



2017-2018 FACT SHEET

MISSION STATEMENT

Skiku's mission is to foster the health, recreation and competitive benefits of cross country skiing and biathlon through sustainable programs across Alaska.

VISION STATEMENT

We envision healthy and active families enjoying Alaska's vast and beautiful landscape on skis.

TARGET POPULATION

We partner with school districts, corporate and community organizations, and volunteer coaches from the broader ski community to serve Alaska Native youth and their families. Annually, we reach 36 communities, 40 schools, and over 5,800 youth.

GEOGRAPHIC REACH

Skiku serves the state of Alaska. NANANordic covers the 11 villages of the Northwest Arctic Borough, known as the NANA Region. Skiku served an additional 28 communities in 2017. Our SkikuBiathlon program is a statewide effort focusing on teaching the sport of biathlon.

2018 SCHEDULE*

SKIKU **NANANORDIC**

Feb 25 - Mar 3: Aniak, Chuathbaluk, Crooked Creek, Sleetmute,

Stony River, Upper Kalskag, Lower Kalskag

March 4-10: Nome, Brevig Mission, Koyuk, Elim, Chevak March 11-17: Unalakleet, Bethel, Mountain Village, Galena,

Russian Mission, Hooper Bay

March 18-24: Savoonga, Pilot Station, Shishmaref, St. Michael

Scammon Bay

March 25-31: Gambell, White Mountain

April 1-7: Utqiaqvik, Point Hope, Wainwright, Kaktovik April 8-14: Anaktuvuk Pass, Point Lay, Nuiqsut, Atqasuk





Teck



















FARGO

Norton Cruz





ILYNDEN











SERVICES

- * Skiku and NANANordic provide annual Nordic ski and biathlon instruction. Coaches deliver instruction at local schools, supplementing regularly scheduled physical education classes, and also provide after-school Nordic ski and biathlon clinics to both adults and children. In total, each rural community receives four to five full days of instruction. An Anchorage program delivers Nordic ski instruction and loaned skis for special needs groups. Our coaching team is comprised of volunteers, including Olympians, World Cup skiers, elite high school skiers, and community coaches. The professional quality of instruction delivered is grounded in experience and personal commitment to the sport. Additionally, coaches serve as positive, physically active and self-motivated role models.
- Skiku provides participating communities with ski equipment. In partnership with school districts, cross country ski equipment is housed at the local schools or community centers. Equipment includes skis, boots, poles, bindings and wax kits. Children and community members are taught how to utilize and maintain equipment properly.
- * Biathlon program provides gun safety and biathlon training. Skiku's biathlon program includes engagement with existing biathlon team programs in rural Alaska, with the goal of expanding the sport, encouraging competition between regions in rural Alaska, and including rural athletes in state and national biathlon events. Biathlon is a combination of two activities; cross-country skate skiing and precision target shooting. Students receive lessons in basic gun safety and hands-on instruction using our state-of-the-art infrared rifles. Often, children lack opportunities to learn about gun safety. Our visits are the first time that many, especially girls, gain experience shooting.
- * Skiku identifies and develops community leaders who can promote a sustainable Nordic ski program. By partnering with local schools and community organizations, Skiku identifies a leader in each community who is able to pioneer, or expand, a Nordic ski program for the village.

ADDRESSING THE NEED

The cultures, tradition and landscape of Alaska is conducive to a thriving Nordic ski program and Skiku promotes a healthy and active lifestyle, a vital need for regions characterized by high rates of tobacco use, diabetes, suicide, depression and substance abuse. Skiku and NANANordic have strong support from village leaders and school officials, who recognize that the programs impart practical skills and equip children with the means to participate in a sport that has life-changing potential.

























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