

## Cross Country Ski Update #21, 01 April 2022

Hi Skiers,

Well this my last ski update for this season. It has not been the best season weather and ski conditions wise. A mid November snowfall gave some early promise which was soon dissipated by rain and freezing rain. Some great snow around Xmas and new year accompanied by a deep freeze making it tough to take advantage of the lovely snow. Then a major thaw wrecked most trails but luckily, they were able to resurrect the trails enough to have a successful Birkie. Cooler weather and more snow in early March gave a reasonable end to our season.

This year we were not plagued so much by equipment shortages and skin skis now dominate the recreational ski market. I now do most of my classic skiing on my skin skis. In fact, the only time I used my waxable skis was during the very cold spell around the beginning of the year, when I waxed a pair for the cold conditions.

It appears that the ski season is rapidly winding down and most of the trails in the city are done except for perhaps a bit around Goldbar for the diehards. Out of town Strathcona is still going for skate skiing but not for classic.

### City Trails

The city finished grooming about two weeks ago and now Edmonton Nordic have suspended grooming for the season at Goldbar and Capilano. For details go to the ENSC Facebook page or Doug Wiens Northern Alberta Trail reports page.

### Out of Town Trails

Most areas have stopped grooming and are reporting as being finished for the season. You may find some skiing in the mountains or closer to them at places such as Hinton. Locally that leaves just some skate skiing at Strathcona

- **Strathcona WC** – Are reporting poor to fair conditions for skating and poor for classic. I skied there the last couple of mornings. I would rate the skate skiing as fair to good and the classic as poor because there were no tracks, I found the best conditions for skating were on Wagon. On the Moose trail although freshly groomed on Friday morning I found it was rather soft even at 9.30

am and my skis were making noticeable ruts on the softest parts of Moose. Temperature was about +2. There were a few thin spots developing on Owl. Overall, still worth a visit for the diehards. I think most of the base should last through this weekend. (See attached photo taken on the MooseTrail on Thursday morning). If you go try and get there early because the best conditions are usually before 11 am. After that it warms up and becomes too soft.

### **Recommendations for skiing this Weekend**

- Strathcona WC for skate skiing only

### **Possible ENSC Recreational Ski this Sunday**

At Strathcona WC again and If you are interested in going please contact Katrina Wilson at [ensc.recreationalski@gmail.com](mailto:ensc.recreationalski@gmail.com)

### **Waxing Frames/Forms**

I have a few left and they are for sale at \$60 each. Please contact me if interested.

### **Summary**

So that's it until next winter. I enjoyed meeting some of you on the trails even if sometimes I could not remember your names or recognize you at first in your ski clothes (not my strongest points) and I hope to see some of you hiking and biking during the warmer months.

Here is a quick tip to protect your skis from drying out in the summer. Cover the glide areas with some ironed in warm temperature (yellow) glide wax and do not scrape it off until next season.

Bye for now, take care

Mike

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