



2017-18 NSCF TOUR SCHEDULE

The following are Nordic Ski Club of Fairbanks tours that have been scheduled so far. Tours will be added as tour leaders step forward to volunteer and set dates. Some are already being planned! For any questions or to volunteer to lead a tour please contact one of our Tour Coordinators at:

- Touring [at] nscfairbanks.org
OR
- Mike Schmoker: msfbcski [at] gmail.com; 455-6848
- Eric Troyer: fbxs skierparent [at] gmail.com; 455-6641

PLANNED TOURS THIS SEASON

ALPA [Alaska Long Phase Array]-C Trail at Cleary-Summit

When: Sunday, 18 March 2018

Start time and place: Meet at Fox General Store parking lot at 11 AM. Car pool to start off the Ft. Knox Rd. where we may have to shovel out parking spot (so bring shovels).

Estimated tour time: About 4 hours

Description: Intermediate/advanced-level ski, out and back on occasionally snowmobiled ALPA-C trail on ridge with fine views of the Chena Domes. One or two big hills probably not walkable this season due to deep snow. Skins can be very useful, if you have them. Usually warmer up here as the sun returns. High Gateway to the Fairbanks Creek gold workings. Dogs welcomed.

Leader: PS Marshall (457-3895 or @ Cleary 389-2449; <pmarshall[at]acetekk.com>)

Previous Tours below:

PREVIOUS TOURS THIS SEASON

Gunn Creek “Red Hot Mama” Roundtrip:

When: Sunday, 25 February 2018.

Start time and place: Meet at UAF/CRREL Permafrost Tunnel parking lot off the New Steese before Fox at 11:00 am.

Estimated tour time: 2.5-4 hours,

Description: Advanced-intermediate level; rolling terrain with long climb up (if have skins, please bring) through mixed forest, then rollicking descent with best woody turns anywhere. Usually cold, but we climb out of inversion into warmer temps. Maybe there will be caribou soup at the top’s “Luluville.” Canines welcome.

Leader: Philip Marshall, 457-3895; pmarshall (at) acetekk.com

East Cleary-Summit to Chatanika Lodge via Margaret’s Corner

When: Sunday, 11 February

Start time and place: 11am, meet at Skiland Road parking lot with the DOTPF videocam just off the Steese Highway

Estimated tour time: 2-4 hours

Description: Carpool to old FE Co at Chatanika to place car at tour’s end, then backtrack to start at ridge above Cleary-Steese Col. Advanced/intermediate ski with variable terrain and some steep downhills and tight turns (most can be traversed or walked); skins advisable, if have. Beautiful forest past historic Davidson Ditch to end at old FE Co, but not before overflow at base of Lulu Creek and crossing the tailings on a new end to this tour. Can be extremely cold down in this valley. Recommend bringing lunch/snack. K-9s welcome.

Leader: Philip S. Marshall (457-3895 or @ Cleary 389-2449; pmarshall@acetekk.com)

East End of Puchtler Trail & Sutherland’s Telemark Trail Roundtrip

When: Sunday, 4 February 2018

Start time and place: Meet at 10:45 AM at the Fox General Store.

Estimated tour time: 2-3 hours

Description: Intermediate/advanced level skiing. Descend from ~4-Mile Old Murphy Dome on snowmobiled-trail (good base) with fresh snow (2/1/2018) through pretty mixed woods that receive direct sunlight now, all covered with over 30” snow depth. We’ll branch off onto Sutherland’s telemark trail that has been brushed out and is in superb condition to descend mildly wildly to El Dorado Creek and the old miner’s log cabin on that trail. Return via same route where softer waxes should permit climbing, though if you own skins, bring. This area is under active consideration by the Borough for sale and consequent development by mining and tourism. Awareness of its nature behooves an informed public. Any and all canines welcome.

Leader: Philip S. Marshall (457-3859; pmarshall@acetekk.com)

“Mysterious Mountain” Roundtrip

When: Sunday, 21 January 2018

Start time and place: Meet at 10:30 AM at the Fox General Store.

Estimated tour time: 4-5 hours

Description: Advanced level skiing. Starts with level skiing on an old road for 1.5 miles, then climbs 1500' up a snowmobile trail for 2.5 miles or so through beautiful woods to the summit. May or may not be broken out. Skins mandatory. Superlative panoramic views, if clear. Descent via our tracks up. Strong snowplow technique, "Granny gear" ski pole drag, Mongolian pole brake, or walking all useful techniques. With fresh snow this is one of the most challenging and invigorating descents in the area. Canines always welcome.

Leader: Philip S. Marshall (457-3859; pmarshall@acetekk.com)

Try Tanana Lakes!

When: Sunday, January 7, 2018

Start time and place: 1pm, Tanana Lakes Recreation Area Boat Ramp

Estimated tour time: A couple of hours

Description: If you are new to skiing, or just want a decent flat tour Tanana Lakes should be on your list. Tanana Lakes is the Fairbanks North Star Boroughs newest park and is located at the South end of Cushman Street, past Northland Wood. The entrance to the park is well marked. Trails are groomed or sometimes not. This will be a classical ski tour. Friendly dogs are welcome. Tour will be cancelled if it is -20 degrees at the airport at noon.

