

# Trailblazer

Winter 2007

A Complimentary Publication of the Hostel Outdoors Group

## Ski Shooeing! And I don't mean (Gesundheit) Bless You!

By Julie Walker



*Should I snowshoe or ski...?*

Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are the two most popular self-propelled outdoor winter sports, but how often do you see them used together? Often snowshoes are used with backcountry snowboarding or with extreme fall hiking but there are some trips where skis and snowshoes can be combined.

One of the best locations that I have been to that seems to almost demand the combination is Watridge Lake and Karst Spring. It is a fabulous way to experience Watridge Lake and the Karst Spring as snowshoeing seems to take

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### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*To help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of peoples, places and cultures through hostelling.*



### **HOSTEL OUTDOORS GROUP**

The Hostel Outdoors Group is a volunteer organization providing hiking, skiing, cycling and canoeing trips. The group, which is associated with Hostelling International – Pacific Mountain Region, is informal and emphasizes the social aspects of the trip.

A Hostelling International Membership and a sense of adventure are all you need to join us!

### **Thursday Night Programs (Calgary)**

The Hostel Outdoors Group meets the second Thursday of each month at 8:00pm at the Old Fire Hall at:

1111 Memorial Drive N.W., Calgary  
(Memorial Dr. & 10<sup>th</sup> St. NW)

Meetings feature presentations ranging from local trips in the mountains to travel and environmental topics. For more information on HOG activities, please contact:

**Yore Daniels**  
Phone: 403-288-3676  
Email: [ydaniels@calcna.ab.ca](mailto:ydaniels@calcna.ab.ca)

# HI-Wilderness Hostel Winter Hours

As the busy tourism season winds down, Hostelling International - Canada - Pacific Mountain Region will transition from summer hours to winter hours of operation for four HI-Wilderness Hostel properties. Winter hours of operation will involve our usual weekly closure days and extended closures at four wilderness hostels.

Effective Friday, September 22, 2006, HI-Yoho National Park (Whiskey Jack Hostel) will close for the winter season. The hostel will reopen in June 2007.

HI-Kananaskis, HI-Mosquito Creek and HI-Rampart Creek will begin limited operation and the following closure dates apply:

#### **HI-Castle Mountain Wilderness Hostel:**

Open all winter

#### **HI-Kananaskis Wilderness Hostel**

Open to Groups. Individual bookings will be accepted on a limited basis, please contact the Central Reservations Office directly for details.

#### **HI-Mosquito Creek:**

Closed October 5 – December 15, 2006 and April 2007.

#### **HI-Rampart Creek:**

Closed October 5 – November 15, 2006.

All closure dates are subject to change so please contact our Central Reservations Office at 1-866-762-4122 (403-670-7580 in Calgary) to confirm dates and schedules.



## SKATING IN CALGARY!

**Join us for skating night at the Bowness Lagoon  
(Location: 8900 - 48 Ave. N. W.)**

- Monday, January 1 at 3pm
- Tuesday January 30 at 6pm
- Tuesday February 13 at 6pm
- Tuesday February 27 at 6pm
- Thursday March 15 at 6pm
- Tuesday March 27 at 6pm



For more information, contact Nicole Cervenka at (403) 619-2768 or via email at [ncervenka@hotmail.com](mailto:ncervenka@hotmail.com).



*Yes, taking a walk on the wild side...beware Moose!*

*Continued from page 1*

one back to another time and place. I would venture to say that snowshoeing even brings us to a level of one to one intimacy with the forest around us. However the modern speed and convenience of cross-country skis and trackset trails allow us to sail along the 5 kilometre trail to Watridge Lake turn off. This is a real blessing especially when it comes to the return ski, with a slight downhill groove most of the way back!

Another location that offers similar advantages when one has both skis and snowshoes is the James Walker Creek trail. Take the fabulous Sawmill trails along the Red/Yellow/Green loop and onto the Red loop. Less than half a kilometre along look for the less used trail heading north-west on the south side of James Walker Creek and you will find the snowshoes handy on the narrow trails. Take the Red loop down and make a great twelve kilometre return circuit.

