

Southern Idaho Area (Idaho City)

Banner Ridge Park N' Ski

Location: 23.5 miles north of Idaho City off Highway 21

Difficulty: Intermediate - Advanced

Distance: 22 miles/35.4K (many loops for skiing and snowshoeing)

Grooming: Yes, set track for traditional kick and glide

Snowshoeing: Yes

Yurts: Yes, Banner Ridge and Elkhorn

Warming hut: No

Backcountry skiing potential: Yes

Restroom: Yes

Dogs: Yes, on un-groomed trails only

If you like to crank out the miles/K's on your skis, backcountry ski or cruise around on snowshoes either on-trail or off-trail, the Banner Ridge area is packed with opportunity and fun. It's a pretty steep 1.3-mile climb from the trailhead to the ridge, but once you're on top, there are many loops, big views and open bowls to enjoy from there.



Rocky Ridge Yurt



Gold Fork Park N' Ski

Location: 20 miles north of Idaho City off Highway 21

Difficulty: Beginner - Intermediate

Distance: Gold Fork Loop (5.1 miles/8.2K); Skyline Loop (4 miles/6.4K); Total miles accessible from Gold Fork: 21.4 miles/34.4 kilometers

Grooming: Yes, set track for traditional kick and glide

Snowshoeing: Yes

Yurts: Yes, Whispering Pines and Skyline

Warming hut: No

Backcountry skiing potential: Yes, on the Gold Fork side

Restroom: Yes

Dogs: Yes, on un-groomed trails only

The Gold Fork Park N' Ski area provides access to two complete trail systems on either side of Highway 21: one tours the Gold Fork area, and one loops the Skyline area and connects to the greater Banner Ridge/Beaver Creek trail systems. A separate un-groomed snowshoe trail tours a ridge in the Gold Fork area, and there is a short snowshoe trail from the Skyline yurt. This is a great place to take kids for an easy, low key outing.

Whoop-Um-Up Park N' Ski

Location: 18 miles north of Idaho City off Highway 21

Difficulty: Beginner - Intermediate

Distance: 6.6 miles/10.6 kilometer

Grooming: No

Snowshoeing: Yes

Yurt: Yes, Rocky Ridge

Warming hut: No

Backcountry skiing potential: No

Restroom: Yes

Dogs: Yes, on all trails

Snowshoers with dogs love Whoop-Um-Up because this is one of the rare areas where dogs are welcome—none of the trails are groomed, so there's no conflict. Dogs are welcome in the Rocky Ridge yurt as well. Be aware that the parking area is shared with snowmobiles, so you will encounter snow machines as you gear up for your adventure. Trails can be a bit rugged in this area, and a few steep and challenging downhill sections occur along the creek trail.

For the latest information on the trail conditions for the Idaho City area, call (208)514-2423.



Rent a backcountry yurt
to maximize your experience!
Go to www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov,
then lodging, backcountry yurts.