Leader: Barb O'Donnell (home 479-0302; cell 590-2942)

Moose Mountain Sunrise Tour

When: Saturday, December 23, 2017

Start time and place: Be ready to ski at 10:00 AM! Meet at the Bakers' house @ 3020 Moose Mountain Road, 2.2 miles up Moose Mountain Road from Spinach Creek Road; driveway is on the left hand side and will be marked with ORANGE cones.

Estimated tour time: 2.5 to 3 hours

Description: The distance is up to 10 miles on an out-and-back trail system. The Tour will start with a long climb, steep at times, for most of the first 2 miles, then it's rolling and flatter sections along the ridge top, with an amazing view of the Alaska Range to the south and White Mountains to the north. The trail will be freshly groomed at least 8' wide, and we should be up high enough to see the sunrise just after 11:00 am. It's a fun trip back down, but skiers must be confident with their snowplowing abilities. The snow will be very well groomed and will make for very easy snowplowing. There will be NO CANCELLATION, we sometimes get as much as a 30-degree-plus inversion up here. The starting and lowest point is 200 feet higher than the top of Birch Hill. Bring some wind gear just in case, and we'll let you know if you'd need it that morning, as the trail grooming will be done an hour before we start. No classic tracks, just corduroy, so skate or classic skis both will be fine.

Leaders: Bad Bob and Sharon Baker (455-6689)

Special Note: Must R.S.V.P. so we have hot drinks and recovery food inside after the TOUR for everyone

Fairbanks-Circle Trail Out & Back

When: Sunday, December 17, 2017

Start time and place: Meet at Skiland Road pullout just off the Steese Highway at 11 AM.

Estimated tour time: Beginner level, 3-4 hours.

Description: Rolling terrain out at Cleary-Summit crossing Skiland then on to the unplowed Fairbanks Creek Road leading to the old Fairbanks-Circle Trail (snowmobiled). We shall sally as far as people wish, then return the same route. Great views of the Alaska Range and the White Mountains. Usually warmer up at this elevation. We stop for a snack enroute. Return to Janheim for cocoa and chili. No temperature cut-off. ANY AND ALL CANINES ARE MOST WELCOME.

Leaders: Philip S. Marshall and Jan Lokken Marshall (H: 457-3895, or pmarshall@acetekk.com; @ Cleary: 389-2449)

Annual Pre-Solstice Ski Tour: East Eldorado Ridge to Goldstream Road

When: Saturday, December 16, 2017

Start time and place: 11am, pullout across from Buck's Drive on Goldstream Road

Estimated time: 4-plus hours

Description: Start with a short car shuttle to the trailhead at the top of Waterford Road. This is a long ski along the top of the ridge to the east of Eldorado Creek and then dropping down to Eldorado Creek Trail and skiing back to our cars. A short section will involve good snow plowing or telemarking skills.

Leader: Mike Schmoker ([msfbcski \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:msfbcski@gmail.com); 455-6848)

Note: Will be cancelled if 20 below at the airport

Rat Ponds Tour

When: Sunday December 10, 2017

Canceled if airport temp is 20 below and colder at 11 am.

(<https://weather.com/weather/today/l/FAI:9:US>)

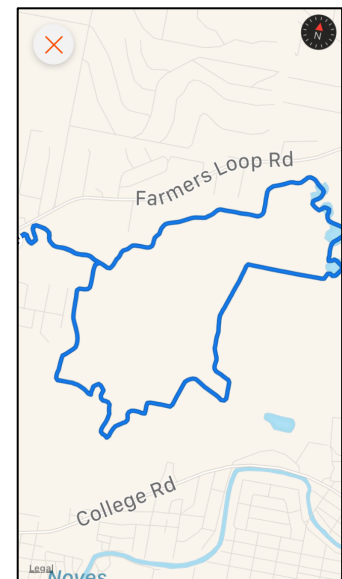
Start time and place: 11 a.m. at Beaver Sports parking lot.

Estimated tour time: 2-3 hours

Description: We will take a short fatbike trail to the mushing trails and go around the "19.8 Mile" loop but divert through Rat Ponds, a series of small lakes. Official lake names include Star and Caribou Lakes. With luck we will have shallow set tracks. Chris Broda's phone app made attached GPS track. (The map shows last year's trip, when we started at the golf course, which is now closed, thus the switch to Beaver Sports.)

No dogs please. Beginners welcome!

Leader: Stan Justice: 712-4035 or [stanjustice \(at\) acsalaska.net](mailto:stanjustice@acsalaska.net)



Rosie Creek Ramble

When: Sunday, November 19, 2017

Start time and place: 11am, Rosie Creek Trail (see directions below)

Estimated tour time: 1.5 to 2 hours

Description: A mellow 4-mile ski on the Rosie Creek trails. Beginners very welcome as is anyone who would like an introduction to the huge system of unmaintained ski trails out there. The

trail crosses a small beaver pond, then gently climbs up a ridge into warmer temperatures. After following the ridge for nearly a mile, it loops back down to where we started. No cancellation temperature.

We will meet at a small pull off on the side of Rosie Creek Trail. To get there, take the Parks Highway to Cripple Creek and drive down it until it becomes a dirt road. The next right is Rosie Creek, and the pull off is a little over a mile down. I'll be there in a red pickup truck with a friendly white dog who loves company.

Leader: Steven Hansen (stevenseanhansen (at) gmail.com; 799-5627)