

# BACKCOUNTRY BARRIERS

## Gear / Knowledge / Experience

We recognize that backcountry skiing can be daunting to approach. That's why Ben Goertzen and the Friends of the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center have teamed up to help breakdown some of the most prominent barriers of entry to backcountry skiing through this campaign. One lucky winner will be given a complete backcountry skiing kit, a spot in an avalanche awareness course, and featured in a three part video series that ends with an excursion into the backcountry with professional skier and filmmaker, [Ben Goertzen](#). These videos will be used by the Friends of GNFAC to help other aspiring backcountry skiers gain awareness, knowledge and start to breakdown their barriers to entry.

[Click Here for More Details on How to Enter](#)

Backcountry Barriers Launch Video: <https://vimeo.com/376473804>

This project was developed in an effort to make backcountry skiing more approachable while fostering a safe, supportive community around the activity. We recognize how privileged backcountry skiing is and want to help pass the opportunity on to a member of our community by confronting these three barriers:

### 1. Gear

The cost of a backcountry setup is very expensive and an obvious barrier to entry.

### 2. Knowledge

Backcountry skiing can be dangerous and at times even lethal, but it can also be a safe and rewarding way to recreate in the winter. Not understanding snowpacks, common mistakes, and safe backcountry travel can paint an unapproachable picture of backcountry skiing.

### 3. Experience

Even if you have the gear and some knowledge, it can be daunting to approach a new slope for the first time.

We understand that in an effort to breakdown barriers we had to put some up to control the scope of this contest based on the resources we have. In the future, we hope to broaden the scope of who is eligible for this project to further push the mission of making backcountry skiing more approachable. If you have any questions, comments or concern please feel free to reach out to [ben@redyetiproductions.com](mailto:ben@redyetiproductions.com).

[CHECK OUT THE  
CONTEST HERE](#)

