



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release Jan. 18, 2019

Contacts:

Matt Green, Acting Sierra District Superintendent California State Parks (530) 525-7232

<u>Heidi Doyle</u>, Executive Director Sierra State Parks Foundation (530) 583-9911

Free Nordic Ski Day at Ed Z'berg Sugar Pine Point State Park on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019 Public Can Ski on Trails Used in 1960 Winter Olympics

LAKE TAHOE, Calif.— California State Parks and the Sierra State Parks Foundation are bringing back groomed Nordic skiing at Ed Z'berg Sugar Pine Point State Park by inviting the public to a free ski day on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The latest round of winter storms has brought in plenty of fresh snow for the park to offer this popular pastime. The public can ski on the trails made famous when the biathlon and cross-country events of the 1960 Winter Olympics were held here.

"This is a fantastic, one-of-a-kind activity that allows the whole family to explore this state park jewel," said Matt Green, Acting Sierra District Superintendent, California State Parks. "You can really soak in the beauty of the eastern Sierra landscape at Ed Z'berg Sugar Pine Point State Park."

Thanks to a generous donor through the Sierra State Parks Foundation, parking fees will be waived for the public on February 2 during the event hours. State Park Rangers will be on hand to help those new to Nordic skiing and to explore the winter trails. Hot cocoa will also be served.

"We have four miles of beautiful classic groomed tracks that follow a portion of the 1960 Olympic biathlon path running through the forest," said Rob Weston, Board Member and Project Coordinator, Sierra State Parks Foundation. "Whether you're a beginner or elite athlete, come on out for a fun time at the park."

The blue (beginner) trail and the north side of the red (intermediate) trail will be groomed for the remainder of the snow season every Monday and Friday as conditions allow. The cost of parking is \$5 per vehicle during the snow season.

The Sierra State Parks Foundation provides the grooming at the park through donations that help pay for the equipment lease and volunteers to perform the grooming. Donations can be made at the park kiosk. State Parks helps provide the trail signs and equipment storage. "This is a great example of a public-private partnership to provide a unique experience for the public," added Green.

Free trail maps are available at the trailhead. You can also find it online <u>here</u> or download one through the Sierra State Parks Foundation's <u>Lake Tahoe Parks app.</u>

Ed Z'berg Sugar Pine Point State Park is located on the west shore of Lake Tahoe, 10 miles south of Tahoe City on Highway 89. Please be sure to check the weather forecast along with road conditions and closures when traveling in the high sierra.



Nordic skiing at Ed Z'berg Sugar Pine Point State Park.

###

Subscribe to California State Parks News online at www.parks.ca.gov/news or email us at newsroom@parks.ca.gov.

California State Parks provides for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. Learn more at www.parks.ca.gov.

Facebook I Twitter I Instagram I YouTube I Blog I Periscope I Flickr

Sierra Parks Foundation (SSPF)

The mission of the Sierra State Parks Foundation is to provide critically needed financial and professional support to the Lake Tahoe-Donner California State Parks for education, restoration, and cultural and environmental preservation. We fund projects and educational programs that connect visitors with our rich natural resources and cultural heritage. Because of this work and advocacy, our parks will continue to be places of education and inspiration for future generations. To learn more, visit www.SierraStateParks.org.