



## Hatcher Pass – East Side, Summit Lake and Independence Mine Winter Recreation Conditions

April 12, 2024

Park Facility	Snowmobile Status	New Snow	Ave. Snow Depth	Conditions
Gold Mint Trailhead	<b>OPEN</b>	13+”	60+”	<b>Parking &amp; camping fee. No cash accepted.</b>
Gold Mint Trail	<b>NON-MOTOR</b>	13+”	60+”	Foot/ski packed for first 2 miles under new snow.
Archangel Trailhead	<b>NON-MOTOR</b>	15+”	62+”	<b>\$ 5 parking fee. Cash only.</b> Ski trail groomed 4/9
Archangel Valley	<b>OPEN</b>	15+”	62+”	Variable snow depths.
Fishhook Trailhead	<b>OPEN</b>	17+”	65+”	<b>Parking &amp; camping fee. No cash accepted.</b>
Independence Mine Bowl	<b>NON-MOTOR</b>	20+”	72-84+”	<b>Parking fee. No cash accepted.</b> Ski trail groomed 4/11
Summit Lake SRS	<b>OPEN</b>	20+”	45-84+”	Variable snow depths.
Mile 16 Ski Run	<b>NON-MOTOR</b>	17+”	60+”	POW, POW, POW.

New snow depths reflect totals as of 11 AM on 4/12. Snow was still falling heavily at that time. DOT made a few passes up to Independence Bowl prior to 11 AM with road narrowing to 1 ½ lanes past Fishhook. Some parking cleared at Independence Bowl and a loop around Gold Mint parking lot. High winds prior to the big snowfall. Drive and recreate for the conditions presented. Be patient as field staff dig out latrines and fee stations on Saturday morning. Make way for DOT plow trucks.

With fresh pow and sunny skies forecasted for this weekend, be mindful of safe travel practices in your group but as well as those recreating adjacent to your group. Anticipate increased avalanche potential. **Hatcher Pass is an AVALANCHE HAZARD AREA**. Visit [hpavalanche.org](https://hpavalanche.org) for the forecast Saturday morning at 7AM and view [Current Weather Information](#). Always carry a beacon, shovel and probe and continue to practice their use. Avalanche beacon checkers are located at Gold Mint, Fishhook and Independence Bowl fee stations. See attached Avalanche Hazard map for known avalanche paths.

### **SNOWMACHINE INFORMATION: ALL WINTER MOTORIZED AREAS OPEN**

Please see the attached map and FAQ for general riding/parking information. Remain within motorized boundaries to reduce conflict with other users. Snowmachines must be currently registered and properly displayed to operate on public lands. Many boundary markers may be buried due to recent heavy snowfall.

A \$5 day-use fee or annual parking pass is required at most trailheads throughout the area.

2024 Annual Parking and Boat Launch Passes are available online at [AlaskaStateParks.org](https://AlaskaStateParks.org) or in-person at AKtive Soles located at 984 N Meridian Place in Wasilla or 642 S. Alaska St. Suite 100 in Palmer.

Click the link to visit [Alaska State Parks](https://AlaskaStateParks.org) online for current conditions and for questions, call (907) 745-3975.



