



**31st Annual
Alaska Mountain Wilderness Ski Classic
2018**
*** Atigun Gorge – Wind River – Wiseman Route**
Event Coordinator: Dave Cramer (907) 291-2339

Participant Guidelines

1. The start is Sunday, April 1, 2018 at 11:00 AM, at Atigun River Gorge, Alaska, near Mile 275 Dalton Highway.
2. A mandatory check in point will be required at “Check Point” Mountain. It is located on the Wind River at 68°16.102’N. 147°23.911’W.
3. The finish deadline is midnight on Sunday April 8, 2018 at the Alaska’s Arctic Getaway Bed & Breakfast, Wiseman, Alaska.
4. Minimum age is 18. The event coordinator reserves the right to deem any applicant unqualified.
5. All stipulations as outlined in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Compatibility Determination and Final Permit are attached to and hereby made an integral part of these guidelines.
6. Maximum number of participants is 25. No applications will be accepted after 25 participants have registered. *Also see ANWR CD Item # 39 for additional information.
7. The entry fee is \$300 per participant. There is no reduced entry fee designated for students or for other groups of any kind. The *\$300 entry fee is non-refundable unless the applicant withdraws by Friday, March 23, 2018.
8. Application deadline is Friday, March 23, 2018.
9. The plan is to rendezvous on Saturday, March 31, 2018 at the Arctic Getaway Bed & Breakfast located in Wiseman, Mile 189 of the Dalton Highway. The Arctic Getaway B & B has a restroom/shower facility available and ample floor space for sleeping bags, etc. Anyone wishing to overnight at the Arctic Getaway B & B on Saturday, March 31, 2018 must contact Dave Cramer at (907) 291-2339 prior to Wednesday, March 28, 2018. Participants will then travel on Sunday, April 1, 2018 via van from Wiseman to Atigun Gorge for the event start. The aforementioned facilities, food and transportation are covered by the event registration fee. Alternate lodging options are listed at the end of this document.
10. Any participant who turns back or drops out should notify other participants if possible, and should call Teresa (TeresaAtSummit@aol.com), Heather (heathergscs2@aol.com) or Estelle (summitctok@aol.com) at (907) 291-2339 or the Arctic Getaway B & B (arcticgetaway@gmail.com) at (907) 678-4456; if there is no answer, leave a message. Any participant not finished by midnight on Sunday, April 8, 2018, or who fails to call after dropping out, will be considered overdue.

* Reference Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Compatibility Determination “CD” and Permit Conditions

11. Rescues cannot and will not be promised or offered. We will contact the emergency number supplied by the participant and the Alaska State Troopers. This will be the extent of Wilderness Classic's involvement in any search/rescue effort.

A word about BCNN style boots and bindings. Overflow is often encountered and can freeze the boots into the bindings. Skiers using that BCNN/BCSN gear may want to carry a small thermos of hot water so that they can melt the ice and release the binding. The boot toe bars are prone to tear out and/or breaking. Once the toe rips out, it is very difficult to reliably strap the boot to a ski. For more guidance on boots and bindings, go to Luc Mehl's ski touring equipment guide at <http://thingstolucat.com/ski-touring-equipment-guide>.

12. Participants are responsible for any expenses incurred for rescues or attempted rescues in their behalf. The Alaskan Alpine Club Mountain Rescue Expense Fund has been suspended at this time due to lack of funding.
13. No cash awards will be given; however, all participants will be issued a 2018 commemorative event garment, the cost of which is covered by the event registration fee. *The cost of the garment will be deducted from the event fees for anyone dropping out after Wednesday, February 28, 2018. However, the adjusted refund and the garment will be mailed to the participant.
14. Participants are encouraged to travel in groups of two or more for purposes of safety as well as fun (see item 19). *Also see ANWR CD Item # 39 for additional information.
15. Each participant should be independent in terms of gear and food; however, participants may share food and gear with each other. Participants may NOT share gear or food with non-participants. *Also see ANWR CD Item #'s 12 and 33 for additional information.
16. All travel must be self-propelled, without benefit of motorized vehicles, wheels, pack animals or pull animals. *Also see ANWR CD Item #'s 14, 15, and 16 for additional information.
17. All travel must be self-contained. Everything needed must be carried from start to finish without benefit of pre-planned caches, air drops or aid stations. Littering or purposefully dropping gear or food is grounds for disqualification. * Also see ANWR CD Item # 34 for additional information.
18. Participants are not permitted to carry or use any locator/tracking device that is limited to one way communication. Any locator/tracking or other communication devices utilized must have two way communication capabilities. The use of the Delorme /Garmin In Reach GPS communicator devices is allowed. However, anyone doing so must read the Andrew Skurka blog concerning the S.O.S. functional design flaw at <https://andrewskurka.com/2017/garmin-responds-faulty-sos-lock-button-inreach-se-explorer/>. Also anyone using such a device must input the following email addresses: SCSDAC@aol.com, ecramerscs@aol.com, TeresaAtSummit@aol.com, heathergscs2@aol.com, summitctok@aol.com.
19. Participants select their own route. It is important that the route is described on the application form. At least one other individual should be notified if a participant decides to change his or her route. There will be no organized trail sweep.
20. All of the main routes require steep ascents and descents. Participants should bring at least 10 point crampons and consider the following items:

Alaska Mountain Wilderness Classic Ski Classic
HC 72 Box 850, Tok, AK 99780
Phone: (907) 291-2339 Fax: (907) 291-2333
e-mail: summitctok@aol.com
<http://www.scsalaska.com/ski/default.asp>

- ice axe
- ice creepers
- crampons
- 100 ft. 9 mm – 11 mm climbing rope
- rescue pulley
- carabiners: 2 locking gate, 4 standard gate
- Harness and belay device
- snow shovel
- ascenders
- ice screw - 1 each
- 4" picket - 1 each

21. Except for the Wiseman Access Road, all roads and the Slate Creek Winter Trail below the confluence of the south fork of the Koyokuk River and Portland Creek at 67°17.407'N. 149°28.141'W and Coldfoot are out of bounds. Travel on out of bound roads or trails is grounds for disqualification.

