

NORDIC SKIING



When the sun shines in the winter, powder can play second fiddle to a fresh groomer...a staple for Nordic skiers and something McCall has plenty of. McCall's broad network of trails and skiable terrain mean that all types of skiers can find an escape in McCall.



PRO TIP:

MANY RECREATION AREAS ARE OUT OF CELL RANGE. DOWNLOAD MAPS, DIRECTIONS AND GUIDES BEFORE SETTING OUT ON YOUR ADVENTURE!

FIND MORE TIPS & INFO



VISITMCCALL.ORG



Nordic skiing has been a staple in the mountains around McCall since the Finnish and Scandinavian settlers first homesteaded here in the 1880s. While the equipment has made leaps and bounds since the 1880s, the exhilaration of flying along on “skinny skis” remains the same. Not only is Nordic skiing a workout, it is an easy way to enjoy the peace and solitude of a winter forest.

We rounded up some of our favorite Nordic trails around the McCall area to get you started:

BEAR BASIN

QUICK AND EASY: JUST RIGHT

As the name implies, Just Right is about as good as it gets for an easy loop with your four-legged friend. This trail also provides a great opportunity to add in some distance or figure-eight through the meadows if you want to extend the route.

ENDURANCE: LYLE’S LOOP

To really experience Bear Basin, head out from the trailhead and link all of the outer loops together. This route skis well in either direction and offers scenic views of the Seven Devils Mountains culminating with a sweeping panorama on Lyle’s Loop.

PONDEROSA STATE PARK

QUICK AND EASY: EASY DOES IT LOOP

This loop is perhaps the best beginner route you could ask for with a few great views of Payette Lake. To avoid downhill, ski this trail clockwise from the Activity Center.

ENDURANCE: RE-MASTERED RACE ROUTE

This loop covers just about every trail used during the 2008 World Masters and runs from top to bottom along the peninsula. Starting from the Activity Center, take Northern Lights and wind your way up to Thread the Needle before heading back down Fox Run. For a detailed map of this championship route, visit mccallnordic.com.



SPRING SKIING CRUST-CRUIISING

In the springtime, snow conditions align for a magical cross-country experience known as crust-cruising. If the days are warm and the nights are cold, the snow crusts over and enables skiers venture just about anywhere on the valley floor...no trail needed!



ACTIVITY BARN + NORTH VALLEY RAIL TRAIL

The Activity Barn offers a great 5k loop for anyone looking for a quick adventure in the fresh winter air. There is no fee to ski the trail. The Activity Barn loop also connects into the North Valley Rail Trail which runs south to Heinrich Lane. The rail trail is maintained by Valley County Pathways and there is no fee to use this trail. Originally a Union Pacific railroad track, the line was retired in 1979. It now provides a scenic, multi-use pathway. The North Valley Rail Trail is a wide, gently rolling route perfect for first-timers or pros after a sun-filled ski. Dogs welcome!

JUG MOUNTAIN RANCH

QUICK AND EASY: FENCELINE - HARPER’S LOOP - LOWER HOOT - GULLY

From the Clubhouse, head out on Fenceline and connect with Harper’s Loop and Lower Hoot. To keep it short and sweet, take Gully back to the Clubhouse or extend your ski by adding some short climbs with Up & Over and Harper’s Cutoff.

ENDURANCE: RESERVOIR LOOP

Take South Boundary to the Upper Jug Reservoir and ski the reservoir loop. On the way back down to the Clubhouse, choose to take South Boundary for a gentler descent. For an exciting ride to the bottom, both Mainline and Around the Mountain are the way to go.

TAMARACK RESORT

QUICK AND EASY: PELICAN

Head south from the Nordic Center to find long, easy, semi-flat skiing. While there are a few short climbs along this route, the terrain is rolling with minimal climbing required

ENDURANCE: PELICAN - REDTAIL - MERLIN LOOP

Run the full gamut of Nordic terrain with this sweeping loop. Cruise the meadow along Pelican then connect the loop by climbing to Redtail and Merlin.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR NORDIC AREAS:
MCCALLNORDIC.COM