The last and gentlest of the three ski/snowshoe outings is to the Ribbon Creek area, (if we ever get packable snow there again!). Start on either Hay Meadow or Marmot Basin trails at the end of the Ribbon Creek road. If you take the Marmot route, you'll have to descend Ruthie's Hobbit Hill to get to the Troll Falls trailhead. If you take the lower route, Hay Meadow, then upon returning from Troll Falls you may want to keep the snowshoes on to ascend to the top of Ruthie's Hobbit Hill! Either way experiencing Troll Falls on snowshoes is far superior than on skis. The sharp teeth in the bottom of the snowshoes finally have a use on the icy terrain beneath the frozen water.

Enjoy the magic of this special place without the worry of slipping and falling on to your noggin!



Julie Walker is an outdoor guide and programmer for Full Circle Adventures. Her goal is to bring nature alive for her participants and rediscover their deep connection to life through nature. She can be reached at [fullojw@hotmail.com](mailto:fullojw@hotmail.com) or (403) 933-4432. Check out the Trip Schedule starting on page 3 for a wide variety of both ski and snowshoe options with the Hostel Outdoors Group.



Happy  
Holidays!!!  
from all of us at HI-C-PM Region

# Trip Participant Responsibilities

- Be a Hostelling International member.
- Risk is inherent to some degree in all outdoor activities – understand and accept the risks.
- Trips often have a predetermined limit to the number of participants. Contact the coordinator at least two days ahead (a week ahead for overnight trips) to ensure a spot.
- Ensure that your experience, fitness level and equipment are suitable for the trip. Ask the coordinator what equipment and skills are required.
- Trip coordinators are volunteers who are giving their time and knowledge for your enjoyment. Give them the respect that they deserve.
- Inform the coordinator of any relevant medical conditions. For example: bee sting allergies, diabetes, etc.
- During the trip, stay with the group at all times and respect the coordinator's decisions.
- Contribute to car pool expenses.
- A waiver must be signed as a condition of joining the trips. For further information see page four.

*\* Trip Schedule compiled by Vic Panei and Yore Daniels.*

## Summer Trip Ratings

Summer Trips are described using four factors: trip category, technical difficulty, distance and elevation gain.

<b>Trip Category</b>	Describes the most challenging section of the trail to be covered, as well as the safety equipment needed to complete the trip.
<b>TL (Trail Hiking)</b>	Trip follows designated trails, old roads, cut lines etc where route finding is not required under normal conditions. Extra clothing, water/food, first aid/repair kits and map should be carried plus bivouac gear and headlamp for longer trips.
<b>OT (Off Trail Hiking)</b>	Trip requires route finding often at or above treeline. TL equipment plus vibram-soled sturdy boots, more extensive first aid/ repair kits and hiking poles for steeper trips.
<b>SC (Scrambling)</b>	Trip is off trail and involves use of hands while negotiating non-technical rock. OT equipment required plus climbing helmet and ice axe (as required).
<b>Technical Difficulty</b>	Describes the hardest portion of the trip in terms of steepness of slope, quality of trail, as well as the hiking abilities required to complete the trip.
<b>Easy</b>	Gentler slopes, wider well-defined trails; should be comfortable with hill climbing and crossing occasional low angle rock, scree or snow.
<b>Moderate</b>	Steeper slopes, narrower less well defined trails; should be comfortable with more extensive hill climbing and climbing low angle rock, scree and snow.
<b>Difficult</b>	Steep slopes, narrow poorly defined trails; should be comfortable with prolonged hill climbing and climbs involving steeper rock, scree or snow, rock bands, narrow ridges as well as mild to moderate exposure.
<b>Distance</b>	Total round trip distance in kilometers.
<b>Elevation Gain</b>	Cumulative climbing or descending in metres.

