

# Salmon Idaho Mountain Bike Association Winter 2026 Newsletter



## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM SIMBA!

Just a quick newsletter to ring in 2026! We hope all of you are finding the good snow by day, and dreaming about flowy singletrack by night. We're looking forward to another great year of mountain biking, trails, and community right here in Salmon, Idaho! Scroll down for some SIMBA news and upcoming events.



## 2025 TRAIL WORK

**Disco Sign Project... By the Numbers!** SIMBA completed the Disco Sign Project in 2025, and the Discovery Hill Trails are in great shape. Here are the final numbers!

**106** sign posts total for the trail network... **51** new sign posts installed... **17** sign posts relocated... **38** existing sign posts used... **68** post holes dug by hand... **243** carsonite signs installed on said sign posts... **321** trail sign stickers... **23** trails on the official map... **28** miles of singletrack trail on the map... AND... **38** volunteers who helped install posts and signs over the course of **2** years.



**TRAIL WORK:** During the 2025 season, SIMBA held organized trail work days at Discovery Hill in April (Earth Day), on the Double R Trail in July, and on the CDT re-route project south of Lemhi Pass in August. Huge thanks to the volunteers who joined us on those work days! In addition to those events, many glorious days were spent just riding, sawing, and digging...

SIMBA focused trail clearing efforts over the summer on the usual suspects - epic trails like Powderhouse, Double R, Thunder Mountain, and the CDT. Trail tread work in the Spring and Fall focused on improving trail drainage on the Discovery Hill Trails, and things are looking better than ever. Overall in 2025, SIMBA cleared 237 downed trees and built or maintained 82 trail drainage structures and grade reversals.



## TRAIL SPOTLIGHT

**Elk Loop.** If you find yourself in the vicinity of Wagonhammer, Idaho in May, you're in the right place at the right time. While the high country is still snow-covered, Wagonhammer offers up some incredible springtime riding, with granitic soils, steep terrain, wide open vistas, and incredible wildflowers. Many options exist at Wagonhammer for rides ranging anywhere from short to epic, but Elk Loop is a solid choice for a 1 to 2-hour spin for the sidehill-minded riders out there (for those that are not sidehill-minded or have vertigo, this might not be the ride for you!).

Access is via the Elk Grade, basically an old mining road with a singletrack on it. Crank up this nice moderate climb for 2.6 miles, and then the fun begins. The Elk Loop Trail is essentially a game trail that contours around a mountain over a distance of 2.3 miles. If you like having the sidehill drop off on your right, go counterclockwise. If you're more of a left handed sidehiller, go clockwise. This trail is primitive, as should be expected if you're riding Salmon backcountry, and aside from the unexpected, you should also expect narrow tread, a few punchy climbs, and some sketchy outsloped spots. The terrain is truly vertigo inducing, so don't look down, and watch for pedal strikes. But the thing that tends to slow people down the most, in a good year, is the outrageous wildflowers. Catch it right, with enough moisture in the soils, and the arrowleaf balsamroot and lupine create some unforgettable scenes of quintessential Salmon goodness. Return to the trailhead via the ever popular Meadow Surfer for a rollicking descent, or go for another lap.

Pro tip #1: the cows generally show up June 1. Pro tip #2: use Trailforks to navigate! Check out this trail on [TRAILFORKS](#) for more info.



## COMING UP!

**January 16, 2026:** SIMBA Winter Party & Pint Night: No time like the middle of winter to get stoked for mountain biking season! Grilling on the patio, mountain bike reels in the Taproom, and LOTS of awesome raffle prizes and cool MTB swag! And, you can throw darts for your chance to win even MORE prizes. Receive 3 free raffle tickets if you ride your bike to the event. 6:30 to 10:00pm.

SALMON IDAHO MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION  
**Winter Party & Pint Night**  
AT **THE HUB** OF SALMON  
**FRIDAY**  
**JANUARY 16**  
**6:30 - 10PM**

- ★ FOOD
- ★ DRINKS
- ★ RAFFLE
- ★ DART THROW!
- ★ LOTS OF PRIZES
- ★ MOUNTAIN BIKE MOVIES
- ★ SUPPORT LOCAL TRAILS
- ★ SUPPORT SIMBA [salmonidahomt.org](http://salmonidahomt.org)

**February 28, 2026:** Registration opens for the **Nine-and-a-Half Hours of Disco**: Disco Racers - you might want to put this date on your calendar! We expect the race to sell out quickly, so get those teams together and get registered! See the [Disco Race Website](#) for ALL the details.

**April 2026:** **EARTH DAY Trail Work Day (Date TBD)**. Join SIMBA in April at Discovery Hill to help get your favorite trails fixed up for Spring riding season. Tools and lunch will be provided. More info to come.

**April 25, 2026:** **Nine-and-a-Half Hours of DISCO Mountain Bike Endurance Race**. Join us once again at Discovery Hill in Salmon, Idaho for 9.5 Hours of early season sagebrushy singletrack riding. This year, we're holding the race 2 weeks earlier in the season than usual, so you have even less time to train, and even more excuses for being out of shape. Solo, Team (of 2 or 3), Hot Lap, and Kids Race categories. New course for 2026 (sort of)! See the [Disco Race Website](#) for ALL the details.

## SUPPORT SIMBA!

Join us for the ride! There are many ways to support your local Mountain Bike Association - attend an event, volunteer at a Trail Work Day, make a donation, become a member, or just get in touch and let's chat trails. Membership dues help to fund operating costs and equipment, making this all possible. Membership is through the SIMBA local chapter of IMBA - if you choose to become a member, most of your membership dues stay right here with the local community, and you will get some nice perks from IMBA as well. THANK YOU MEMBERS!!

## SUPPORT SIMBA

### GET IN TOUCH

**By email.** Contact us at [salmonidahomtb@gmail.com](mailto:salmonidahomtb@gmail.com)

**Facebook.** Salmon Idaho MTB at <https://www.facebook.com/SalmonIdMBA>

**Instagram.** Check out our instagram page @salmonidahomtb

**Website.** Visit us at <https://salmonidahomtb.org>



**WISHING YOU MANY MORE TRAILS IN 2026!**

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