



MEDIA RELEASE

Updated Yukon Quest Trail Report

January 23, 2015 (Whitehorse, YT & Fairbanks, AK) – The conditions around Whitehorse are changing for the better with the recent snowfall, which is good news for the start of the 2015 Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race.

While there are still some areas of concern, due to open water and lack of snow, no decisions have been made to alter the location of the Start Line at this time. Crews will continue to monitor the situation, and alternate plans are being put in place if conditions do not improve.

The updated trail report is as follows:

Whitehorse to Braeburn

Snow conditions are low and the Yukon River ice is passable but with low, hard snow, a few open leads and glare ice. The recent snowfall should improve things.

Braeburn to Carmacks

Snow conditions in this section of trail are also low. All lakes though from Coglán to the Yukon River near Eagle Rock are reported good and well marked. The usual open water leads on some of the lakes were present, but pose no problems.

Carmacks to Pelly Crossing

The trail is through but the ice on the Yukon River here is rough and the Rangers intend to put a lot of focus on this section of trail.

Pelly Crossing to Dawson City

The trail has been diverted off the river in some sections between Pelly and Scroggie Creek. Crews will be working on it this weekend. From Scroggie Creek north, snow conditions are deeper and the trail improves greatly.

Dawson to Eagle

The trail from Dawson to the Alaska Border is reported as excellent and well marked. Ice conditions are smooth with minimal overflow reported. On the Eagle

end, some rough ice but good traveling on the Fortymile River. American Summit is passable.

Eagle to Circle & Circle to Central

The trail crew is leaving today to break out the remaining trail from Circle to Eagle, and will also provide an update on the trail from Circle to Central.

Central to Mile 101

Eagle summit has good snow cover on top, 12 plus inches. The trail from the summit till the last two miles is in good shape. The last two miles into Mile 101 are windswept and rocky.

Mile 101 to Two Rivers

Due to light snow cover, occasional boulders are exposed along the North Fork. Rosebud Ridge has enough snow to travel, though it is light in windswept areas.

Two Rivers to Fairbanks

The 48 miles of trail from Two Rivers Checkpoint to the Chena River is hard and fast. The last 24 miles on the Chena is rough in spots, should improve with some snow.

The 32nd Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race starts February 7, 2015 in Whitehorse. Twenty-six mushers have signed up for the race, including four past champions. For up-to-date information and news about the race, visit www.yukonquest.com

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