# HOSTEL OUTDOORS GROUP

## TRIP SCHEDULE

- All participants must fill out and submit the current HOGs/Hi-C-PM Region WAIVER FORM before participating in HOG trips. In addition, any friends or family members accompanying you on a HOG trip must also complete the waiver form.
- WAIVER FORMS are available online at [www.hihostels.ca/docs/hipm/HOG\\_WAIVER.pdf](http://www.hihostels.ca/docs/hipm/HOG_WAIVER.pdf), by request at ydaniels@calcna.ab.ca or by picking up a hard copy of the form at HI-Calgary City Centre Hostel at 520 - 7 Avenue SE, Calgary.
- To avoid missing trips, fully executed Waiver Forms should be returned promptly in one of the following ways:

- (1) Drop the completed forms off at the HI-Calgary City Centre Hostel at:  
502 - 7th Avenue, SE  
Calgary, AB T2G 0J6
- (2) Fax the completed form to HI-C-PM's Regional Office in Vancouver at 604.684.7181.
- (3) Mail the completed form to:  
Hostelling International Canada  
Pacific Mountain Region  
Suite 200 - 1155 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, BC V6E 2P4
- (4) E-mail the completed form to: [info.pm@hihostels.ca](mailto:info.pm@hihostels.ca)

• *All members must fill out and submit a copy of the NEW waiver form to participate in any trip after October 31, 2006.*

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### JANUARY

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#### January 1 Ski Lake Louise - Downhilling

Join me for a New Years Day of Skiing and/or Boarding the Lake Louise Ski.

Resort at your own skill level.

Trip Rating: Your own skill level

Ryan Copeland: 366-1901

#### January 6 Mesa Butte - Hike/Snowshoe

Rarely visited area with excellent viewpoints. Low effort, high rewards.

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 12 km, Elevation: 320 m

Cindy Brown: 288-2209

#### January 6 Rummel/Chester Ridge - Snowshoe

An easy trip through the trees, East of Engadine lodge.

Trip Rating: OT - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 6 km, Elevation Gained: 400 m

Vic Panei 239-1333

#### January 6 Hamilton Spur-Snowshoe

A beautiful and challenging snowshoe trip near Emerald Lake

Trip Rating: OT - 6, Moderate/Difficult, Avalanche rating: Orange

Distance: 10 km, Elevation Gained: 1000m

Elisabeth Dupuis 298-6561 (work #)

#### January 6 Fortress Mountain - Downhilling

A trip for downhill snow riders: Downhills, boarders, tele skiers, etc.

Trip Rating: Your own skill level

Darcy Dean 288-4703

#### January 7 Sawmill Trails - Ski

Ski some of these trail loops in the Smith-Dorien Valley

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 15 km, Elevation: 300 m

Jim Baerg 289-4255

#### January 13 Canmore to Banff via Goat Creek - Ski

Ski from Canmore to Banff, then have hot chocolate.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche rating: Green

Distance: 18km, Elevation Lossed :270 m

Carolyn Fisher 209-3055, <carolynf@telus.net>

#### January 13 Cathedral Mountain Ridge-Snowshoe

Come and snowshoe on a stunning mountain in Yoho

Trip Rating: OT - 5, Moderate

Avalanche Rating: Confirm with Coordinator

Distance: 8 km, Elevation Gained: 550m

Elisabeth Dupuis 298-6561 (work #)

#### January 14 French Creek Area - Snowshoe

Snowshoe the logging roads around French Creek to beautiful icefall.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 8 km, Elevation: 300 m

