

TOWN MARSHAL
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INTERLODGE IS FOR EVERYONE

“INTERLODGE” is described in Town of Alta Ordinance 5-4-1¹, which allows the Town Marshal to prohibit outdoor travel during periods of high avalanche hazard or at times when Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) explosives work is scheduled or in progress to mitigate the avalanche hazard affecting the town and highway 210.

In short, when Interlodge is in effect, it is a Class B Misdemeanor for any person to be outdoors within town limits without proper clearance from the Marshal's Office. Violators are subject to arrest and a maximum penalty of a \$1000 fine and six months in jail. More importantly, death or serious injury can result from being in the wrong place during avalanche control.

The dramatic increase in early morning backcountry user (“Dawn Patrol”) traffic has had a profound impact on Avalanche Mitigation Procedures and has in a few unfortunate instances resulted in enforcement and delays in opening the canyon to the public.

Interlodge can be a confusing and frustrating event. All efforts are made to announce and minimize the duration of closures, which can vary from hours to days in extreme conditions. Interlodge may be enacted on very short notice if avalanche activity that could affect the Town or the roadway occurs prior to a noticed Interlodge restriction.

- When Interlodge is in effect, **ALL OUTDOOR TRAVEL IS PROHIBITED**. This applies to all areas in and around Alta, including residential areas, commercial properties, public ski area facilities, and all open space used for recreation.
- Alta Central Dispatch makes a variety of Interlodge notifications. Businesses and residents are notified by phone, email, and text message. The public may get this information by following us on Twitter @AltaCentral, checking the Town of Alta website www.townofalta.com and clicking the road conditions/Interlodge status link in the upper right hand corner, or by calling our recorded information line 801-742-3403. UDOT and the Utah Avalanche Center also post notifications on their websites.

- “Backcountry Closures” for the north side of the highway the night before avalanche control are the same as Interlodge closures and subject to the same penalties.

- Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort has vastly different Interlodge procedures. Their Interlodge status has no bearing on the Town of Alta and vice versa.
- For those residing and staying in Alta, keeping critical medications, food, and personal comfort items in good supply is important.
- Don’t assume that observing someone else outside means that Interlodge has been lifted. Certain snow removal and ski area preparations may be taking place under supervision during Interlodge. Release from Interlodge can only occur after official notification from Alta Central.

Thanks to all reading this! Please share this information and assist us with these efforts. It is our goal to continue to provide safe travel and timely access to Alta’s many recreation opportunities.

--Alta Marshal’s Office

ⁱTo review Town of Alta Ordinance 5-4-1, please visit:

http://sterlingcodifiers.com/codebook/index.php?book_id=867&chapter_id=65303