



Kachina Peaks Winter Backcountry Permit



The attached permit is required by persons accessing the Kachina Peaks Wilderness from the Arizona Snowbowl ski area and two locations along Snowbowl Road (Lamar Haines Trailhead and Forest Road 522 junction), during winter operations.

The following are terms and responsibilities of the Kachina Peaks Winter Backcountry Permit:

- 1) Each individual is required to have a current permit which is valid the duration of the ski season.
- 2) Permit holders are required to have this permit and a picture ID on their person while in the Kachina Peaks Wilderness.
- 3) Persons under 18 years of age will require a parent or legal guardian to be present for permit issuance.
- 4) Permit holders are required to register each time they access the Wilderness through the ski area. Register boxes are located at the Humphrey's Peak Trailhead, Kachina Trail Trailhead, Lamar Haines Trailhead, and at the top of Agassiz Chair Lift.
- 5) Persons accessing the Wilderness for periods longer than the ski area's daily operational period are required to leave the colored vehicle permit clearly visible in the windshield of their vehicle.
- 6) The permit allows the holder to park a vehicle and access the Kachina Peaks Wilderness at the Lamar Haines Trailhead (milepost 4.5) and at the junction of Forest Road 522 (milepost 2.5). Parking at these two areas is limited and the permit does not allow any persons to park on the Snowbowl Road. The colored vehicle permit must be clearly displayed in the windshield of the vehicle.
- 7) The permit does not allow motor vehicle access to Snowbowl Road (FR516) or any other forest system road when temporary or permanent road closures are in effect.
- 8) The permit holder is responsible to be knowledgeable of the hazards associated with travel outside of the ski area.
- 9) The permit does not allow uphill or downhill travel within the ski area including ski runs or slopes. It does allow contour travel across the Hart Prairie ski slope to access Humphrey's Peak Trail.

Permit holders not following the terms and responsibilities will be in violation of the Code of Federal Regulations. The fine for the first offense is \$50. Violations of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5000 for an individual, or \$10,000 for a person other than an individual, or imprisonment for not more than 6-months, or both.

The following are some items that all individuals using the backcountry should be aware of:

- A) National Forest lands beyond the ski area permit boundary are not patrolled and hazards are not identified.
- B) 13 essential equipment articles that each person should carry include matches, extra food, water, first aid kit, extra warm clothes/hat, map & compass, pocket knife, flashlight, rain gear/shelter, sunglasses/goggles, shovel, avalanche beacon, and probe.
- C) Knowledge to evaluate snow stability; past weather history, current weather – (accumulation, temperature, wind direction & velocity/duration), slope aspect, slope angles, and slope profile.
- D) Knowledge of unstable snow conditions and their warnings.
- E) Knowledge of First Aid / CPR.
- F) Don't travel in the backcountry alone.
- G) Let someone know your specific travel plans and itinerary, and adhere to them.
- H) Be willing to turn around and come back another day.

There are many areas on the San Francisco Peaks that are very susceptible to unstable snow conditions and avalanches are a regular occurrence. Some of these areas are directly adjacent to and within the Arizona Snowbowl Ski Area. The Forest Service recommends that individuals using the backcountry in winter are instructed by certified instructors in avalanche and snow stability recognition, evaluation, and rescue techniques prior to traveling outside of the ski area boundary.