

## Abajo (Blue) Mountains

There are winter recreation areas located off the Harts Draw Rd that can be accessed from Monticello, UT. It is necessary to have a 4WD or AWD vehicle with good tires or chains. The road has a few inches of packed snow in winter.

This is a multiple use trailhead:

Identify and use the lane for your activity– Look at the sign at the trailhead.

Please do not walk/ride in the Nordic track

Yield to downhill skiers/bicycles

Everyone yield to groomers



**Directions:** From downtown Monticello, turn west on 200 South to Abajo Drive. Continue west up into the mountains. There

The winter recreation area is a multi-use area with groomed ski trails, sledding, snowmobiling, and snowshoeing opportunities.

Groomed trails for skiers currently include; Oak Brush, Buckboard Campground, and 70's Flat Loops.

## Winter Safety & Etiquette

Check the avalanche forecast at [utahavalanchecenter.org](http://utahavalanchecenter.org) before heading out. It is updated as needed with weather, snow totals, road conditions, and the avalanche danger rating.

**ALWAYS let someone know where you are headed and when you will return!** Do not go alone.

Much of the terrain in the La Sal and Abajo Mountains is capable of producing dangerous avalanches. All groomed trails are located outside of avalanche terrain and are safe for travel. If you venture off the groomed trail be capable of identifying safe routes of travel and be prepared and trained in self rescue techniques. Before travelling off the groomed trails you should:

- Know current weather and avalanche conditions
- Check the Avalanche Forecast Center Moab Advisory at: [utahavalanchecenter.org](http://utahavalanchecenter.org) or call 435-259-SNOW
- Have a beacon, probe and shovel and know how to use them
- Take an Avalanche Awareness Course

### Winter Etiquette

Practice Leave No Trace ethics– Pack out all trash.

Go off trail to urinate and cover with snow.

Keep control of your pets at all times

Parking is limited. Be courteous.

Yield to downhill users. They are often going faster.

Give wildlife space. Animals need to conserve energy in winter. Never harass or chase wildlife or let your dog harass/chase wildlife.



## Winter Recreation– Moab & Monticello Ranger Districts



Manti– La Sal National Forest  
Moab/Monticello Ranger Districts

62 E 100 N; Moab, UT 84532

435-636-3360

For current conditions:

435-259-SNOW

[www.utahavalanchecenter.org](http://www.utahavalanchecenter.org),

**FOR EMERGENCIES.... CALL 911**

Grand Co. Sheriff....435-259-8115

San Juan Co. Sheriff....435-587-2237

# LA SAL MOUNTAINS WINTER RECREATION

## GEYSER PASS WINTER TRAILHEAD

### DIRECTIONS:



To get to the Geyser Pass winter trailhead, take US191 south for about 8 miles and turn left at the brown sign for the La Sal Mtn Loop Rd/ Ken's Lake. At the stop sign turn right onto the La Sal Mtn Loop Rd. Follow this road up into the mountains. Turn

Right onto the Geyser Pass Rd and follow to the parking area at the winter trailhead. There is a vault toilet and kiosk marking the location. The road ends here from Dec 15th-May 20th each year.

It is necessary to have a 4WD or AWD vehicle with good tires or chains. The road has a few inches of packed snow in winter. Grand County does plow periodically and the gates at the Loop Rd will be closed when this occurs for safety reasons.

This is a multiple use trailhead :

Identify and use the lane for your activity– Look at the sign at the trailhead.

Please do not walk/ride in the Nordic track

Yield to downhill skiers/bicycles



### Geyser Pass Trail:

Snowmobile access to meadows and hills surrounding Geyser Pass. Also a cross country ski route.

### Gold Basin Trail– Closed to motorized use.

Veer right about a mile and a half from the parking area to access this dead end road of groomed cross country skiing route. Snowmobiles, please avoid this trail to minimize conflict. Most of the area adjacent to the road is a non-motorized zone.



## SLEDDING

Find good hills for sledding up Geyser Pass Rd and the Harts Draw Rd.

## FAT BIKING

Fat bikes are welcome on trails but please be careful of the grooming for skiers. Do not ride on the grooming if you are causing ruts.

## EAST SIDE OF LA SALS

**Directions:** Head south on US 191 for 22 miles. Turn left onto HWY 46. Take another left about 3 miles after the town of La Sal onto the Upper Two Mile Rd. The county plows to the state land boundary. There are two separate parking areas along this road. It is necessary to have a 4 wheel drive or all wheel drive vehicle with good tires or chains. The road has a few inches of packed snow in winter.

**La Sal Pass Access:** 2 miles from HWY 46 at the junction of La Sal Pass Rd. Good for snowmobiles, snowshoes, back country skiers. No grooming done.

**Dark Canyon Access:** 7 miles from HWY 46 at the end of plowed section of road. Vault toilet present. Great for snowmobiles who want to access Geyser Pass from the East.

## SNOWSHOEING

Groomed trails are meant for skiers. Please stay in your lane to the right up and back down so as to not damage the hard work of the volunteers who groom. Please yield to skiers and snowmobiles.

**Oowah Lake and Warner Lake roads** off the Loop Rd– The roads are closed to wheeled vehicles in winter. Please don't block the gates when parking.

**Geyser Pass**– Please walk to the right of the groom trail as snowshoes can damage the tracks.

**Squaw Springs**– Trailhead on the Geyser Pass Rd. Harder trail for those more experienced.

**Jimmy Keen Flats** off the Loop Rd– can park at the Castle Valley Overlook if it is plowed.

## Two Mile area/La Sal Pass Rd

**Fisher Mesa area.** Road is plowed to Willow Basin or Bull Canyon normally.



## SNOWMOBILING

Snowmobiling is a popular activity in winter. They are allowed most places in the La Sals and Abajos. Caution should be exercised in the back country as avalanches can be easily triggered on the steep mountain slopes. Please stay on good snow cover to avoid vegetation damage.

Motorized users are asked to stay off the groomed trails on the Gold Basin road. Better snowmobile play areas are located at Geyser Pass and Moonlight Meadows Area.

The East side of the La Sals provides excellent access to the mountains for snowmobiles on the La Sal Pass road and Dark Canyon area. The Abajo mountains also have good snowmobile access at the Dalton Springs trailhead off Harts Draw Rd. North Creek Pass and the rest of the Harts Draw Rd, are accessible from this area.

Motorized users: Please slow down when passing other users.