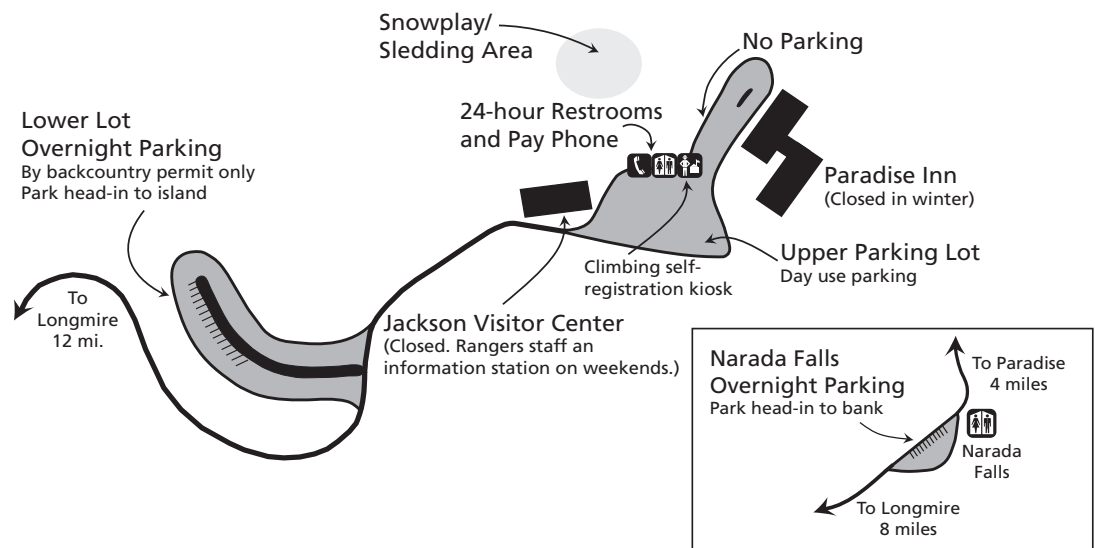




# Winter Camping

**?** Radio 1610-AM Paradise for road updates and closures.

**!** Route finding and hazard assessment skills are needed in Paradise area when snow-covered.



Camping on snow is allowed almost anywhere in the park with a permit once snow depth has reached five feet at Paradise and two feet elsewhere in the park. A snow depth of eight feet is recommended before constructing snow caves at Paradise. In selecting your campsite, choose a location that is a minimum of 300 feet from plowed roads and parking areas (to avoid being buried by snowplows), marked routes, trails, and buildings and at least 100 feet from water. Party size is limited to 10 persons or up to 12 people from the same household until COVID safety standards are met. Permits are required for all overnight camping.

## Camping in the Backcountry

Backcountry permits are required year-round. If you plan to winter camp in the backcountry, permits are available the day of arrival at the Longmire Museum, Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm and at the Longmire Wilderness Information Center,

9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Friday through Sunday. In selecting your campsite, choose a location that is a minimum of 300 feet from plowed roads and parking areas, marked routes, trails and buildings, and at least 100 feet from water.

## Blue Bags

Blue bags, for human waste, can be obtained from the ranger station or visitor center. Using blue bags keeps water clean, protects fragile vegetation from digging and allows more people to use the area

without leaving impacts. A blue bag barrel is available in the tunnel to the restrooms in the Paradise upper parking lot for disposal of used blue bags. Please dispose of bags properly.

## Regulations

Pets permitted in parking lots only and never on trails or snow. Service dogs allowed.

Remember to pack out all trash. Trash left behind melts out in early summer.

To protect the park's resources and visitor facilities, the following are prohibited:

- Cutting vegetation (tree boughs, etc.).
- Collecting or gathering of wood, rocks, plants or other park resources.
- Campfires of any type. Stoves are permitted.
- Drying clothing and gear in restrooms or the visitor center.
- Camping or cooking in any building or in the restroom tunnel.

## Food Storage

Proper food storage is required at all times when camping. Hang your food, garbage, and scented items to keep them out of reach of wildlife, or secure them in an approved hard-sided container (5-gallon plastic buckets with tight-fitting lids, or manufactured wildlife-resistant food containers).

*Containers are REQUIRED in all Paradise area winter camping zones (Paradise, Mazama Ridge, Reflection Lakes, Tatoosh). Wildlife-resistant food containers are available for loan—ask a ranger when obtaining your camping permit.*

