

# MacDONALD PASS CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAILS

Revised December 2018

- Groomed Trail
- - - Ungroomed Route
- Easiest
- More Difficult
- ◆ Most Difficult
- 🏂 Ski Direction of Icon on Weekends and Holidays



LAST CHANCE NORDIC SKI CLUB  
HELENA, MONTANA



Helena National  
Forest



Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks

For Emergencies  
**9-1-1**

## Electronic Map Download

**Step 1:** Download the free 'Avenza PDF Maps' App or similar product from the App Store or Google Play on your smartphone device. Allow App access to your location and camera.

**Step 2:** Open App to 'Maps' screen, click the plus icon (+) to add the MacPass Ski Trail Map by either scanning the QR Code below or entering the following URL: [lcncs.org/wp-content/uploads/maps/macpassmap.pdf](http://lcncs.org/wp-content/uploads/maps/macpassmap.pdf)



**Step 3:** Go Skiing! App tracks your location, distance, time, and elevation.

Visit [lcncs.org/macdonald-pass/maps](http://lcncs.org/macdonald-pass/maps) for more information. App will use GPS to locate your general location with or without cell service. **DO NOT USE THE APP FOR EMERGENCIES - KNOW YOUR SURROUNDINGS.**



Please: Skiers only on groomed trails. Snowshoes, bikes and dogs welcome across Highway 12 at the MacDonald Pass Recreation Area. This helps preserve ski trail snowpack and grooming.

## Popular Loops

- The MacDonald Pass Cross-Country Ski Trails are a network of groomed cross country skiing only trails, situated over snow covered Forest Service roads. Trails generally contour across slopes, although a few climb or drop steeply.
- Individual **trails** may be linked to form four popular **loops** (below).
- All distances and elevations are best estimates
- All loop distances (below) are roundtrip distances from the Trailhead.

### ● Old Cabin Loop — 4.8 km, 3.0 miles

Suggested route: Access Trail, Old Cabin Trail, Big Pine Trail, Kelly Hump Trail, Middle Microwave Road Trail, returning on the Access Trail. The 0.9 km Old Cabin Trail section, which features a picnic shelter and overlook, is groomed for classic skiing only (no skate skiing, please), and for safety reasons is skied in a counter-clockwise direction.

### ■ Big Pine Loop — 6.2 km, 3.9 miles

Suggested route: Access Trail, Old Cabin Trail, Big Pine Trail, Haul Road Trail, Middle Microwave Road Trail, Access Trail.

### ■ Little Porcupine Loop — 9.7 km, 6 miles

Suggested route: Access Trail, Old Cabin Trail, Big Pine Trail, Haul Rd Trail, Little Porcupine Loop, Haul Rd Trail, Middle Microwave Rd Trail, Access Trail.

### ◆ Meadows Loop — 6.6 km, 4.1 miles

Suggested route: Access Trail, Old Cabin Trail, Meadows Loop, Kelly Hump Trail, Middle Microwave Road Trail, Access Trail. As Meadows is the lowest elevation loop in the system, it usually opens later in the season. On weekends and holidays, for safety's sake, please ski this loop **clockwise** only. Otherwise, you may ski it either way. **Meadows Loop contains several sharp turns, please ski with caution.**

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MacDonald Pass Cross-Country Ski Trails are maintained by Helena's Last Chance Nordic Ski Club through a seasonal permit from the Helena National Forest and in cooperation with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. **For more information: [lcncs.org](http://lcncs.org)**

Helena - 15 miles  
from trailhead to  
intersection of Euclid &  
Benton Avenues

