

What do people do outdoors in the Grant County winter? Many of them enjoy tubing and sledding, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing on many miles of groomed trails.

Here are a few places to start out an adventure:

STARR RIDGE SNOWPLAY AREA

Snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and sledding/snow play abound at the area, 16 miles south of John Day on U.S. 395.

Starr Ridge has a sledding hill, and is a great spot for tubing and sledding. A small warming cabin built during the Civilian Conservation Corps era features a large stone fireplace. There are also primitive outhouse facilities. Parking is across the highway, as is a campground with an accessible vault toilet.

Parking here requires purchase of an Oregon State Sno-Park permit, available at Department of Motor Vehicles offices and at various permit agents.

Permits must be displayed in windshield between Nov. 1-April 30.

For more on snow park permits: See www.oregon.gov

DIXIE MOUNTAIN

A small rope tow ski area offers downhill skiing opportunities.

Snowmobilers get going on roads in this vicinity, located 6 miles west of the junction of Hwy. 7 and 26, on Hwy. 26. A Sno-Park sticker is also required here.

HUDDLESTON SNOWPARK

This Oregon State Sno-Park is the hub of the hundreds of miles of groomed snowmobile trails and access to ungroomed areas on the Malheur National Forest.

To get there, take County Road 62 east of Prairie City for 22 miles.

The Snowpark has a cozy warming hut with fireplace and a restroom, as well as a large, plowed parking area suitable for rigs with trailers. It is maintained in partnership with Grant County Snowballers and Grant County. Please show appreciation for their efforts, respect the property and help keep it in good condition.

SKYLINE

If a turnout has been plowed, winter sports enthusiasts can also take off at Skyline, located on County Road 62, one mile before Huddleston. Enthusiasts share the groomed trails on varied terrain.

For more information on snowmobiling in Grant County:

Visit www.grantcountysnowballers.com

For more on recreation on the Malheur National Forest:

See www.fs.usda.gov/malheur



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