



Home of the Inland Northwest Ski Association

What's New With Skiing 07/08

Industry In General

Snow in September? Yes, on September 20th it snowed at Lookout Pass & 49° North! We hope this means winter is just around the corner. We've already received some good news from the National Weather Service. According to the National Weather Service, the Northwest Region is in for a wetter than normal winter as the result of La Niña conditions.

"The recent SST forecasts for the Niño 3.4 region range from ENSO-neutral to La Niña. Nearly all of the dynamical ENSO models forecast the continuing development of La Niña during the next couple of months, and several of the statistical models also indicate the continuation of La Niña conditions through the end of the year. Therefore, current atmospheric conditions (stronger than average easterlies over the west-central Pacific) and observed oceanic trends indicate that La Niña conditions will further develop and possibly strengthen during the next 3 months.

Based on current conditions in the tropical Pacific, the most recent model outlooks, and on results from historical studies on the effects of cold episodes, wetter than normal conditions are expected over Indonesia and drier than normal conditions are anticipated over the central equatorial Pacific during September - November. During this period, potential impacts over the contiguous United States include wetter than normal conditions over the Pacific Northwest and drier than normal conditions over the southwestern states."

[Information extracted from [El Niño/Southern Oscillation \(ENSO\) Diagnostic Discussion.](#)]

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/index.shtml

November 16 & 17 the **Ski the Northwest Rockies Snow Show** is back to get the season started. This is your chance to rub elbows with industry representatives, and get a look at the latest in winter equipment of all types. Swing by our booth so we can give you the latest mountain update and get your season pass photo taken while you're at it. This event is back at the Spokane Convention Center with the new Warren Miller film on Friday night and Poor Boyz film on Saturday.

49° North

Seven Days a Week 2007/2008 Operation Schedule - 49° North Mountain Resort is pleased to announce the expansion of our operating schedule for the 2007/2008 winter season. We will be open 7 days a week from December 14th through February 19th. That's 12 additional days and over 9 weeks of continuous operation! This means more epic powder days and more turns on our world-class corduroy. The expanded operating season is just another way we continue to be the Inland Northwest's Favorite Family Winter Resort.

Sunrise Quad – We added the New Sunrise Quad Chairlift in the Summer of 2006 that gives access to over 500 acres of new terrain in the Sunrise Basin. There are also 20 new runs throughout the mountain that provide new and exciting areas for everyone in the family to

explore! All the new acreage at 49° North now offers more lift accessible terrain than any other mountain in Washington State.

November 3rd 2007 Snow Dance - Help us celebrate the upcoming season in style. Season pass holders, employees, local media, and industry professionals will dress to impress at the 49° North Snow Dance at the Spokane Club in Downtown Spokane. Season Pass holders, look for your invitation coming soon in your mail box.

Nordic Trails – There is also the brand new 49° North Nordic Center. In addition to the new alpine terrain, we have developed 10 kilometers of new cross-country trails. Cross Country Skiers for decades have enjoyed groomed skiing on their way out the East Basin road, to Moose Track corner, around the south side of Chewelah Peak and up to the summit. Now, there is a whole new Nordic world to explore. The new trails nearly double the previous Nordic system.

Another new addition to the **49° North Nordic Center is the Yurt**. This comfortable shelter is a wonderfully rustic place to warm up after exploring all the new trails. A wood stove keeps the yurt warm, plus beverages and snacks are available for purchase. The new 49° North Nordic Center has emerged as one of the region's most exciting cross-country developments.

Lookout Pass

Expansion is underway at Lookout Pass! Our new **North Star, double chairlift**, is currently under construction and due for completion in time for the 2007-2008 winter season! The new lift will provide access to **six new runs** on the north aspect of the mountain. Three of the runs are rated expert and three are intermediate runs. Enjoy fall-line skiing on the coveted north flank of the mountain with panoramic views of the Bitterroot Mountains and the Coeur d'Alene River Valley.

New Five Day Schedule: We're **open Thursday through Monday** and all holidays, including the two-week Christmas vacation break, December 22- January 6. A **new midweek season pass** is now available for only \$109.

