

ALL-IN-TREK

Northern Michigan man sets out on 12,500+ miles solo trek on foot.

On January 1st of 2011, Samuel H. Gardner will set out on a 12,500+ mile “All-In Trek” to establish a new record of unassisted ultra-light long-distance backpacking. It will be the first-ever attempt of the “All-In Trek,” which involves solo hiking the four longest walking paths in the United States, end-to-end and back-to-back through three mountain ranges, one desert and over half of the northern United States border on snowshoes in the winter. He hopes to finish in one calendar year but his ultimate goal is to complete the journey in one continuous trek regardless the time frame.

The four trails comprising the trip are: the North Country Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail, the Continental Divide Trail and the Appalachian Trail.

The Route:

Gardner’s journey will begin on the North Country Trail, hiking westward from New York to North Dakota along the northern United States border. This will be the second time in history that the NCT has been through-hiked in winter months. Next, Gardner will hike the Pacific Crest Trail, starting at the United States/Mexico border in California and moving north to the Canadian border in Washington. After which, he will hike the Continental Divide Trail from the United States/Canada border, south through the Rockies to New Mexico. Finally, Gardner will hike the Appalachian Trail southbound from Maine through the Appalachian Mountains into Georgia.

Hiking direction and sequence of the trails is based on elevation, weather and location variables. These variables have been assessed to minimize time spent in large amounts of snow at high elevation.

About Samuel H. Gardner:

Gardner is a hard-working 25-year-old who grew up with the harsh climates near the shores of Lake Superior in Houghton, Michigan. Recently, Gardner decided to chase down his life-long dream of being a professional adventurer by embarking on an adventure that no other person has ever completed—the All-In Trek.

It is Gardner’s goal to initiate the drive within people’s hearts to seek fulfillment in their own lives by sharing his journey of identifying, preparing for, and achieving extraordinary goals.

Quote from Samuel Gardner:

“I am doing this for me. I am doing this for the people who wish they could but physically cannot. I am doing this for the people who are alone and unsupported. I am doing this for those who dream. I am doing this for those who have forgotten their dreams. I am doing this for those who have sacrificed dreams to support others. I am doing this to share with the ones who cannot be there. I am doing this for the story. I am doing this for the adventure. I am doing this to show what is possible.”

Information will be shared throughout the journey. Please follow daily updates from the trail online at TheInitiativeSite.com.

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