmachiners should pull off the trail and turn their engines off to let dog teams, skijorers, and skiers pass.
- When approaching from behind, snowmachiners should slow down and wait until the traveler in front signals that it is okay to pass.
- When dog teams want to pass, skiers and skijorers should move to the side of the trail and restrain their dogs.
- Slower mushers should move to the side of the trail to allow faster dog teams to pass.



Trails are marked with tripods in treeless areas.

White Mountains National Recreation Area

Winter Map & Guide

Cabins and GPS coordinates
 *GPS coordinates are approximate and intended to serve as a general reference only. All coordinates are given in decimal degrees from WGS84 datum.

White Mountains National Recreation Area

Winter Trails and Cabins

Location of area shown on map



Eleazar's Cabin: 12 x 16 ft, sleeps 6
 GPS: 65.27905 -147.87588



Colorado Creek Cabin: 12 x 16 ft, sleeps 4
 GPS: 65.49254 -147.89808



Cache Mountain Cabin: 12 x 16 ft, sleeps 6
 GPS: 65.42674 -147.24226



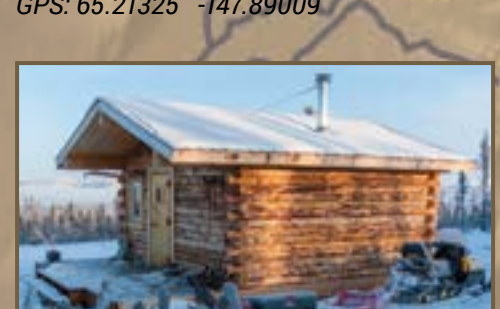
Windy Gap Cabin: 12 x 16 ft, sleeps 4
 GPS: 65.57838 -147.42506



Fred Blixt Cabin: 12 x 16 ft, sleeps 4
 GPS: 65.48648 -148.38692



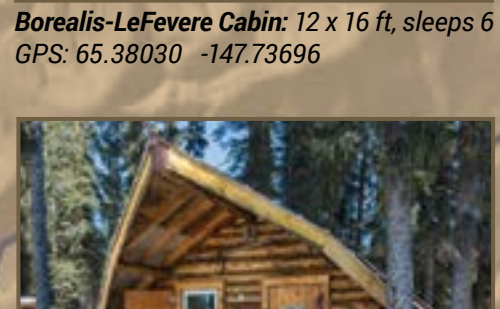
Lee's Cabin: 12 x 16 ft, sleeps 6
 GPS: 65.21325 -147.89009



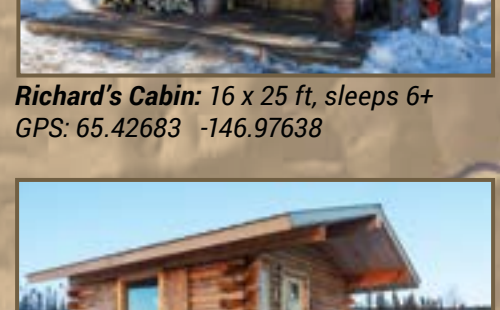
Crowberry Cabin: 16 x 16 ft, sleeps 6
 GPS: 65.32035 -147.46067



Borealis-LeFevre Cabin: 12 x 16 ft, sleeps 6
 GPS: 65.38030 -147.73696



Richard's Cabin: 16 x 25 ft, sleeps 6+
 GPS: 65.42683 -146.97638



Moose Creek Cabin: 16 x 16 ft, sleeps 6
 GPS: 65.22630 -147.60482

Legend

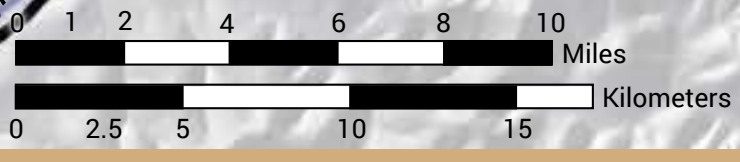
- BLM White Mountains National Recreation Area
- Research Natural Area (RNA)
- River or Creek
- Paved Road
- Gravel Road
- Winter Trail
- P Parking
- ? Information
- ♿ Vault Toilet
- ⛺ Campground (not maintained in winter)
- ⛷ Winter Recreation Area Access
- 🏠 Public Recreation Use Cabin
- 🛖 Shelter Cabin
- 🐾 Dog Sledding
- 👤 Snowshoeing
- 🎿 Skiing and Skijoring
- 🌨 Snowmachining

Wickersham Dome Trailhead
 MP 27.7

Colorado Creek Trailhead
 MP 57.1

McKay Creek Trailhead
 MP 42.5

U.S. Creek Trailhead
 MP 27.7



Mileage Chart

Mileages given are the shortest distances between cabins on BLM-maintained trails. Miles are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Do not navigate from this map.

