

Norman Vaughan '25 Serum Run

2009 Trail Itinerary

Day	Start At	Approx Miles	Dog Lot	Lodging	Water	Drop Bags	Trail Notes
0	Meet in Nenana Saturday 21 Feb 2009	0	To be determined, but will probably be with dog trucks parked in various places.	Make your own arrangements. Once all lodging is full, the Community Center may be opened for us to stay in. Seniors may provide dinner and breakfast meals for a small fee.	In Community Center		Come prepared for the 3 days of travel until first drop point in Tanana. Dog food, straw, gas and oil.
1	Nenana To Old Minto Sunday 22 Feb 2009	28	Parking will be near old church or near cabins behind main village area.	Most likely in vacant cabins or share space with occupants. Possibly in old and new community kitchens. Possibly be invited to share dinner and breakfast with residents. (No Photos – Serves as rehabilitation center and photos of residents are not allowed.)	Locals may haul water from river for dogs, or we may have use of their water sled.		Mostly river travel. In 2002 the trail was diverted to the old overland trail due to poor ice condition on river.
2	Old Minto To Beaver Point Lodge Monday 23 Feb 2009	35	Fixed areas on lake or around cabins.	Some cots and bunks and meals will be provided. We usually end up with some people in tents which the lodge may erect or help erect.	Holes drilled in lake for dog water. Lodge has people water.		2004 was the first year going to Beaver Point Lodge using the overland trail. Depending on conditions travel may be on the river or via the wooded overland trail.
3	Beaver Point Lodge To Manley Tuesday 24 Feb 2009	35	Open area across road from school	Roadhouse is closed so we'll be staying at the school more than likely in the Gym.	Janitor Closet in school or melt snow.		More than likely traveling the wooded overland route, but possible river travel depending on conditions.
4	Manley To Tanana Wednesday 25 Feb 2009	55	Behind and beside community center or sr. center. Can be windy with traffic going by.	Tanana school gym. Plan to cook your own meals.	Available at laundry on north side of village. Snowmachines will need to haul water. Have quarters, cost is 25 cents for about 5 gallons of hot water.	Yes	Overland trail. Leaving Manley you will pass through the some hills, then a space spruce forest. Watch for overflow and frozen overflow from before Tofty on. You will cross Fish Lake which is several miles long. Then you will travel open areas with wooded boarders until you get to Hay Slough. Hay Slough can be glare ice with a raised center, making for interesting mushing. You may follow the slough to the river or jump off the slough a couple miles from the river and us the local overland trail to the Yukon, then cross the Yukon and down the bank to a ramp leading you to the road to Tanana. Watch for local mushers and vehicles!!

Norman Vaughan '25 Serum Run

2009 Trail Itinerary

5	Tanana To Bone Yard Cabin Thursday 26 Feb 2009	42	In cabin yard, which can be tight, or on river below cabin. Teams will need handlers once on the bank to get parked!	Old cabin floor space, or tent camping. Camp cooking	Melt Snow		First full day of travel on the Yukon River. Cabin is located up a steep bank with limited room to maneuver or park on top. Mushers should look for someone to be guiding lead dogs at the top of the bank unless parking on river.
6	Bone Yard Cabin To Trapper Cabin Friday 27 Feb 2009	45	In woods around cabin. Tight lanes in trees. Approach is through alders.	Small cabin and tent camping. Camp Cooking	Melt Snow		Second day of travel on the Yukon River. The cabin is not visible from the river; it sits behind alders on the right bank. The slough downstream of the cabin access often generates overflow at its mouth which can migrate to in front of the cabin area.
7	Trapper Cabin To Ruby Saturday 28 Feb 2009	35	Open lot across from Community Center. (Possibly school)	Community Center heater floor space Plan to cook your own or raid the local store. ! Laundry facility has showers, bring quarters to pay for them.	If at Community Center, locals will bring water – if at school – in utility closet. Snowmachiners may be needed to haul water.	Yes	Third day of travel on the Yukon
8	Ruby To Galena Sunday 1 March 2009	50	Parking lot behind Community Center	Heated GILA school floor, restrooms, and showers. Meals will be available from the Culinary Arts School.	Hot water available		Fourth day of travel on the Yukon. Nearing Galena the trail may veer off the river to avoid overflow. It is not uncommon to encounter overflow approaching Galena. You have to cross roads and travel a short distances on roads. Watch for traffic! Snowmachiners should be available as road guards. We will spend two nights in Galena.
9	No Travel Monday 2 March 2009		We will be spending 2 nights in Galena				
10	Galena To Nulato Tuesday 3 March 2009	48	Ball field behind school	Heated floor space in school. Cook your own meals in school kitchen.	Water available at school		Fifth day of travel on the Yukon. Have you and the dogs had enough yet?
11	Nulato To Kaltag Wednesday 4 March 2009	36	Along trees next to school	Heated floor space in school. Cook your own meals in school 2 smalls stores in village	Water available at school	Yes	Sixth day of travel on the Yukon. If you're wondering what is wrong with your team, not to worry, just the river miles. Tomorrow you will see change.