* Reference Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Compatibility Determination "CD" and Permit Conditions

Recommendations:

- ◆ This event starts and finishes above the Arctic Circle – be prepared for Arctic conditions.
- ◆ If new, talk to those who have done this event before.
- ◆ Expect 60 mph winds, avalanche country, open water, -55°F/+40°F, deep snow, no snow, ice, breakable crust, overflow, slop, and storms.
- ◆ Waterproof your gear, especially if you use a sled.
- ◆ Take food and fuel for a minimum of 10 days. In past events, fuel needs have often been underestimated.
- ◆ Consider metal edged skis - there can be a lot of overflow.
- ◆ USGS topographical 1:250,000 maps: Wiseman, Phillip Smith Mountains, and Chandalar
- ◆ Consider taking: stove, fuel, pot, ski-skins, tent, repair kit, multi-purpose tool i.e. Leatherman, sunglasses, sun screen, extra skis and poles, sleeping bag good to -40°F, sleeping pad, sled and/or pack, compass and maps, ELT, flares, saw and satellite phone.

Route Description:

- ◆ **Route #1 Atigun Gorge to Phillip Smith to Robert Creek to Wiseman Route**
(Solo Travel is permitted)

This route includes: Atigun Gorge - Accomplishment Creek or Ribdon River – Continental – Wind River-Wind River "A"- Phillip Smith - Robert Creek to Wiseman.

- ◆ **Route #2 Atigun Gorge to Wind River to Your Creek to Robert Creek to Wiseman Route**
(Solo Travel is permitted)

This route includes: Atigun Gorge – Accomplishment Creek or Ribdon River – Continental – Wind River – Wind River "A" or Wind River "B" – Your Creek – Thru Creek – Robert Creek to Wiseman.

♦ **Route #3 Atigun Gorge to Wind River to Chandalar River to Minnie Creek to Wiseman Route**

(Solo Travel is permitted)

This route includes: Atigun Gorge – Accomplishment Creek or Ribdon River – Continental – Wind River – Chandalar River – Minnie Creek to Wiseman.

Additional Information:

Bailouts

If a bailout is necessary, notify Teresa (TeresaAtSummit@aol.com), Heather (heathergscs2@aol.com) or Estelle (summitctok@aol.com) at **291-2339** (collect calls will be accepted at this number as long as someone is there to take the call, Iridium Satellite Phone at 8816-3166-1270, or the **Arctic Getaway B & B** (arcticgetaway@gmail.com) at **(907) 678-4456**. No transport/pickups from the bailout location can be guaranteed. Refer to the Bailout Maps for more information.

There are three viable potential bailout points:

- ♦ **Chandalar Camp:** Participants must either return to the Dalton Hwy. and make their way to the *Chandalar DOT camp*, South at milepost 239.5, or *Pump Station #4*, North at mile post 269 as shown on Map A and on the General Route Map.
- ♦ **Arctic Village:** Participants should make their way to the community of Arctic Village as shown on the AV Bailout Map.
- ♦ **Chandalar Lake:** Participants can be picked up at the lake by Coyote Air but there are no phones or other two way communications available.

Airplane pickups can be arranged from any of the three locations. Contact **Coyote Air Service at (907) 479-5995** for pickup from bailout location with drop off in *Wiseman, Coldfoot* or *Fairbanks*. **Wright Air Service at (907) 474-0502** for daily scheduled service from *Arctic Village to Fairbanks and/or Flag Stop service from Coldfoot to Fairbanks upon request*. **Warbelow's Air at (907) 474-0518** for scheduled service twice a day from *Anaktuvuk and Coldfoot to Fairbanks* and/or charter service available from *Galbraith or Wiseman to Fairbanks* upon request.

Vehicles

- **At the Start**

There is adequate parking space at the Arctic Getaway Bed & Breakfast where vehicles may be left for the event duration at no charge. While no official security is provided, the area is not visible from the highway and is a safe location. Transportation from Wiseman to the starting point at Atigun Gorge will be provided for all participants and their gear by the event coordinator. This transportation cost is covered by the event entry fee.

Lodging/Food

- At the Start

One night's lodging and shower will be provided for all Participants at the Arctic Getaway B & B with ample floor space for sleeping bags, etc. Anyone wishing to overnight at the Arctic Getaway B & B on Saturday, March 31, 2018 must contact Dave Cramer at (907) 291-2339 prior to Wednesday, March 28, 2018. Food and beverages will be supplied by AMWC Ski Classic. Full cooking facilities are available for use by the participants, who cook their own meals and serve themselves. One night's lodging at the Arctic Getaway B & B, shower, food and beverage costs are covered by the event registration fee.

Alternate lodging, at the participant's own expense, may be available at Coldfoot Camp located at mile 175 of the Dalton Highway. Contact the facility directly at (907) 678-3500 or (907) 474-3500 to make reservations.

- At the Finish:

One night's lodging and shower will be provided for all Participants at the Arctic Getaway Bed & Breakfast. Food and beverages will be supplied by AMW Ski Classic. Full cooking facilities are available for use by the participants, who cook their own meals and serve themselves. The one night's lodging, shower, food and beverage costs are covered by the event registration fee.

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