Maddy Pinto 283-3022

# Winter Trip Ratings

CATEGORY & DIFFICULTY SUMMARY				
<b>TECHNICAL DIFFICULTY:</b> A numeric scale from 1 (easiest) to 9 (hardest) indicates the skiing/snowshoeing skills needed to fully enjoy a trip. The difficult rating assumes the easiest route is taken. The hardest segment determines the overall trip difficulty.				
<b>AVALANCHE TERRAIN:</b> <b>Green Terrain</b> trips have no known avalanche risk <b>Orange Terrain</b> trips have avalanche hazards; avalanche rescue equipment is recommended and may be required. <b>Red Terrain</b> trips have avalanche hazards; avalanche rescue equipment <b>IS</b> required.				
	<b>TRACK-SET SKIING (TS)</b> On trails that are machine groomed for track-set or skate skiing	<b>TRAIL TOURING (TL)</b> On ski trails, summer trails, old roads, etc. where route finding is not required under normal snow and weather conditions.	<b>OFF-TRAIL TOURING (OT)</b> Any trip that requires route finding, often at or above tree line.	<b>ALPINE TOURING (AT)</b> Off-trail trips that may involve mountain ascents or glacier travel requiring special skills and equipment.
<b>Route Conditions</b>	maintained, wide, groomed trails, machine packed, track set, below treeline.	well defined trails, usually skier set, or unpacked, below tree line.	undefined routes in usually unpacked, or skier set, glades below or above tree line.	summits, glaciers, usually wind crust in high alpine
<b>Route Finding</b>	little or not route finding required		route finding is usually required	
<b>Remoteness</b>	usually close to civilization	can be remote		usually remote
<b>Avalanche Terrain</b>	usually Green Terrain below tree line	Green or Avalanche Terrain below tree line	usually Avalanche terrain below or above tree line	usually Avalanche Terrain above tree line
<b>Possible Hazards *</b>	can be very fast, crowded trails with icy sections	ruts, rocks, tree fall, sharp bends, steep narrow trails, streams, avalanche terrain	tree skiing / showshoeing wind crust, white outs	crevasses, steep exposures, rock / ice falls
<b>Valued Skills *</b>	stride and glide, herringbone, snowplow, speed control, first aid	fast sharp turns, controlled falls, avalanche rescue as required	route finding skills, telemark on powder or crust, overnight survival	crevasse rescue, self belay, self arrest, skiing while roped
<b>Safety Equipment *</b> (G) Group (I) Individual	(G) first aid and repair kits (I) extra clothing, food, water (I) personal first aid, repair kits	(G) emergency bivouac, shovel (I) avalanche safety equipment as required (I) climbing skins, headlamp, map		(G) crevasse rescue (I) harness, crampons, ice axe (as required)
<b>Ski / Snowshoe Equipment</b>	skating or classic nordic light touring	light touring backcountry touring	backcountry touring telemark or alpine touring	telemark or alpine touring
<b>Difficulty Factors Examples</b>  <i>Skiing difficulty will vary greatly with snow conditions.</i>  <i>Strong winds in alpine areas can form wind crust and/or sastrugi making skiing difficult.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mainly flat</b> <i>Boulton Creek, Ribbon Creek</i></li> <li><b>Easy grades</b> <i>Pocaterra, Moraine Lake Rd, Terrace, Cascade Fire Road</i></li> <li><b>Moderate grades</b> <i>Elk Pass, Packers, Kovach, Skogan Loop, Moose Loop</i></li> <li><b>Steep grades</b> <i>Hydroline, Telephone Loop, Baker Creek to meadow</i></li> <li><b>Very steep and fast grades</b> <i>Canmore Special Red</i></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mainly flat</b> <i>E Kootenay Fire Road</i></li> <li><b>Easy grades</b> <i>Lake O'Hara, Spray R Loop, Robertson Valley to last trees</i></li> <li><b>Moderate grades</b> <i>Boom Lake, Red Earth Creek, Gout Creek, Gorge Creek Road</i></li> <li><b>Steep grades</b> <i>Sawmill Red-Green, Chester Lake, Boulder Pass, Poboktan Creek</i></li> <li><b>Steep, narrow, twisting trails</b> <i>Taylor Lake, Ink Pots</i></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Flat, easy Slopes</b> <i>Wasootch C, Pipestone Valley</i></li> <li><b>Moderate slopes below tree line</b> <i>Jones Bench, Nigel Pass</i></li> <li><b>Moderate slopes above tree line</b> <i>Quartz Ridge, Deception Pass</i></li> <li><b>Steep slopes</b> <i>Healy-Red Earth Traverse, Rummel Lake</i></li> <li><b>Steep slopes in trees</b> <i>Burstall Pass, Dolomite Circuit</i></li> <li><b>or very steep slopes</b> <i>Bow Hut</i></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Moderate slopes to 20 deg</b> <i>Mt Gordon, Snowdome</i></li> <li><b>Steep slopes to 30 deg</b> <i>Storm Mtn, North Twin, Wapta Traverse</i></li> <li><b>Very steep slopes</b> <i>Bow - Yoho Traverse, Young's Peak Traverse</i></li> <li><b>or high exposure - belays</b> <i>South Twin, Mt St. Nicholas</i></li> <li><b>Extreme exposure, most people want running belays</b> <i>Twins Tower</i></li> </ol>
* Items accumulate from left to right (Tract-set Skiing to Alpine Touring)				

## Hostel Outdoor Group Trip Schedule

### January 20 Gypsum Ridge - Snowshoe

Snowshoe to a Ridge with great views of Kananaskis lakes and the Smith-Dorrien Valley.