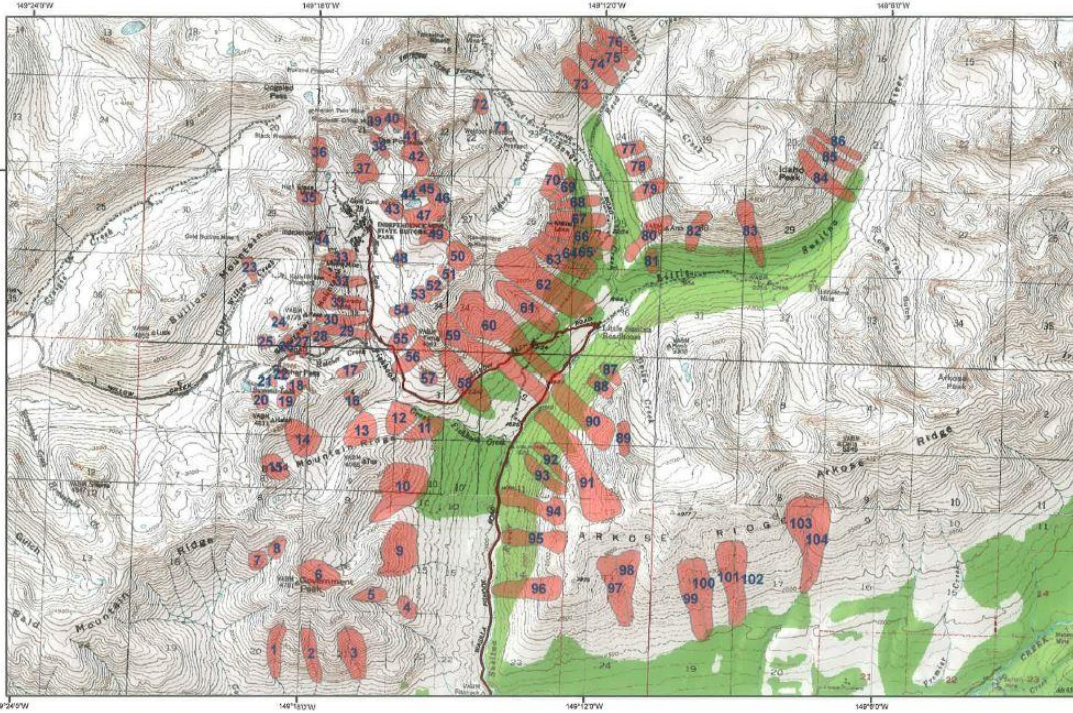
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## AVALANCHE PATHS OF HATCHER PASS AREA, ALASKA

### AVALANCHE PATHS

1. Government PK S 1
2. Government PK S 2
3. Government PK S 3
4. Upper Glades
5. Seldom Seen Bowl
6. Upper Government PK 1
7. Frostbite Ridge
8. Sunnyvale
9. Fat Bob
10. Torch Light
11. Women's Run
12. Bear Den 1
13. Bear Den 2
14. Hatcher Ridge South
15. Hatcher Ridge North
16. April Bowl
17. Lake Run
18. Pass Saddle 1
19. Pass Saddle 2
20. Gold Duck Fault
21. W Skyscraper 2
22. W Skyscraper 3
23. Skyscraper 2
24. Skyscraper 1
25. Skyscraper Pk 1
26. Skyscraper Pk 2
27. Eldorado
28. Martin Mill
29. Portal Slide
30. High Grade
31. Friendship Pass
32. Death Traverse
33. Rock Garden
34. Upper Rock Garden
35. Upper Rock Garden 2
36. Pinnacle 1
37. Pinnacle 2
38. Gold Cord Lake 1
39. Gold Cord Lake 2
40. Gold Cord Lake 3
41. Gold Cord Lake 4
42. Rose Blod
43. Rose Wallace
44. Bevilmin Tim's
45. Marmot Chute 1
46. Marmot Chute 2
47. Marmot Chute 3



