Ice Climbing at the Salmon River Falls Unique Area

Daily registration is required for ice climbing within Salmon River Falls Unique Area. Each individual climber must fill out the form below and deposit it in the registration box on the trailhead kiosk prior to entering the gorge.

The purpose of this registration is to have up-to-date information of climbers within the gorge in case of an emergency. The registration information may also be used in future planning for the area.

One mode of access to the base of the gorge is by way of the Gorge Trail. This trail is closed seasonally from November 15th thru May 1st due to the potential for high water or icy conditions. This trail is open to registered ice climbers.

Please be advised that this area is not regularly patrolled. It is recommended that all climbers climb in pairs in case of an emergency or accident.

Area Concerns for Climbers:
Fast Rising Water: The Salmon River Reservoir Dam is located 1 mile upstream of the falls. In the event of a high water release there is very little notice for fast rising water. If you notice the water rising, move to higher ground and do not try and cross the river.

Threatened Plant Species: The birds-eye primrose and the yellow mountain saxifrage are two State-listed threatened plant species that grow on the steep cliffs and rock ledges within the gorge. These plants live in very vulnerable soils which can be easily disturbed. Ice climbing has not been considered detrimental to the plants' habitat since climbing is done on thick formations of ice. It is important for ice climbers to be aware of the concern for these plants and their habitat and that they only climb in areas fully covered by ice to minimize disturbance. Plant populations within the gorge will be monitored and steps will be taken to ensure their survival.

Ice Climbing Guidelines and Area Restrictions

• No climbing is allowed without registering. To register, fill out the attached form and place it in the registration box at the trailhead kiosk prior to each day's entry into the gorge.
• No climbing is allowed within the designated restricted area or on the face of the falls.
• Climbers are to use conventional ice climbing gear such as helmet, ice axe, crampons, etc.
• Climbing in areas without ice and or conventional rock climbing is prohibited.
• Ice climbing on this property is at your own risk.
• No open fires.
• No possession of glass containers or alcoholic beverages.
• No motorized vehicles (including snowmobiles) on the property.
• The area is closed from sunset to sunrise.

Ice Climbing Registration Form:

Please fill out this form and place in the registration box at the trailhead kiosk if you are ice climbing in the Salmon River Falls Unique Area.

Date climbing: ____________________ Name: ________________________________________________________
Arrival time: _______________________ Address: ______________________________________________________
Estimated departure time: ___________ City: ____________________ State: ______ Zip: ______
License plate #: ____________________ Phone #: ____________________
Signature: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Email address (optional): ________________________________ Affiliated group (if any): ______________________

By signing this form you are agreeing to abide by the area's guidelines and restrictions.
All information will be kept confidential and used for emergencies and management planning only.