

From: Sunny Sundberg [mailto:sunny@seaba-heli.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 2:55 PM
To: Julie Cozzi
Subject: Re: Haines 2015 Free Ride Event Permit Report

Haines 2015 Free Ride Event Permit Report

3/11/15 inspection of Telemark Ridge, 5 guides 2 from Seaba and 3 from FWT,
Ski test cut results create d2 r3 avalanche and bury Seaba guide.
Successful recovery, no injuries, slide was ski cut from inside the Commercial ski area boundary and guide was carried just out of the area boundary,

Conclusion telemark ridge snow structure not suitable for competition.

3/12-15 event organizers welcome all the other organizers, personnel, and competitors. Weather days 90cm of snow fall.
3/15 guides and event organizers get a chance to look at The Venue and Light Meter, at 38 mile via 26 mile heli port.

3/16 guide ship goes to The Venue and works on designing competition with existing ridge and landings to work the area. Snow studies are completed on the competition face and the area gets photographed extensively for planning purposes. Organizers launch the production tent, Live webcast equipment, overnight tent, and all other supplies that are needed to produce live webcast.

Plan is put into motion for contest on 3/17.

Seaba flies in 12 sling loads to production ridge and tents and equipment are secured by 7 pm on the 16th

3/17 early launch for 33 mile with all personnel. Event takes 105 people to run, including 6 seaba staff, and contracted DR.Alan Oram.

SEABA launches 43 people by 8:40 am before the weather window for the morning begins to shut down the competition effort. It is decided to abort the comp and try again on Thursday and all unnecessary personnel are removed from the mountain by 1:00pm

No wildlife is spotted and no skiing is completed except for more slope test completed on the venue.

3/18 weather day

3/19 second full false start. We get all broadcast personnel and the men's ski on the hill ready for the comp, with other ski and snowboard categories on deck.

Weather does not break, and we have to call off the attempt for the next day.

We found it difficult getting all unnecessary personnel off the mountain that day because of clouds. We were forced to deviated from protocol flight paths because of this.

3/20

Another attempt is made to have the contest , all competitions and organizers meet at 33 mile for the third time by 6:45 am. The weather is watched without loading everyone into the mountains, only lead guides and Gm of FWT and a call is made one more time to abort.

At this point the expenditures with the exiting budget for the event have been hit, and organizers decide to put more money in the event by changing all tickets for athletes, and key personnel as well as spending another few days feeding and housing people in Haines until the forecasted good weather window on the 23rd, with the 24th being as late as possible.

Organizers prep for the final contest date, Seaba maintains snow forecasts and observations. Another 40 cm falls before we can get back in the field to do the work necessary on Sunday the 22nd to mitigate the slope.

All personnel and athletes are taken to 33 mile on Monday morning the 23rd and the third and luckily final attempt at a full contest with live webcast is begun at 6:37 am.

All people, 97 plus 6 seaba personnel are in place by 9:45 am.

The equates to 24 helicopter lifts to the area, with return flights.

Contest starts on time, has great snow stability with Snowboard men getting to open it up! No injuries until the skiers men, # 11 blows out a knee on a landing and was able to ski to finish line where his leg is stabilized and a doctor is flow to him and then with him to 33 where an ambulance meets them there.

There was no heli flight to the airport because the injury was stable and we would of put the contest and others at risk by not having both heli and doctors on site for, the rest of the contest. Since his knee was stable we concluded that an

ambulance handoff would suffice.

Competition ended on time around 1:30, and critical personnel that was departing that day began shuttling off the mountain.

All gear, personnel, and trash were off the mountain by 6:00 pm that evening which included 13 sling loads by heli.

All in all very successful event.

Total participants on site through the venue selection and competition would equate to roughly 285 skier day if being on the mountain for any period of time counts as a skier day.

Take always for the future:

Need more sponsors, like Title sponsors, that will support this event. This can be done privately or in Kind
The borough should continue to make an effort to use staff and other resources to accommodate the FWT.
The borough should continue to support the state permit process with a resolution that helps institute this competition.
The borough also continue to follow through on opening up terrain like they did this year, every bit helps.

Thank you
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