### AVALANCHE PATHS

53. Marmot Chute 4
54. Lodge Slide
55. W Marmot 1
56. W Marmot 2
57. Fishhook
58. Marmot Gully 3
59. Marmot Gully 2
60. Marmot Gully 1
61. Archangel 1
62. Archangel 2
63. Archangel 3
64. Archangel 4
65. Archangel 5
66. Mabel 1
67. Mabel 2
68. Mabel 3
69. Sidney Creek N
70. Sidney Creek S
71. Arch Prospect
72. Webfoot Prospect
73. Reed Trail 1
74. Reed Trail 2
75. Reed Trail 3
76. Snowbird
77. Idaho Ridge 1
78. Idaho Ridge 2
79. Idaho Ridge 3
80. Divide Ridge 1
81. Divide Ridge 2
82. Beaver Dam
83. Gold Mine 1
84. Gold Mine 2
85. Gold Mine 3
86. Idaho Peak SE 3
87. Arkose
88. Arkose Ridge 6
89. Della
90. Arkose Ridge 5
91. Stairstep Run
92. Arkose Ridge 4
93. Arkose Ridge 3
94. Waterfall
95. Arkose Ridge 2
96. Arkose Ridge 1
97. Arkose S 1
98. Arkose S 2
99. Arkose S 3
100. Arkose S 4
101. Arkose S 5
102. Arkose S 6
103. Arkose S 7
104. Arkose S 8



Douglas Scott 20050  
AVALANCHEMAPPING.ORG  
247, 637B, S. BROADWAY  
BOULDER, CO. 80305



THIS DATASET IS TO BE USED AS REFERENCE ONLY  
AND IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR SKILL, EXPERIENCE  
AND PROPER EDUCATION. AVALANCHEMAPPING.ORG  
IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURY, ACCIDENT  
OR DEATH AS A RESULT OF USING THIS DATASET.

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NAD 83 UTM 8

Data Sources: USGS DTM's and DEM's  
Avalanche data referenced from Alaska  
State Parks and Avalanche Mapping  
GPS collection. It does not represent all the  
possible avalanches that could occur.



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## Snowmachine FAQ

### **Where do I park?**

Parking for trucks without trailers is available at Mile 17.5 (just below Hatcher Pass lodge on the left.) Parking for vehicles with trailers is available at Gold Mint (large parking lot at the hairpin turn before going up the hill) and Fishhook (large parking lot on the right just past mile 16.) All parking areas are marked with a brown snowmachine sign. **No parking or unloading at Independence Bowl.** (large parking lot past Hatcher Pass Lodge)

### **Why does my snowmachine have to be registered?**

AS 28.39.010: A person may not operate a snowmobile within the state unless the snowmobile has been registered and numbered as required by this chapter.

Snowmachine registration dollars go into the SnowTRAC program which is now administered by the Department of Transportation. Groups around the state, including the Hatcher Pass Snow Riders Club, receive these funds to groom trails and improve motorized access throughout the state. HPSRC has already been out working to mark the trail this season and will begin grooming after equipment maintenance is complete. Groomed trails provide more access to grow the community.

Visit <https://doa.alaska.gov/dmv/reg/snow.htm> or your local DMV for more information about how to register a snowmachine.

### **Where can I ride? See attached map. All areas in red are non-motorized.**

Fishhook to Summit Lake is open providing access to the West Side of Hatcher Pass. Follow the trail markers from Fishhook and either continue to Hatcher Pass Lodge (private property) or cross the road to follow Willow-Fishhook to the West Side.

Gold Mint to Archangel Valley is open. Trail is marked. Boundaries marked by no snowmachine signs. Stay off the groomed ski trail and cross only at the designated, marked point.

Gold Mint to Fishhook is open. Trail is marked. Boundaries marked by no snowmachine signs. Stay off the groomed ski trail and cross only between yellow markers.

