

White River West Course Notes

The last stage of the 2026 PNWOF series takes place at the White River West Sno-Park. This stage features middle-distance courses for all national ranking event classes. You will have up to two hours to complete courses that are 50 to 65 percent as long as the usual classic-distance courses. The venue is relatively small, so the brown, green, red, and blue courses each have a map flip half way through their courses. If you know that you are going to go into overtime for your course, please return to the finish within your allowed two hours.

All courses will experience wide open areas with gullies, scattered tree zones, and forest lands in addition to at least a couple of creek crossings. You should be able to cross the creeks without getting wet but if you don't want to spend time looking for dry crossings, you can expect to get your shoes and feet wet.

The safety bearing for this event is NORTH. If your compass isn't working or is lost, point yourself toward Mt Hood (if it is not obscured by clouds) and return to the event center.

This venue has lots of rocky ground, some of which is easy to go through and some that is quite difficult. The open wash areas have a mix of rocky and sandy grounds. To minimize injuries, we recommend that competitors avoid the areas completely covered with rocks or at least carefully go through those areas if necessary.

Vegetation is shown with the standard symbols for slow run (light green or widely spaced parallel green lines), walk (medium green or narrowly spaced parallel green lines), and impassable (dark green). Areas with lots of downed trees are also shown with the three shades of green and parallel lines depending on the anticipated speed of competitors and visibility in the area. Special vegetation features (green X) show the location of prominent (1+ meters) stumps and rootstalks. When a downed tree blocks navigation, it is shown with a green T (the top of the T at the location of the roots and the long stem of the T showing where it is difficult or impossible to get past the tree. When there are multiple vegetation features shown in the same location, your map generally shows just one symbol for readability.

Starts are generally every two minutes for the non-elite courses and every three minutes for the elite (M-21+ and F-21+) courses. If you miss your start time, you may ask for another start time but you might have to wait quite a while before an opening occurs, especially if you are doing a brown course (our most popular course for this stage).

Parking passes are not required at either White River West Sno-Park or Skyline Sno-Park. Have a good time on your course. Don't forget to track your route so that you can load it onto LiveLox so others can see what you did.

Tony Pinkham