Trip Rating: TL/OT-5, Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Orange

Distance: 6km, Elev. Gain: 450m

Vic Panei 239-1333

### January 20 Pocaterra - Ski

Distance: 12 km

Level: Beginner to Intermediate (must be comfortable on hills)

Contact: Michelle Koch 276-8892

### January 21 Sulphur Mountain - Hike/Snowshoe

Go up and down Sulphur Mountain on the less-travelled back side route! See the interesting "natural" hot springs area along this hike. Bring your suit for an optional soak in the Banff Mineral Hot Springs afterwards.

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 5, Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 17 km, Elevation: 880 m

Nicole Cervenka 619-2768, ncervenka@hotmail.com

### January 21 Chester Lake - Ski

Ski to beautiful meadows and an alpine lake.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 10 km, Elevation: 350 m

Jim Hilchie 284-9842

### January 27/28 Lake O'Hara - Ski

Enjoy a weekend of winter camping at the Lake O'Hara Campground.

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 4, Easy/Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 22 km, Elevation: 460 m

James Haston 249-2701

### January 27 Crystal Ridge - Snowshoe

Snowshoe this ridge with beautiful views of Bow lake area.

Trip Rating: OT - 6, Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Orange

Dist: 8 km, Elev. Gain: 650 m.

Vic Panei 239-1333

# Hostel Outdoor Group Trip Schedule

## January 27 Cross Conservation Area - Hike/Snowshoe

Explore a unique setting with aspens and native grasslands in this foothills landscape.

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 10 km, Elevation: 200 m

Cindy Brown 288-2209

## January 27 Tyrwitt Loop - Ski

Enjoy many open meadows on this great trip.

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 3, Easy

Avalanche Rating: Confirm with Coordinator

Distance: 16 km, Elevation: 350 m

Jim Hilchie 284-9842

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## FEBRUARY

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## February 3 Simpson River Trail to Surprise Creek - Ski

Enjoy this spectacular ski in Kootenay Park.

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 3, Easy,

Avalanche Rating: Confirm with Coordinator

Distance: 22 km, Elevation: 120 m

Michael Teekens 286-7927

## February 10 Sawmill North Ridge - Snowshoe

Snowshoe on old logging roads and then to the top of a ridge N of the parking lot.

Trip rating: TL/OT - 6, Moderate/Difficult, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance 7km, Elev.Gain: 710m

Vic Panei 239-1333

## February 11 Pocaterra - Ski

Ski Pocaterra Hut to Elk Pass and back, if conditions are good and we're feeling energetic

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 25 km, Elevation: 350 m

Jim Baerg 289-4255

## February 17 Hummingbird Plume - Hike/Snowshoe

Views of Kananaskis Valley and the Fisher Range.

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 10 km, Elevation: 395 m

Cindy Brown 288-2209

## February 17 Cox Hill - Hike/Snowshoe

Depending on snow conditions hike or snowshoe to a wonderful view of the front ranges.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy/Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 13 km, Elevation: 672 m

Maddy Pinto 283-3022

## February 18 Minnewanka Lake - Snowshoe

This is a great winter hike, such beauty in the surroundings, you'll feel like you're in the middle of nowhere. This will be a fun outing, we should be able to cover a lot of ground because of the relatively flat terrain.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 18 km, Elevation: negligible m

Nicole Cervenka 619-2768, ncervenka@hotmail.com

## February 24 Sawmill Burn Ridge - Snowshoe

Snowshoe on old logging roads and then through a burn to the top of a ridge E of the parking lot.

Trip Rating: TL/OT, Moderate/Difficult, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 6km, Elev. Gain: 750m

Vic Panei 239-1333

## February 24 Skogan Pass - Ski

Great views at the top into Wind Valley.

Trip Rating: TL - 4, Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 20 km, Elevation: 670 m

Jim Hilchie 284-9842

## February 25 Watridge Lake/Karst Spring - Snowshoe

An easy snowshoe west of the Engadine Lodge area.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 9 km, Elevation: 300 m

Maddy Pinto 283-3022

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## MARCH

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## March 3 Rummel Ridge - Snowshoe

A classic snowshoe trip with great views of Mt Galatea and the ranges W of the Smith-Dorrien Valley.

