

### The General Areas of Deer Hollow

### The Hollow

A the large open meadow west of the parking area. There are three wide, well groomed, trails with "You Are Here" signs at most intersections: The Hollow Trail, the Sinkhole Trail and the Shady Trail. All are mostly flat with a few easy hills. All are suitable for beginners and great for doing laps, skating or traditional. The Hollow Trail can be used to access the Mesa, the Upper Mesa and some "fun hills" on either side of the hollow.

#### The Mesa

Somewhat steeper, but still negotiable by beginners with care. The trails here are wide and well groomed with "You Are Here" signs at most intersections. The three "Draws" which provide access to the area are the steepest trails. There are some great views of Navajo Lake and the headwaters of the Virgin River, if you can make it up to the rim. Some opportunities for off trail exploration.

# The Upper Mesa

There are some designated trails here, but they are only lightly maintained with few signs or trail markings, so sometimes it is easier and more fun to take off cross- country. You may be able to find tracks of recent users to follow if you don't like breaking your own trails. The only official trail up to the Upper Mesa is the Fork Trail, which begins at the far end of the Hollow Trail, but there are shorter, more difficult, unmarked routes up: one begins near the southwest corner of the Outback Trail, another is up a steep open draw a little less than ½ mile from the NW end of the Hollow trail.

#### **The Eastern Wilds**

No official trails here. The area is small, but the terrain is more rugged and more heavily forested making it a great place for snowshoers and experienced skiers, who like to explore in a more challenging environment.

## Points of Interest (on map)

- 1 Basalt Blowholes A very rugged area just behind the parking lot, where air flows through basalt boulders.
- **2** The Lightening Tree A couple of old survivors; one of them shows the burnt scars of a lightening strike.
- **3** Lava Fields Overlook Nice view of the lava fields to the east; right off a groomed snowshoe trail.
- 4 Navajo Lake Overlook View of Navajo Lake; right off the groomed trails.
- **5** Sinkhole Cliff Follow the draw to the right, off the trail, to a sinkhole with a rock cliff-face.
- **6** Viewpoint Views across Cedar Mountain to the east.
- 7 Viewpoint Views of a small basin with a large sinkhole and some fun hills to play on.
- 8 The Lunch Spot Great views of the headwaters of the Virgin River and Zion Canyon at a great lunch spot; a short jaunt from the groomed trails.
- **9** The Lunch Spot II Another great lunch spot with views of Navajo Lakes and the Pink Cliffs, which is a little harder to get to and requires a bit of bush whacking.
- 10 Quakie Flats A pretty little grove of mature quaking aspen trees a couple hundred feet from the groomed snowshoe trails.
- 11 A ¼ mile open area with many views of eastern part of Navajo Lake. Bushwhacking, off trail, and not easily accessible from the groomed trails.
- **12 –** The Blowhole An unusual geologic feature where warmer air from "somewhere" blows out of small hole in the bedrock forming a large hole in the snow; challenging to get to and to find.
- 13 Cinder Cone view A view of several cinder cones to the east of Deer Hollow
- 14 Viewpoint Views across Cedar Mountain to the north of some cinder cones and Brian head Peak. Access is from west end of the Bunny trail.
- 15 This is an old official overlook at the end of the Fork Trail. Views of the headwaters of the Virgin River, the top of Zion Canyon and beyond.
- **16** Dead Spruce Viewpoint This is probably the best views in Deer Hollow and maybe on Cedar Mountain. Views of Zion Canyon, headwaters of Virgin, and as far south as Mt. Trumbull in AZ. And to the east you can see as far Powell Point.

# Deer Hollow is a free non-motorized winter recreation area managed and maintained by the Dixie National Forest.

This **is not** the official map of anyone, but me. I have tried to make things as accurate as I can. I have checked and rechecked most of the information and data and have personally skied most of the routes and trails, but **do not** use this map and information as your only source for planning or travel. Winter recreation in a wild environment can be dangerous, especially in a backcountry and/ or off trail situation.