

Kenneth See, North Slope ski club secretary, reports skiing has been showing a consistent annual increase on the north slopes of Mt. Hood since the close of the war, with special reference to the Cooper Spur and Tilly Jane areas.

Snow sports season usually begins about Thanksgiving, continuing until April at the lower elevations and later at higher elevations. An improved ski area has been developed on forest service land about one mile above the Mt. Hood loop highway near the Cloud Cap road at an elevation of 5000 feet. A 1000-foot ski tow is operated every weekend during the season.

The North Slope ski club maintains the Cooper Spur bowl on forest service land near the loop highway and operates a 600-foot tow. Night skiing is being inaugurated during the current season with the completion of flood lighting installations at the 3600-foot elevation.

The Tilly Jane area, at the 6500-foot elevation, has a choice of skiing terrain. The forest service provides a large shelter with dormitories for overnight guests and a large kitchen. Visitors at this area are asked to bring their own sleeping bags and cooking equipment.

Snow weasels are operated commercially from Cooper Spur junction to the Winter Sports Association and Tilly Jane areas. Two inns are in operation at Cooper Spur junction, providing meals, lodging and ski supplies. A large parking area is provided at the junction, approaches to which are open throughout the winter.

An annual ski school is scheduled near Cooper Spur junction during January, as sponsored by the American Legion with certified PNSA ski instructors in charge each Sunday for the benefit of novice skiers. Snow depths in the general spur area average in excess of 10 feet, and, due to lower temperatures, snow conditions are declared near perfect five months of the year.

Government Camp offers accommodations at a number of lodges, parking for 2500 cars, and ski club and family cabins on private lands, ski shops, lodges, service stations and other establishments.

Bill Lauderback, Santiam Lodge manager, reports preparations have been completed for a busy snow sports season in his section of the Deschutes national forest. The lodge has an elevation of 4800 feet at the summit of the Santiam highway across the Cascade mountains.

Accommodations for 90 persons include four dormitories and two rooms. The lodge provides beds made up with linen and blankets. Also available for visitors are a dining room, restaurant, ski shop, and rental shop for all types of snow equipment. When skiers are not using a well lighted slope for night skiing, dancing is the order of the evening in the lodge. A rope ski tow is operated near the lodge area.

A short distance from the Santiam Lodge, famous Hoodoo ski bowl figures importantly in the central Oregon snow sports region. In operation of the bowl are four rope tows, handling up to 3000 skiers per hour and ranging in length from 600 to 4000 feet. Rise in elevation ranges up to 4000 feet. A

lodge and a chair lift are under construction. The lift is designed to reach the top of Hoodoo Butte, far above the bowl, and is scheduled to be in operation this winter.

Major activities of the Skyliners ski club of Bend take place at Hoodoo bowl, about 45 miles west of the central Oregon metropolis. The Central Cascade recreational council, composed of representatives of all clubs using the Santiam ski area, cooperates with the U.S. forest service in supervising winter sports activities. As a rule, the council furnishes a free ski school and volunteer ski patrol on weekends.

Skiing in the Bend area continues until late in the season, as the steep open terrain of Bachelor Butte, 25 miles from Bend on the Century Drive, offers excellent skiing until as late as June and July. However, this area is not accessible until late spring when roads are opened to travel.

One of the more recently developed ski areas is located at Anthony Lakes in Whitman national forest at an elevation of 7000 feet in the Blue mountains of eastern Oregon, 20 miles off U.S. highway 30 near Baker. Olof Rodegard, area operator, reported in early autumn that doubt surrounded operation of that area because of snow removal problems. Definite announcement was set for later.

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