## Parking for Winter Camping

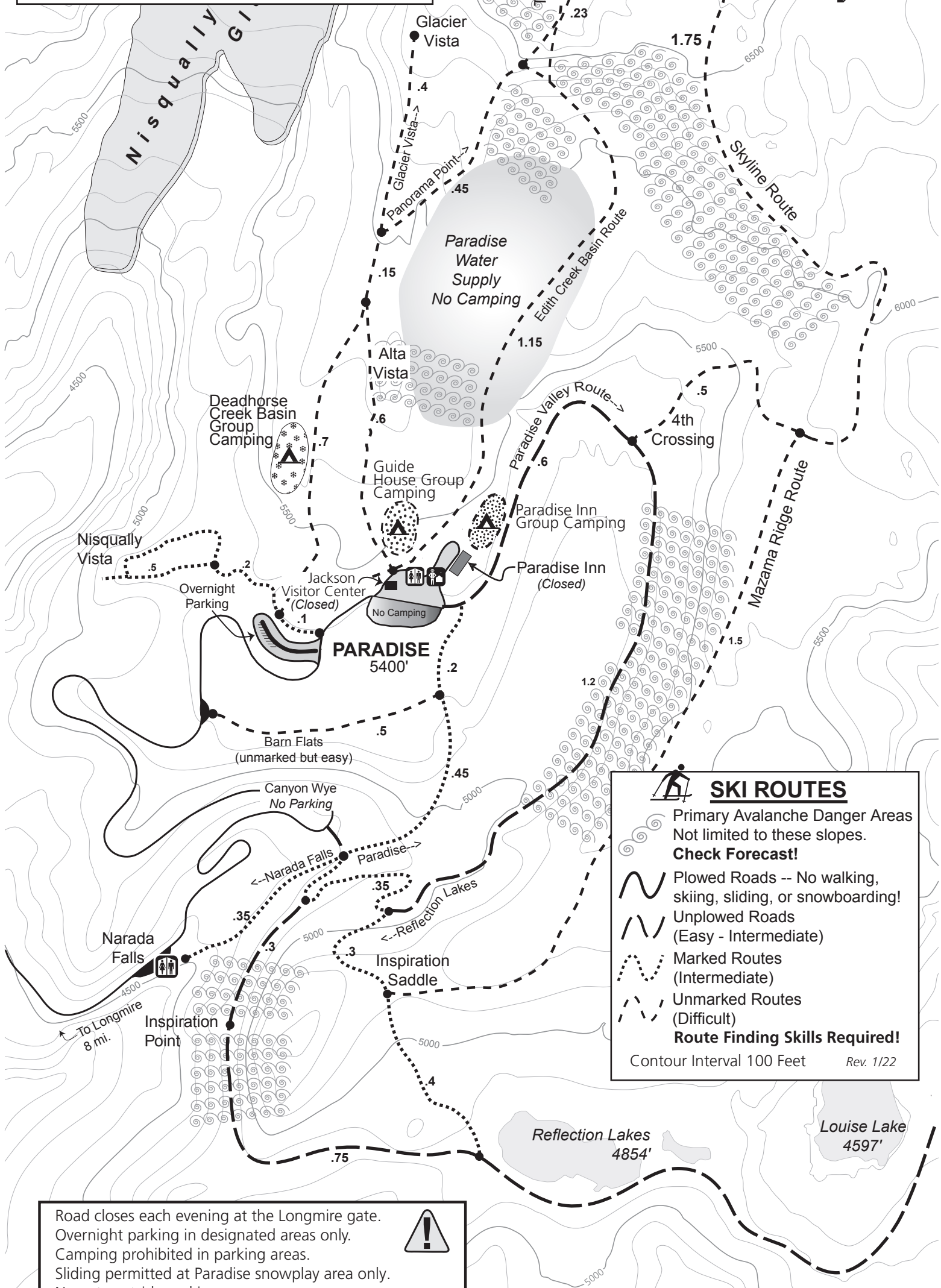
Vehicles must be parked in the overnight parking areas at Paradise, Narada Falls, or Longmire. If designated areas are full, contact a park ranger. Parking outside these areas impedes snow removal operations. If possible, avoid setting your parking brake—it may freeze and become unable to release.

The road between Longmire and Paradise closes nightly in winter and reopens once the road has been plowed.

The road may close early or remain closed during the entire day due to poor road conditions or severe weather. It is unsafe to drive on roads and parking lots until morning snowplow operations are complete. Plows routinely operate on the wrong side of the road when it is closed. Radio 1610-AM will indicate when the road is open and safe for travel. Call 360-569-2211 or check @MountRainierNPS on Twitter for information on road and weather conditions.

# Winter "10 ESSENTIALS"

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Shovel (avalanche rescue)          | 7. Avalanche Transceiver                       |
| 2. Full Length Insulated Sleeping Pad | 8. Avalanche Probe                             |
| 3. Stove & Fuel (melt water)          | 9. Reliable Weather & Avalanche Forecasts      |
| 4. Heat Packs                         | 10. Map, Compass, & GPS (with extra batteries) |
| 5. Goggles & Wool/Pile Hat            |  |
| 6. Gloves (waterproof/lined)          |  |



**SKI ROUTES**

Primary Avalanche Danger Areas Not limited to these slopes. **Check Forecast!**

Plowed Roads -- No walking, skiing, sliding, or snowboarding!

Unplowed Roads (Easy - Intermediate)

Marked Routes (Intermediate)

Unmarked Routes (Difficult)

**Route Finding Skills Required!**

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Road closes each evening at the Longmire gate. Overnight parking in designated areas only. Camping prohibited in parking areas. Sliding permitted at Paradise snowplay area only. No pets outside parking areas. Permit required for camping. An emergency phone is located in the hallway to the restrooms in the upper parking lot.