### **What can I ride?**

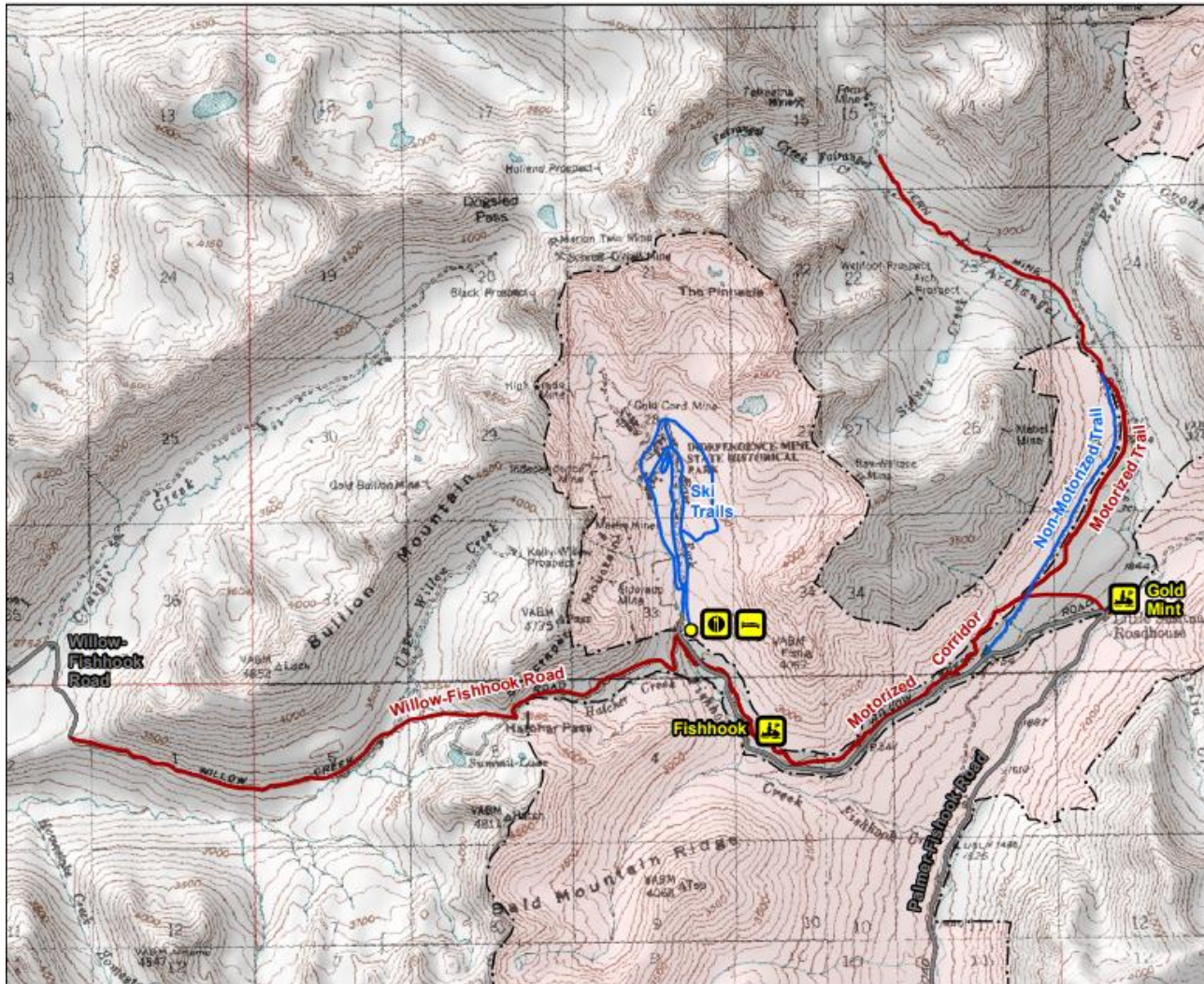
A snowmachine is defined by regulation as a self-propelled vehicle that:

- is primarily designed or altered for travel on snow or ice;
- has a curb weight of not more than 1,500 pounds;
- is not more than 72 inches wide;
- is supported in part by skis, belts, or cleats;



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This map represents Snowmobile Trails Advisory Council (SnowTRAC) approved trails. These trails are groomed using snowmobile registration funds.

This map is provided for reference only, and is not intended as a navigation aid.

This map was produced by the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation, Alaska State Trails Program. Last Update: 4/16/2015

For more information visit:  
[dnr.alaska.gov/parks/grants/groompl.htm](http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/grants/groompl.htm)  
or call (907) 269-8700.

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