

READ THIS

1 February 2018

Blue Hills Trail Association Inc.

Logging of the "wood turtle" timber sale will close down skiing on part of the Eastside core loop from 1-22-33-21-29. To protect the wood turtle, the logging of this timber sale can only be done between November 15 and March 15. Previous attempts at logging this timber sale were unsuccessful due to wet conditions. The logger that has the contract for this timber sale plans to move in and start logging in early February.

The trail from 1-22-33-21-29 was plowed January 30. Please alter your parking in the lot by the warming house to allow traffic to pass by. Don't bother driving where the loggers are operating, the adjacent trails will not be groomed.

Please use this as an opportunity to branch out and ski some of the trails you may have previously overlooked. The Rusk County Forestry department continues working supportively with our organization to enhance the trails and our skiing opportunities, collectively trying to minimize the impact of logging on wintertime skiing. As one of our members commented, "If it weren't for the logging, many of these trails wouldn't exist."

On the map below, you can see the area where logging traffic will close down the ski trails. Here are suggestions for enjoying alternative routes:

- To reach the Eastside ridge line, ski from 1-23 then either follow the core loop, or head toward 2-3, or 2A-00-20.
- While on the ridge line of the core loop, ski some of the side trails to extend your distance. 9-8-30-30A-29A is in great shape: it's a gentle downhill from 9-8-30-30A then climbs to 29A.
- 29-11 is a fun trail that climbs then descends. At #11, climb back to the ridge line via 11-12.
- Once you've skied these trails mentioned above, you can decide if you want to use 20-00-2A or 3-2-2A for a return route to the warming house – or just return via the core loop counterclockwise.
- If you haven't skied the Westside trails, give 'em a try. You'll find more open vistas, wide trails and great grooming. If skiing from the Eastside to the Westside, the down/up hill between J-K can be intimidating, but since it's a straight shot, it's manageable. If you want to avoid J-K, ski the Westside by parking at Letter A.
- If you find any hill too challenging, take off your skis and walk down the hill on the side of the trail.