| | Wickersham Dome Trailhead | Lee's Cabin | Summit Trail Shelter | Eleazar's Cabin | Wickersham Creek Trail Shelter | Borealis-LeFevre Cabin | Caribou Bluff Cabin | Windy Gap Cabin | Moose Creek Cabin | Crowberry Cabin | Cache Mountain Cabin | Colorado Creek Trailhead | Colorado Creek Cabin | Wolf Run Cabin | Richard's Cabin | McKay Creek Trailhead | U.S. Creek Trailhead |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Wickersham Dome Trailhead | 0 | 7 | 8 | 12 | 11 | 21 | 29 | 39 | 16 | 27 | 39 | 48 | 34 | 39 | 53 | 60 | 71 |
| Lee's Cabin | 7 | 0 | 15 | 7 | 6 | 15 | 24 | 34 | 10 | 20 | 32 | 43 | 29 | 34 | 46 | 53 | 64 |
| Summit Trail Shelter | 8 | 15 | 0 | 19 | 18 | 12 | 21 | 32 | 24 | 35 | 47 | 41 | 27 | 31 | 61 | 68 | 79 |
| Eleazar's Cabin | 12 | 7 | 19 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 19 | 29 | 11 | 21 | 33 | 38 | 24 | 29 | 47 | 54 | 65 |
| Wickersham Creek Trail Shelter | 11 | 6 | 18 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 18 | 28 | 9 | 20 | 32 | 37 | 23 | 28 | 46 | 53 | 64 |
| Borealis-LeFevre Cabin | 21 | 15 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 0 | 9 | 20 | 18 | 29 | 41 | 30 | 16 | 19 | 55 | 62 | 73 |
| Caribou Bluff Cabin | 29 | 24 | 21 | 19 | 18 | 9 | 0 | 12 | 27 | 38 | 35 | 31 | 17 | 12 | 55 | 61 | 72 |
| Windy Gap Cabin | 39 | 34 | 32 | 29 | 28 | 20 | 12 | 0 | 36 | 35 | 23 | 32 | 19 | 9 | 43 | 49 | 60 |
| Moose Creek Cabin | 17 | 10 | 25 | 10 | 9 | 19 | 28 | 37 | 10 | 22 | 47 | 33 | 38 | 37 | 44 | 55 | |
| Crowberry Cabin | 27 | 20 | 35 | 21 | 20 | 29 | 38 | 35 | 11 | 12 | 57 | 44 | 44 | 26 | 33 | 44 | |
| Cache Mountain Cabin | 39 | 32 | 47 | 33 | 32 | 41 | 35 | 23 | 23 | 12 | 55 | 41 | 32 | 20 | 36 | 37 | |
| Colorado Creek Trailhead | 48 | 43 | 41 | 38 | 37 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 46 | 57 | 55 | 0 | 14 | 23 | 75 | 80 | 92 |
| Colorado Creek Cabin | 34 | 29 | 27 | 24 | 23 | 16 | 17 | 19 | 32 | 44 | 41 | 14 | 0 | 10 | 62 | 67 | 79 |
| Wolf Run Cabin | 39 | 34 | 31 | 29 | 28 | 19 | 12 | 9 | 37 | 44 | 32 | 23 | 10 | 0 | 51 | 57 | 69 |
| McKay Creek Trailhead | 53 | 46 | 61 | 47 | 46 | 55 | 55 | 43 | 38 | 26 | 20 | 75 | 62 | 51 | 0 | 21 | 32 |
| Richard's Cabin | 60 | 53 | 68 | 54 | 53 | 62 | 61 | 49 | 45 | 33 | 26 | 80 | 67 | 57 | 21 | 0 | 25 |
| U.S. Creek Trailhead | 71 | 64 | 79 | 65 | 64 | 73 | 72 | 60 | 56 | 44 | 37 | 92 | 79 | 69 | 32 | 25 | 0 |

Download BLM's georeferenced PDF map of the White Mountains National Recreation Area for your smart phone or tablet. Instructions and maps are available at www.blm.gov/maps



Mt. Schwatka
 4,177 ft

Victoria Mountain
 4,588 ft

Lime Peak
 5,062 ft

Mt. Prindle
 5,286 ft

Serpentine Slide RNA
 All RNAs are closed to motorized vehicles at all times.

Limestone Jags RNA
 All RNAs are closed to motorized vehicles at all times.

Mt. Prindle RNA
 All RNAs are closed to motorized vehicles at all times.

Chatanika
 MP 27.9

Olmes
 MP 9.2

Cleary Summit
 MP 20.3

Fox
 MP 0 (Elliott Hwy)
 MP 11 (Steese Hwy)

Fairbanks
 MP 0 (Steese Highway)