Norman Vaughan '25 Serum Run

2009 Trail Itinerary

12	Kaltag To Old Woman Cabin Thursday 5 March 2009	48	Around cabin area	Small cabin and tent camping Camp cooking	Melt Snow		Hang on! You are about to see the first wooded trails with a team that has been training for a week on the river. Enjoy the new found power!! You will climb through the wooded trail up over the crest of the pass, and then start a long gently downhill slope to open plans of the pass. Follow the big Iditarod Tripod makers. You will find a Tripod Cabin sign; the cabin will be visible off to your left. Just beyond the sign is a narrow bridge crossing a creek (often with open water). Slow down and be prepared, try not to leave a spat mark on the far bank. You will pass the old Woman Cabin as you approach the new cabin.
13	Old Woman Cabin To Unalakleet Friday 6 March 2009	33	Possibly in the slough on the east side of the village or behind school on beach	Heated floor space in school. You may dine at the roadhouse. Local pizza parlor is also very good. Or you can cook your own or raid the store.	Water available at school, or melt snow. Machiners will be needed to haul water or the fire hall.		You will continue down the plans to the Unalakleet River, from there you will start seeing houses and local trails. Follow the markers to the flats and to the village.
14	Unalakleet To Shaktoolik Saturday 7 March 2009	40	On beach behind school	Heated floor space in school or Armory. There is a store that sells a variety of hardware and groceries	Water should be available.	Yes	You'll leave Unalakleet over ice then begin your climb into the Blueberry Hills. Expect wind and a hilly day. You'll drop down out of the hills toward the coast, and then make another up hill climb for a final downhill run. (the last hill is a fun one!) Once out of the hills you've got about 10 miles of travel along the flats to Shaktoolik.
15	Shaktoolik To Koyuk Sunday 8 March 2009	40	In woods beside school	Heated floor space in school Two stores available in Koyuk. Cook in school kitchen.	Water available at school		A flat trail day across the sea ice of Norton Bay. Expect wind!
16	Koyuk To Elim Monday 9 March 2009	48	Nice area behind school	Heated floor space in school Cook in school kitchen and rumors about school providing breakfast.	Water available at school		You'll skirt Norton Bay until you reach the trail that carries you over the hills toward Moses Point. Don't be surprise if when you come over the hills you think you are looking at Norton Bay again. From Pt. Moses you skirt the coast to Elim. You may approach Elim on an overland road or from the sea ice depending on snow and ice conditions.

Norman Vaughan '25 Serum Run

2009 Trail Itinerary

17	Elim To White Mountain Tuesday 10 March 2009	48	Parking around school	Heated floor space in school Cook in school kitchen White Mountain school is on a steep hillside with the dinner facilities above the school. Ask around and you may be able to purchase fresh crab! Small store in village. Rest well, tomorrow will be the Topkok Hills!	Water available at school	Yes	From Elim you will travel the sea ice until you reach Walla Walla where you will once again take on some famous Iditarod hills, and the Little McKinley run! Wind is not uncommon as you can tell by how close the big tripod markers are places to each other. The ride down Little McKinley can be interesting with side hilling and drifts. The evening will be full of stories after the days travel! Once on level ground you will travel sea ice through Golovin then the final long straight run across the ice to White Mountain.
18	White Mountain To Safety Wednesday 11 March 2009	55	Open area around roadhouse. Post available for anchors	We will probably be staying at Safety Roadhouse. They do have food you can purchase. However, do be prepared to camp if the Roadhouse isn't open.	We will have to melt snow for water.		Out of White Mountain you will go up river to the trail leading to the famous Topkok Hills. Be ready for many decent sized ups and downs with ice in between! Wind can be present. But by now you and your team should be in prime shape for the hills. At the bottom of the last downhill is the Nome Kennel Club shelter cabin. It's there for a reason! The next section of trail is famous for being a 'blow hole' with frequent ground blizzards. There is a shelter cabin part way to Safety which is marked with a waypoint. If it's a white out you may want to wait at the Kennel Club Cabin and then convoy this section and use the GPS to insure you're travel straight.
19	Safety To Nome Thursday 12 March 2009 End of Trail Banquet	22	Not sure. Hopefully dogs will be loaded into dog boxes for shipment home	Possibly group floor space somewhere, or space in private home, or you can arrange your own lodging at local hotels or B&B's	Should be available	Yes	The final run to Nome, you will probably travel over Reindeer Hill at Cape Nome, which will be the last hill you will encounter. It's a slog up, with a view of Nome from the top if weather permits. Then the last stretch to the Ft. Davis Roadhouse. (Road guards may be needed) The group will gather at Ft. Davis for the final parade down front street connected to snowmachines.