

NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forests Reminds Winter Recreationists
To Be Safe This Winter**

Salt Lake City, Utah, February 3, 2009 – Brian Ferebee, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Supervisor would like to remind all winter recreationists to have a safe, fun filled season and to be extra careful while out in the woods. “Snowmobilers, skiers, snowboarders, snowshoers, and dog sleds all share the same trails at some point in time, so it is extremely important that all users respect each others rights to enjoy their recreation activity of choice” said Ferebee. Here are a few safety tips to practice this winter:

Be informed about avalanche dangers. Carry safety equipment such as avalanche beacons, shovels and probes. Take an avalanche awareness class. Call the Avalanche Forecast Center for the most current and update information at 801-524-5304 or <http://www.utahavalanchecenter>.

Snowmobile users should always proper trail etiquette such as: Obey all trail signs. Slow down when meeting other users and oncoming snowmobile traffic. Pull to the right side or just off the trail if you meet oncoming dog sleds. Stop before crossing highways. Stay to the right on curves and slow down. Make sure your snowmobile is legally registered. Never snowmobile in wilderness areas. Make sure you are riding on trails, roads or areas that are open to snowmobiles. You can pick up Winter Travel Maps at local Forest Service offices that will show you what trails, roads and areas are open for snowmobile use.

Skiers and snowshoers should always move to the side of the trail or just off the trail when you hear snowmobilers approaching. Please do not insist on the right-of-way, you are no match for a snowmobile. Remember you are responsible for your own safety.

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Always let someone know where you are recreating and the approximate time you will return home. Always have matches, water, food, extra clothing, flashlight, whistle, first-aid-kit, and a cell phone just in case the weather turns bad or in case of an emergency and you have to spend the night out in the woods. **BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING!**

Remember that alcohol and winter sports don't mix. Always stay alert on trails, know your limits for whatever form of winter recreation you choose to enjoy. Respect the rights of other users and the National Forest you are recreating on.

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