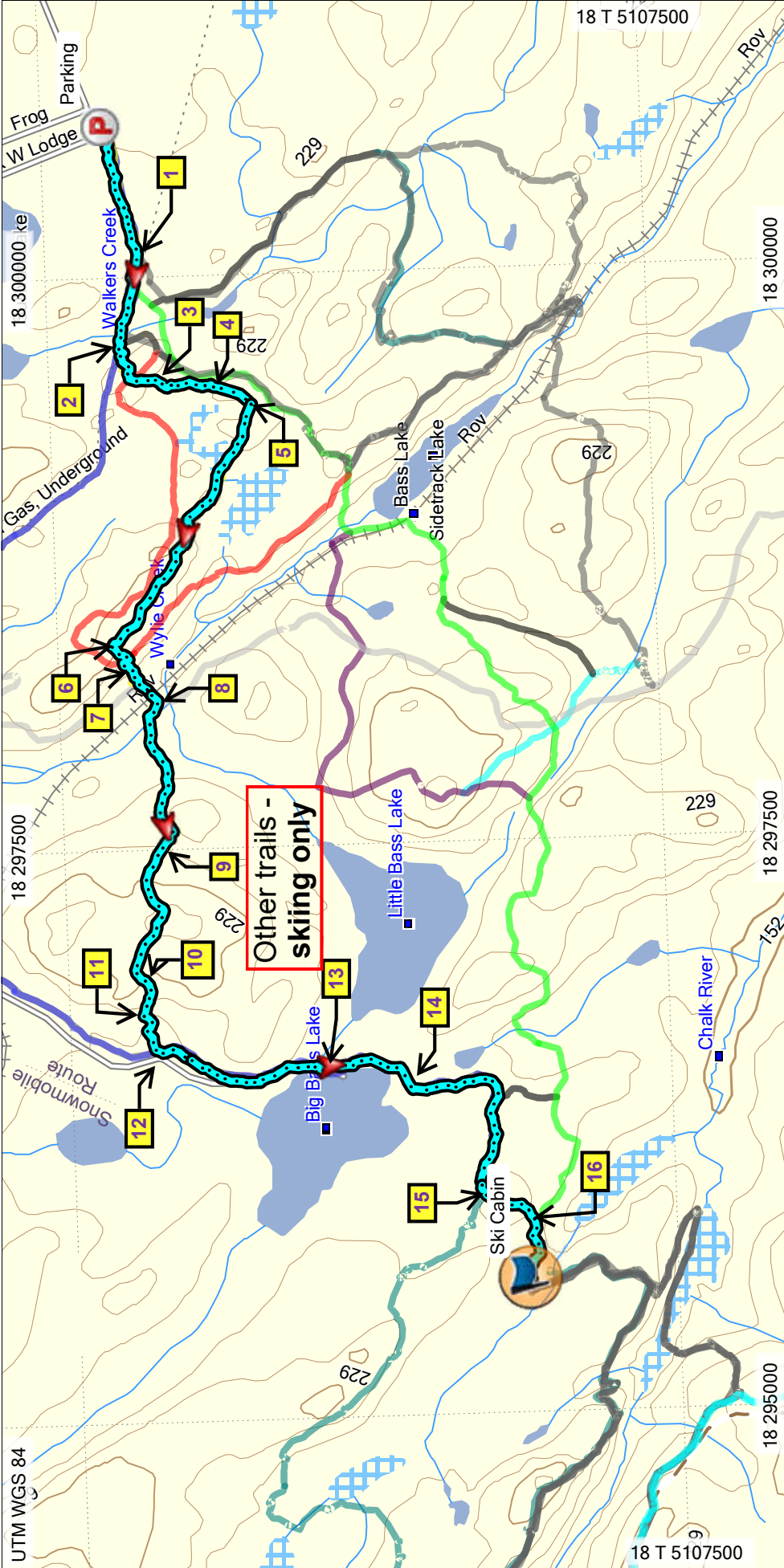


Bass Lakes Incredible Snowshoe (BLISS) Trail – Map Annotations

Numbers and distances correspond to *landmarks* (note *italics*) on the map. Distances are cumulative.

NOTE: Except for the Snowmobile Route, all other trails on the map are for **skiing only**.

