

- GSO Ice Team -
ICE FISHING CHECKLIST
- Must Have Items -

Safety Gear- A Spud Bar, Ice Picks, Float Suit, Throw Bag, and a Whistle are all important tools on the ice.

Auger- whether it's a hand or power auger, SHARP blades make your day more enjoyable.

Gas- fuel for Augers, Heaters, and Snowmobiles/ATV.

Ice Scoop- An ice scoop is key to keeping your ice holes clear of slush and ice. This prevents any line snags or cuts when jigging or reeling in a fish.

Rod(s)- Having the right rod for the right species is key! For example, lake trout vs perch rods. I like to have at least 2 different actions and setups.

Reel(s)- good to have larger reels for Lakers. For perch and trout, most ice reels will be fine

Sled- A good sled will fit all of your gear, and fit in the back of your vehicle for transport. Covers are a great idea, and a must for anybody pulling them behind a machine.

Tackle and Bait- Appropriate tackle for the species you are targeting.

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- Additional Items -

Fishfinder or Graph- not necessary but you WILL catch more fish.

Shovel- Anything from a hand shovel, avalanche shovel, or big snow shovel can be helpful to clear the snow off the ice and keep it from melting (and you standing in water) when you turn on the heater in your hut.

WATERPROOF BOOTS- Dry warm feet are key to a fun day on the ice.

Sunscreen and Sunglasses- if the sun is out, the snow will help it blind and burn you.

Seats- Comfortable chairs can keep you fishing longer.

Rod Holder(s)- these are great to have and inexpensive. In Colorado, we can have an additional rod stamp, and sometimes the fish love the "dead stick"

Shelter- This certainly makes it a lot more fun on cold, windy or even sunny days.

Snacks/Drinks - Snacks and drinks are sometimes the key to being out on the ice for a miserable hour to being out on the ice for a fun filled day.

Ice Anchors- if you have a shelter you need the anchors... Always use them as wind can come out of nowhere quickly.

Blankets- Sometimes a good blanket can come in handy on extremely cold days. Be sure to keep it off the ice so it stays dry and doesn't soak up water making you colder.

Drill adapter: a drill adapter makes anchoring your hut a lot faster and easier so you don't have to put them all in by hand.

Ice Cleats: Ice Cleats are always a good idea when you are walking on new ice that isn't covered by snow yet. Ice can be very slippery especially when you start drilling holes and water spills onto the ice.

Heater- again a comfort thing that will keep you fishing.

Foam Tiles: Not only are foam tiles better for your back to stand on but they keep your feet a bit warmer also. By not standing on the ice (or standing water) your feet are more likely to stay warm and dry.

Lighter - Sometimes in extreme cold the ignition on your heaters wont work.

Deer drag harness: These work great for pulling your gear across the ice and taking the weight of your sled off your arms.

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