Our **nationally-recognized** ten-week Free Ski School for youth (ages 6-17 years) has been on-going for over 60 years! This years program start Saturday, January 12 and continues every Saturday through March 15, 2008. Beginner sessions start at 10 a.m., Intermediate and Advanced sessions at 11:30 a.m.

Bus service is available to and from Coeur d'Alene, Post Falls, Hayden, Liberty Lake, the Silver Valley and Western Montana. Visit www.skilookout.com for the bus schedules under the Free Ski School menu selection. The Silver Valley and Western Montana bus service is **FREE!**

Schweitzer

Skiing Magazine readers voted Schweitzer Mountain Resort as number 21 this year in the magazine's annual survey to decide the **top 25 ski resorts in North America**. By receiving this rating for the first time, Schweitzer joins the ranks of well known destination resorts such as Whistler, Alta/Snowbird, Jackson Hole, and Crested Butte.

And for the 07-08 season, Schweitzer invested **over \$10 million** in upgrades and improvements to their ski operations.

Two new chairlifts including the **Basin Express**, a high speed detachable quad, and the **Lakeview Triple**, increase total uphill capacity at Schweitzer by 28%. These lifts ease access to low angle intermediate terrain for skiers and snowboarders, as well as to The Stomping Grounds Terrain Park and Schweitzer Bowl's steeps and chutes.

The Basin Express rises 1063 feet from Schweitzer Village in 3.7 minutes and carries 2000 people per hour. The Lakeview Triple rises 775 feet, from just below the Basin Express unload to the top of Schweitzer Bowl, in 4.5 minutes and carries 1200 people per hour. Total uphill capacity increases from 9,267 people per hour up to 12,502 people per hour.

Other construction projects include Schweitzer Land and Timber Company's **\$50 million infrastructure project** to serve new housing developments, including the first phase of 35 new home lots called Trapper's Creek.

Schweitzer Mountain Resort launched their **new interactive multimedia website** with enhanced press room features, along with **new branding** that together will better serve and represent their guests.

The Cirque Group Welcome Center, conveniently located in Schweitzer Village, houses our expanded group services staff. Stop by and say hello, or call 208.263.9555 ext 2820 to find out about the great deals Schweitzer has to offer your group!

Sunday through Friday Season Passes are a new product offered for 2007-2008. The Sunday through Friday Season Pass is valid every day but Saturday, and there are no blackout periods or other restrictions. If purchased before November 1st, 2007 they cost only \$399. Beginning November 1st the rate is \$599.

The Lakeview Lodge sports a **new outdoor patio** for your après ski pleasure and other upgrades were made to the building's interior. Other on mountain investments include **grooming and snowmaking equipment**, and improvements to the chairs on the Great Escape Quad.

Plus, check out the newest **Poor Boyz Productions ski movie, "Yeah Dude!"** and see the world's top skiers tearing it up at Schweitzer Mountain Resort. Showings of the movie are scheduled at Schweitzer during our **1st ever Halloween party**, in Sandpoint at the Panida, and in Spokane during the Ski the Northwest Rockies Snow Show. The Halloween party on October 27th features the bands Tennis and Sweatshop Union, and a \$500 top prize is offered for best costume!

Silver Mountain

Gliding in the Chair 2 Basin - We've been up to our ears in sawdust! Yes, it's true – the mountain crews have been busy all summer long busting out some sweet new gladed areas in the chair 2 basin.

Red & Black is Back...Chair 4 has been completely refurbished and repainted to the original old riblet colors of red and black

Rick Brooks takes the reigns of the lift maintenance department - Rick has joined the Silver Mountain team. Besides his wife, kids and pets, Rick brings 23 years of lift maintenance experience with him from Mt. Bachelor.

New Village.....

Silver Mountain Phase II Morning Star Lodge – NOW OPEN – Stay a week....Stay a night. Free Equipment Storage & Parking / Roof top & Ground Level hot tubs. Ski & Stay packages starting at \$85 pp.do

New Restaurant & Bar– Noah’s Canteen – Sure to be the favorite après “hot spot” in the village. Serving up appetizers such as huckleberry elk skewers and eclectic American cuisine along with a full service bar and succulent desserts. Relax and enjoy a fine glass of wine by our indoor/outdoor fireplace while your kids play upstairs in the new arcade.