- P. Start at the turnaround (parking) area at the end of Bass Lake Road. Take the road/snowmobile track that continues straight off the end of Bass Lake Road, toward the pipeline.
1. (0.6 km) At the *T-junction*, turn right and walk along the pipeline corridor. Stay clear of the snowmobile “highway” on the left side of the corridor by using old roads and bush on the right. ***CAUTION*** Snowmobiles race by on that highway with hardly any warning! Do not walk/snowshoe/ski there!
2. (1.0 km) Pass by a swamp on your right and left. Look for a metal gate on your right and a big hill in front of you on the pipeline. About 30 paces past the metal gate, turn left, cross a *small clearing*, and enter the bush at the edge of the pipeline. You may (or may not) see trail flagging. The trail ascends via switch-backs to the top of the rise. Pass by the Ruined Cabin on your right and begin the descent. Watch for a 90° left turn, 25 m from the ruins.
3. (1.3 km) After crossing the Short Ridge ski trail, descend on a diagonal traverse into the *Lost Valley of the Cedars*. During the warmer months, you may encounter some swamp muck.
4. (1.5 km) After passing through fairly dense pine and fir, emerge onto an old *in-grown logging road*.
5. (1.75 km) Arrive at a junction with a more open *logging road* and turn right. (If you turn left, just 80 m along you’ll intersect the Main Cabin ski trail—a potential rendezvous point for mixed ski and snowshoe groups.) Cross a causeway over a swamp; further along, pass a small raised laydown area on the left.
6. (3.0 km) Going 400 paces past the laydown on the left, take a *bush trail* on the left. This trail may be difficult to find if flagging is missing. If you’re still following the logging road and meet up with the Railway Ridge ski trail, you’ve gone 80 m too far.
7. (3.15 km) Check out the Hunter’s Tree Stand where the BLISS trail crosses the Railway Ridge ski trail. From the hunting platform, begin the descent by heading left, then switch-back on a traverse along the bottom of a lovely *rock face*. The hill is steep, but tree density is low. You can add switchbacks to your descent to match your skill/thrill level, as long as you end up on a snowmobile trail at the bottom.
8. (3.45 km) ***CAUTION*** Snowmobiles here! Turn left to follow the snowmobile trail, cross over the rail bed, and veer right at the Y-junction onto a *recent logging road*. If you pass a large pond, you’ve gone too far on the snowmobile trail.
9. (4.1 km) Follow the logging road all the way to the top of the hill. Ignore the logging roads going off to the sides. You will climb a *significant slope* about two-thirds of the way from the rail bed to the hill top. At the Y-junction near the top, veer to the left. At the highest point, pass by a stack of large logs on your right (present in 2019).
10. (4.8 km) Proceed straight beyond the crest of the hill (while admiring the view) to an open *turnaround area*. At the SW (left) corner of this area, take the trail that heads downhill at the edge of the clear-cut.
11. (5.0 km) Follow the trail through the slash down the hill, crossing a rough trail to enter the bush near a *big boulder* on your right. You’ll pass by several such erratics (large boulders) before the bush thins.
12. (5.25 km) Exit the bush trail and turn left onto the local trapper’s seldom-used *snowmobile trail*. From here on, we follow the original snowshoe route.
13. (6.0 km) Cross between the two Bass Lakes either over the ice (if solid!) or over the *beaver dam*.
14. (6.45 km) At the junction just past the lake, take the *left-most trail*. (The trail going straight will appear to be the correct trail, but don’t be lulled into taking it.) As you proceed, ignore ribbons on the left that lead to the Main Cabin Trail. Further along, by a dilapidated trail sign you may recognize another link to the Main Cabin Trail; stay on the snowshoe trail and leave the ski trails for the skiers.
15. (7.3 km) At the junction with the *Canyontop Loop* ski trail, keep straight (do not turn right). You are now sharing the trail with skiers! Avoid snowshoeing on top of ski tracks.
16. (7.6 km) At the junction with the Main Cabin Trail, turn right. You’ll see a *small rock cliff* on your right. Proceed another 300 m to the ski cabin! Total distance to the cabin: 7.9 km.

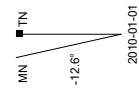


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