



**36th Annual
Alaska Mountain Wilderness Ski Classic ~ 2024**

ANWR Route

Atigun Gorge – Wind River – Wiseman

Event Coordinator: Dave Cramer (907) 291-2339

EVENT INFORMATION

Participant Guidelines:

1. The start is Sunday March 31, 2024 at 11:00 AM, at Atigun Gorge near Mile 275 Dalton Highway.
2. A mandatory check-in is required at “Check Point” Mountain, located on the Wind River at 68°16.102’N. 147°23.911’W.
3. The finish deadline is Wednesday April 10, 2024 at midnight, at Arctic Getaway B&B in Wiseman.
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 (ANWR CD) are attached to and hereby made an integral part of these guidelines.
6. Maximum number of participants: 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 \$350 per participant. There is no reduced entry fee designated for students or for other groups of any kind. The entry fee is non-refundable unless the applicant withdraws by Tuesday March 12, 2024. See further information in item #9 below.
8. Application deadline is Friday March 1, 2024. The **Registration Form** and **Release Form** – both completed and signed – and the **\$350 Entry Fee** *must be received* by the application deadline.
9. For cancellations, there will be **no refunds after Tuesday March 12, 2024**. Cancellations made by 3/12/24 are entitled to a refund of the entry fee *minus the cost of the event garment*. The garment and the adjusted refund will be issued to any registrant who cancels by 3/12/24.
10. The plan is to rendezvous on Saturday, March 30, 2024 at the Arctic Getaway B&B in Wiseman at milepost 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 this location on **Saturday, March 30, 2024** must contact Dave Cramer at (907) 291-2339 **prior to Wednesday, March 27, 2024**. Participants will then travel on Sunday, March 31, 2024 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.
11. Any participant who turns back or drops out should notify other participants if possible, and should call Summit Consulting’s office at (907) 291-2339 or the Arctic Getaway B&B at (907) 678-4456; if there is no answer, leave a message. Any participant not finished by midnight on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, or who fails to call after dropping out, will be considered overdue.

12. 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 the 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 BCNNN / BCSN gear may want to carry a small thermos of hot water to 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 webpage at <http://thingstolucat.com/ski-touring-equipment-guide>.

13. 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.
14. No cash awards are provided; however, all participants will be issued a 2024 commemorative event garment, the cost of which is covered by the event registration fee.
15. 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.*
16. Each participant should be independent in terms of gear and food; however, participants may share food and gear with each other. Participants may NOT accept gear, food or assistance from non-participants. *Also see ANWR CD* Item #12 and #33 for additional information.*
17. All travel must be self-propelled, without benefit of motorized vehicles, wheels, pack animals or pull animals. *Also see ANWR CD* Item #14, #15, and #16 for additional information.*
18. All travel must be self-contained. Everything 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.*
19. 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.
20. Participants select their own route (see Route Descriptions on page 3 as well as attached maps). **Important:** describe your selected route on the application form. At least one other person should be notified if a participant decides to change their route. There will be no organized trail sweep.
21. All of the main routes require steep ascents and descents. Participants should bring at least 10-point crampons and also consider the following items:
 - ice axe
 - 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
 - 24" picket - 1 each
21. Except for the Wiseman Access Road, all roads are out of bounds.

**Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Compatibility Determination and Permit Conditions*

Recommendations:

- ◆ This event starts and finishes above the Arctic Circle – be prepared for arctic conditions.
- ◆ If you are new to the Classic, 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. Fuel needs are often 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, tent repair kit, multi-purpose tool (e.g. 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 Descriptions:

- ◆ **Route #1 Atigun Gorge to Phillip Smith to Robert Creek to Wiseman**

(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**

(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**

(Solo Travel is permitted)

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

Additional Information:

Bailouts

If a bailout is necessary, **call Summit Consulting at (907) 291-2339** (collect calls will be accepted at this number as long as someone is there to take the call) or the **Arctic Getaway B&B 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:

1. **Chandalar Camp:** Participants must either return to the Dalton Highway and make their way to the *Chandalar DOT camp*, South at milepost 239.5, or to *Pump Station #4*, North at milepost 269, as shown on Map A and on the General Route Map.
2. **Arctic Village:** Participants should make their way to the community of Arctic Village as shown on the AV Bailout Map.

- 3. Chandalar Lake:** Participants can be picked up at Chandalar Lake by Coyote Air but there are no phones or other two-way communications available.

Airplane pickups can be arranged from any of the following locations:

- Contact **Coyote Air Service at (907) 479-5995** for transport from your bailout location to *Wiseman, Coldfoot, or Fairbanks*.
- Contact **Wright Air Service at (907) 474-0502** for daily scheduled service from *Arctic Village to Fairbanks*, or for flagstop service upon request from *Coldfoot to Fairbanks*.
- Contact **Warbelow's Air Ventures at (907) 474-0518** for charter service upon request from *Coldfoot, Galbraith or Wiseman to Fairbanks*.

Vehicles

There is adequate parking at the Arctic Getaway B&B in Wiseman 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 registration fee.

Lodging/Food

- At the Start

One night's lodging and shower will be provided for all participants at Arctic Getaway B&B with ample floor space for sleeping bags, etc. Anyone wishing to overnight at this location on Saturday, March 30, 2024 must contact Dave Cramer at (907) 291-2339 **prior to Wednesday, March 27, 2024**. Food and beverages will be provided. Full cooking facilities are available for use by the participants, who cook their own meals and serve themselves. The 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 milepost 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 B&B. Food and beverages will be provided. Full cooking facilities are available for use by the participants, who cook their own meals and serve themselves. The lodging, shower, food and beverage costs are covered by the event registration fee.

[END]