Noah’s Arcade – opening December 15 – Conveniently located above Noah’s Canteen in the Gondola Village. A variety of games and action to keep the entire family full of fun!

Surf’s Up Idaho – Break out the board shorts – Silver Rapids, our Indoor Waterpark is scheduled to open Early '08. It’s GIANT with over 20+ features including a FlowRider Surf Wave, Lazy River, Family Raft Slide, and much more.

Expanded Terrain Park & New Progressive Beginner Area – Our terrain park saw the highest number of park users ever last season. So much so – that we carved out some extra real estate and cleared out a couple tree islands, giving the park nearly double the terrain. Look for some new “Spinny” signature features this season.

Beginner Terrain Doubles in Size – More room to make pies and learn how to carve. After your trip down the slope, take an easy ride back up on our moving carpet lift.

Extended Snow Tubing Park – Tubing down the hill just got better with an additional 100 feet of fun. A 6th lane has been added to ensure that you are capturing as much tubing vertical as possible.

Mt Spokane

The Scion Terrain Park --- This season the state of the arts Phirnoth Seraph 350 winch will be put to the test by Edlore Langley Mt. Spokane’s Terrain Park Manager and Groomer, Edlore attended the Mt. Hood’s Cookie Cutter School and is stoked to build exciting features jibs and Rails that will be suited for all levels of freeriders. Our HPG has been refined and when nature provides ample amounts of the white stuff, get ready to ride the pipe. The Seraph 350 winch snow grooming machine will be a big part of the grooming for seven on hill events and the steep race course events held on Hourglass or upper No Alibi.

Trail Grooming--- The Volunteers, Prime Timers and mountain staff have been busy clearing the pistes, removing and thinning which has improved the pistes and add to the already fabulous glade skiing.

The Tubing Hill---More tubes will be added to this already popular attraction, which will double the tubing hills capacity. Several new lanes have been added that will provide safe thrills for all age, on this popular family attraction.

Lodge Two and Lodge One--- A touch of old world charm has been added to the Lodge at Mt. Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park with the addition of historic photos that show the rich history and tradition of our Skiing History in the Inland Empire. New tables and counter tops have been added. Also the wifi system was expanded to lodge one may access points at both lodge one and two and it remains a free service for our valued guest. The point of sale system that was installed last year has been critiqued and refined to provide smooth transaction at all the point of sales location on the mountain.

Chair Three--- A new haul rope was installed on chair three that will provide 20 years of service to the skiing and riding public. Its an expensive part on a chair lift but the Mountain operations staff puts rider safe above all else. About 80% of what we do is not hip cool or sexy but it the bread and butter of what make for an enjoyable skiing and riding experience. It's the things you never notice but have come to expect in our flawless execution from the operation folks at your Mt. Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park each lift is checked and certified by the State of Washington.

Mt. Spokane Value leader—Mt. Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park continues to be the valued leader in the Inland Empire. With are expanded operation this year we will offer you 12 bonus days of skiing and riding at no extra charge to our season pass holders. Yes that's right seven day operation from December 19th thru February 24th We will offer several special nights like Thursday is College night on Mt. Spokane with discounted lift tickets and specials in the lodge. Friday will be family night out, bring the whole family and save. Other great deals on Monday and Tuesday to hot to announce. Remember Mt. Spokane is SO close SO Cool. Which save gas and is less harmful to the environment do your part and ski close to home.

Mt Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park in Partnership with the Washington State Park Commission--- Work continues on the expansion of Mt. Spokane with the approval by the park commission last spring the environmental studies have moved forward and should be completed by next summer. Those out of bounds hidden patches of powder enjoyed by the few will soon be enjoyed by all. Thanks to the progressive thinking of the Washington State Parks Commission in the insightful stewardship of the mountain we all love and enjoy. It's all about sustainable recreation for us now and our children's children.

Mt. Spokane Ski Patrol Ski Swap October 26th, 27th and 28th at the Spokane Interstate Fairgrounds. Come check out sweet deals on new and used gear for all disciplines and help support the Mt. Spokane Patrol at the same time.