

SWAMPY LAKES SNO-PARK NORDIC SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING

Tangent Loop



5.9 miles

This loop starts at the Swampy Lakes Trail. It is an excellent beginner trail and serves as access to the Nordeen, Swede Ridge, and Meissner Trails. A long downhill run on a logging road can be very fast skiing when snow is firm or icy. Tangent Loop is entirely on snow-covered roads and is machine groomed by Tumalo Langlauf Ski Club.

Swede Ridge Loop



4.6 miles

This loop is accessible from four different locations shown on the map. The most direct one is a mile in from Swampy Lakes Sno-Park on the Swampy Lakes Trail. Here the trail ascends largely through lodgepole pine to Swede Ridge Shelter. A return link goes through a thickly forested setting all the way to where it terminates at Swampy Lakes. The shelter provides a cozy lunch break or rest stop. The preferred ski direction is counter-clockwise to avoid a steep descent.

Swampy Lakes Trail



2.0 miles

This relatively short, easy trail climbs gently, following an old road, through a lodgepole pine forest to a ridge overlooking Swampy Lakes. Excellent views of the mountain peaks in the high country can be seen from the ridge. A more difficult option is to take a short, steep downhill route off the ridge and ski across the lake to the shelter. The shelter is located directly north of the lakes in a sparser stand of lodgepole pine. This popular trail gets early snow.

Swampy Lakes Loop



1.9 miles

This trail provides slightly easier access to Swampy Lakes Shelter from the Swampy Lakes Sno-Park. The trail branches off the Tangent Loop Trail and follows a road for about ¾ mile before a short descent through an opening. At about 1 ¼ miles the trail bypasses a short steep hill and climbs before leveling out across the lake. After a northwesterly turn it climbs for a few hundred feet to the Swampy Lakes Shelter.

Beginner Loop



1.4 miles

This Loop offers a short but pleasant trip along gentle terrain through lodgepole pine. To take this loop, follow the main Swampy Lakes Trail for about ¾ mile. Then turn left at the Beginner Loop Junction. At about ¾ mile more, it intersects with the Ridge Trail. Continue another ¾ mile back to the Swampy Lakes Sno-Park. The preferred ski direction is counter-clockwise.

Ridge Loop



2.6 miles

Follow the main Swampy Lakes Trail almost 1 mile to the junction with the Ridge Trail. Follow the Ridge Trail up to where it connects with the Vista Butte Trail. Continue on the Ridge Trail by going left. Continue in a generally downward mode until the Ridge Trail connects with the Beginner Loop. Follow Beginner Loop about ¾ mile to the Swampy Lakes Sno-Park. The preferred ski direction is counter-clockwise because of the relatively steep section just after one leaves the Swampy Lakes Trail.

Nordeen Loop



3.9 miles

This loop branches off the northwestern half of the Tangent Loop Trail about ½ mile from the Swampy Lakes Sno-Park and travels about ¼ mile before separating into two different legs. The northeastern leg descends through sparse woodlands to Nordeen Shelter, 2 miles from where the trail divides. The Nordeen Shelter is located atop a southeast-facing ridge from where Newberry Crater and the eastern plains can be easily seen. From the shelter, the southwestern leg descends for about ½ mile before ascending the remaining 1 ½ miles to where it reconnects. The preferred ski direction is clockwise.

Shelters

Nordic Trails and shelters in this area are built and maintained by volunteers from the Central Oregon Nordic Club and individual volunteers in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. Your cooperation is essential to keep these facilities available for public use. Please use wood sparingly, pack out all trash, discourage vandalism, no overnight camping and encourage others to do the same. Thank You.

Swampy Snowshoe Trails:

These trails are designed for snowshoers only and marked with blue diamonds with a yellow snowshoer symbol in the center. If snowshoers use ski trails, please walk at least 2 ft. to either side of the set ski tracks.

Snowshoe Short Loop



1.75 miles

A loop through lodgepole pine forest; trail ties in to the Snowshoe Long Loop

Snowshoe Long Loop



3.25 miles (includes Short Loop)

Nordeen Snowshoe Tie



1 mile

Connects Meissner Sno-Park to Nordeen Shelter then to the Snowshoe Long Loop.

Porcupine Snowshoe Loop



4.1 miles

East leg climbs Telemark Butte for good views and route to Swampy Shelter. West leg is less difficult snowshoe route to Swampy Shelter.

NORDIC SKI/SNOWSHOE TRAIL ETIQUETTE

1. Match your abilities and experience with your trip plans.
2. Do not snowshoe or walk over a ski track. It ruins the trail for skiers.
3. Keep to the right when meeting another skier. When stopped, do not block the trail.
4. Yield the right of way to the descending skier.
5. If an accident occurs, everyone should render necessary assistance. Witnesses should establish their identities.
6. Respect the rights of all winter users. Do not interfere with or harass others. People may judge all skiers or snowmobilers by one individual's actions.
7. Do not litter. If you pack it in, pack it out.
8. Please ski to the right on shared use trails to allow snowmobiles to pass safely.
9. Please respect areas closed to dogs. If you visit areas open to dogs, follow canine courtesy.
10. Shelter policy – Day Use only. No overnight camping – overnight use exhausts wood rapidly.

Emergency 9-1-1

Deschutes non-emergency 541-693-6911
Bend-Fort Rock Ranger Station
Recreation Information 541-383-4000