

DEER CR. NORDIC: Machine packed Tuesday. Machine grooming will occur tomorrow Friday 1-11. All trails open.

FRATER LAKE NORDIC : Machine groomed Wed. 1-9. All trails open.

GEOPHYSICAL NORDIC : Machine grooming tomorrow Friday 1-11. All trails open.

SHERMAN PASS BC : 1-10-08, 0900, 20F, Wind SW 3-5. 2" new, 33" @ 5575', 45" @ 6100'.
Snow Pack: There is a Considerable Hazard in the Kettle Range today on open slopes steep enough to slide. Stability tests today were a 1 and 2 with a 12"+ surface slab failing clean and easy, and the next weak layer failing with a moderate force. The concern is the additional loading forecasted to add to the stress on this surface slab. The bigger concern may be the additional loading adding enough stress to step down to the deeper buried weak layer resulting in a destructive deadly situation. Two very recent snowmobile fatalities in southern BC occurred in this same snowpack structure.(Grandforks, Midway BC). Choose simple terrain thru this weekend, keep your slopes 30 degrees and less and stay out of steep open terrain. Experienced people recognize this uncertainty and adjust their mountain travel routes while incorporating wider than normal margins for safety. You should as well.

SNOWMOBILE: Swan Lake area was groomed today and will be finished tomorrow. Empire Lake area is scheduled for grooming 1-14, and the Bonaparte area on 1-17. Area routes continue to receive new snow, providing great soft snow riding experiences. Riding off routes and high marking is not recommended at this time in the Kettle Range and surrounding area. (see snow pack and recent fatalities above.) Avalanche training and experience are essential for safe backcountry travel.