

McCall Ultra Sled Dog Challenge

Musher Packet

We are excited to bring an Iditarod qualifier to the Heartland of Idaho, and appreciate that you have chosen to race in the inaugural 2018 McCall Ultra Sled Dog Challenge.

Since this is our first race we decided to keep it simple, limiting it to one race with twelve teams. However I think you should know about our vision for 2019 going forward to concurrently run 200 and 300 mile Iditarod and Yukon Quest qualifies, plus a couple shorter races.

We originally had three checkpoints but had to remove the Wellington checkpoint due to an unsafe condition related to low snow levels and the rerouted race is shortened to 237 miles. Trail map attached.

Details.

1. Ponderosa State Park will host you with plenty of space to keep teams separated. Coordinate with Park Manager Richard Taplin before you arrive and he will get you lined out. Office 208-634-2164, cell 208-315-4982 richard.taplin@idpr.idaho.gov

Driving Directions: From Hwy 55 in McCall turn north on Railroad Ave., bear right on Pine St. to Davis, then left on Davis to the park entrance.

2. Straw for the race will be furnished to each team when you arrive at Ponderosa State Park.
3. The park is making their large heated maintenance building with bathroom available for you to stay near your team – no shower though. We are working with the community to provide food and beverage for you there. You will need to bring your own bedding. Hotel space is limited during Winter Carnival so for those of you desiring an upgrade we are rounding up host families. Let us know if you want to be on that list. McCall has a lot of Vacation Rentals by Owner that you might also look into.
4. Please let us know when you plan to arrive.
5. A large fireworks show will kick off Winter Carnival about a mile from the park Friday evening, January 26.
6. The race is a McCall Winter Carnival event with a parade at noon on Saturday, January 27, and it would be great to have you in the parade. I need to let the parade people know by the 19th so please let me know if you can participate.
7. A Meet the Musers event will be held at the Broken Horn Brewing Company, 201 Mission St. McCall on Saturday January 27 at 4:30 pm.

8. The Musher meeting and Vet checks will be at the Ponderosa Park Maintenance Building Sunday morning the 28th. Musher meeting and 9:00 am and Vet checks at 10am.
9. Bib numbers will be drawn at the musher meeting.
10. The Ceremonial Start is Sunday, January 28 at 2 pm. It will be on the lake ice in front of Legacy Park (if the lake ice is safe – highly unlikely). Otherwise (and most likely) it will be in Ponderosa State Park. Race fans will have an opportunity to bid on line to ride with you in the Ceremonial Start. One ride per team will go to the highest bidders.
11. The official start will be from Bear Creek Lodge, 3492 Hwy 55, a few miles northwest of McCall at 1:00pm, Monday January 29. Plan to arrive at the lodge by 10:00 am.
12. The Awards Banquet is at Bear Creek Lodge, 6:30 PM Wednesday January 31.
13. Checkpoints will be at Platt Warming Hutt west of Donnelly and at Cascade Lake. Checkpoints are road accessible.

PLATT WARMING HUTT CHECKPOINT– A combination warming hut and groomer garage at the intersection of West Mountain Road and No Business Rd. It is large, has heat, electricity and an adjacent restroom. Water is from an artisan well about 100 yards south of the building. Teams will be parked in an open field across the road east of the warming hut. The community will provide food and beverage.

Driving Directions: From Donnelly go west 3.7 miles on W Roseberry Rd. to West Mountain Rd., then turn right and go north 1.3 miles to Platt Warming Hutt.

CASCADE LAKE CHECKPOINT– The checkpoint is at the eastern shore of Cascade Lake in Cascade Lake State Park. Teams will be parked immediately north of the boat ramp. The basement of the adjacent Pro Shop and Lakeside Restaurant is available to sleep. Food and beverage is being supplied by the community.

Driving Directions: From N Main Street in Cascade go south on Old State Hwy ½ mile to the lake shore. The checkpoint will be in the park on the right side of the boat ramp.

CASCADE CONTINGENCY – ANDERSON CREEK SNOW PARK. In the event that the lake ice is not safe to cross, the Cascade Lake checkpoint will be moved to the west side of the lake where you come off the mountain at Anderson Creek. In that case the community will set up heated tents and bring a water truck. Food and beverage will be supplied by the community.

Driving Directions: From N Main Street go south on Old State Hwy ½ mile, then left on Lakeshore Drive for 3.5 miles, then right on West Mountain Rd for 4 miles, turn left on FS 435 and Anderson Creek Snow Park will be on the right.

14. You will be at both checkpoints twice so reclaim your spot the second time in and use the same straw.
15. Bring your own HEET
16. Water will be at the checkpoints.
17. Rules Update:

MUSHER ASSISTANCE - Handlers can stage supplies their teams at the checkpoints, but that's the extent of help mushers can receive from their handlers. If a musher must retrieve something from their truck they first need to notify a race judge.

MANDATORY REST - There is a 6 hour mandatory rest at the Cascade Checkpoint, after completion of leg 3. Times will be adjusted to correct for starting times at this mandatory layover. An additional 6 hour mandatory floating rest may be divided between the Cascade and Platt Warming Hutt checkpoints, either outbound or inbound, musher choice. The mandatory rest periods will be credited only in whole hour increments, and will be rounded down to the nearest hour. For instance, if a musher takes 2 hours and 45 minutes rest at a checkpoint, they will only be credited with 2 hours, and will have 4 hours remaining. The floating rest cannot be tacked onto the 6 hour mandatory at the Cascade Checkpoint.

| CHECKPOINT | MILES | ELEVATION GAIN | ELEVATION LOSS |
|--|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Leg 1. Bear Creek Lodge to Platt Warming Hutt | 47 | 4100 | 4400 |
| Leg 2. Platt Warming Hutt to Cascade | 42 | 5100 | 5100 |
| Leg 3. Cascade to Cascade | 59 | 6900 | 6900 |
| Mandatory 6 hour Rest | - | - | - |
| Leg 4. Cascade to Platt Warming Hutt | 42 | 5100 | 5100 |
| Leg 5. Platt Warming Hutt to Bear Creek Lodge | 47 | 4400 | 4100 |
| TOTALS | 237 | 25,600 | 25,600 |

See you in McCall and have a great race.

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 Race Organizer
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