

Hatcher Pass East Management Area & Summit Lake State Recreation Site Snow & Trails Report

Monday, November 2, 2009

The Hatcher Pass Area received a light dusting of fresh snow, with no significant snow to report. All winter recreation activities are prohibited until sufficient snow cover. The hiking and biking opportunities in Hatcher Pass are extraordinarily good for this time of year.

The Friends of Chugach National Forest installed a new weather station on top of Marmot Mountain on 10-27-09. This weather station was installed to capture high elevation weather data to help the public determine avalanche potential in the Hatcher Pass Area. This weather station is in full operation and transmitting data to the below website. Friends plans on adding a camera to the site sometime this winter. http://www.cnfaic.org/wx/wx_marmot.php

NOTICE: Hatcher Pass Area has become exceptionally busy, especially on weekends. Be advised that **THERE MAY NOT BE PARKING AVAILABLE**. Arriving early is a good idea as parking is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Park Rangers will be enforcing parking restrictions. Vehicles with four-wheel/front-wheel drive (studded tires) are recommended.

A \$5 parking fee or 2010 annual parking pass is required at most trailheads throughout the Hatcher Pass Area. They can be purchased online (<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/Passes.cfm>) or from the Public Information Center in Anchorage, State Park offices, Park staff, REI or AMH.

Attention backcountry users: The Hatcher Pass Area is an **AVALANCHE HAZARD AREA**. Be sure and take your beacons, shovels and probes with you and be knowledgeable of their use. **BE PREPARED!!!** The weather can change quickly and threaten your life. Remember hypothermia is a life-threatening problem. Safe traveling can prevent backcountry emergencies and costly search and rescues. Always let someone know where you're going. Know the hazards of the country you're traveling. Travel with a pack containing safety gear and emergency provisions.

Be Safe and have an enjoyable Hatcher Pass experience