Trip Rating: OT, Difficult, Avalanche Rating: Orange

Distance 6km, Elev. Gain: 700m

Vic Panei 239-1333

## March 3 Jumpingpound Loop - Hike/Snowshoe

An easy trip located near Calgary.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 9 km, Elevation: 300 m

Cindy Brown 288-2209

## March 3 Skoki - Ski

Visit the famous Lodge and have some snacks there.

Trip Rating: TL - 4, Easy/Moderate,

Avalanche Rating: Confirm with Coordinator

Distance: 25 km, Elevation: 600 m

Jim Baerg 289-4255

# Hostel Outdoor Group Trip Schedule

## March 10 Blueberry Hill/Elk Pass - Snowshoe

Great views of Mount Fox

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 10 km, Elevation Gained: 300 m

Ryan Copeland 464-1901

## March 10 Commonwealth Ridge - Snowshoe

Snowshoe on the crest of this ridge on the W side of the Smith-Dorrien Valley.

Trip Rating: OT, Moderate/Difficult, Avalanche Rating: Orange

Distance: 7km, Elev. Gain: 550m

Vic Panei 239-1333

## March 11 Paradise Valley - Ski

Ski to end of Valley

Trip Rating: TL - 4, Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Orange/Red

Distance: 24 km, Elevation: 410 m

Michael Teekens 286-7927

## March 17 Chester Lake-Elephant Rocks - Snowshoe

One of Vic's favorite snowshoe trips in the Smith-Dorrien Valley

Trip Rating: TL/OT, Easy/Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 11km, Elev. Gain: 375m

Vic Panei 239-1333

## March 17 Prairie View Trail - Hike/Snowshoe

Hike up to the site of the old Pigeon Lookout.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy/Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 10 km, Elevation: 500 m

Cindy Brown 288-2209

## March 24 Crystal Ridge - Snowshoe

Snowshoe this ridge with beautiful views of Bow lake area.

Trip Rating: OT - 6, Moderate, Avalanche Rating: Orange

Distance: 8 km, Elev. Gain: 650 m.

Vic Panei 239-1333

## March 24 Lost Horse Pass Area - Ski

Enjoy a different route in the Healy Pass area.

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 5, Moderate

Avalanche Rating: Confirm with Coordinator

Distance: 20 km, Elevation: 500 m

Jim Hilchie 284-9842

## March 31 Narao Lake - Snowshoe

An easy snowshoe trip along Cataract Ck by the Lk O'Hara road.

Trip Rating: OT - 3, Easy, Avalanche Rating: Green

Distance: 7km, Elev. Gain: 150m

Vic Panei 239-1333

## 31 or April 1 Mount Gordon - Ski

Ski to Mount Gordon on the Wapta Ice Field

Trip Rating: TL/OT - 7, Difficult, Avalanche Rating: Orange/Red?

Distance: 20 km, Elevation: 1220 m

James Haston 249-2701

## APRIL

### April 6 Windy Point Ridge/Foran Grade Ridge (loop)- Hike

Excellent chance to see the spring flowers. This is a HOGs classic!

Trip Rating: Off-Trail and On-Trail, Easy

Distance: 11 km, Elevation: 450 m

Cindy Brown 288-2209

### April 14 Barrier Lookout/Jewel Pass - Hike

Great early season hike

Trip Rating: TL - 4, Moderate

Distance: 15 km, Elevation Gain: 620 m

Ryan Copeland 464-1901

### April 15 Wasootch Ridge - Hike

A classic early season hike in the Kananaskis Valley.

Trip Rating: TL - 3, Easy/Moderate

Distance: 7km, Elev. Gain: 600m

Vic Panei 239-1333

### \* REMINDER \*

All participants must submit a waiver form prior to joining Hostel Outdoors Group trips.

See page 5 for more info.

### Did you know?

Visit [www.hihostels.ca/HOG](http://www.hihostels.ca/HOG) for past issues of the Trailblazer newsletter.

HI's website is also a great resource worldwide hostel and travel information. So check it out today.

- [www.hihostels.ca](http://www.hihostels.ca)