

# Witch's Tit 2025 Afterburn Report

## Basic Details

Witch's Tit is a winter Burn held in the woods of northern Minnesota. This was the event's second year, and first as a Burning Man Regional Event. Witch's Tit is held on land owned by some of its organizers, and this year additional land was purchased allowing easier access and more flexibility in layout.

2025's was Witch Upon a Star, initially submitted via a participant and later chosen by consensus at a work weekend. A participant-built effigy and event-built temple were both burned Saturday night.

## Attendees & Tickets

### Tickets Available

Adult: 80 available at \$80 each  
Youth (12 and under): unlimited at \$10 each  
Vehicle Pass: 30 at \$10 each  
RV Pass: 10 at \$30 each

### Tickets Sold

Adult: 51  
Youth: 0  
Vehicle: 27  
RV: 10

### Attendance

Adult: 47  
Youth: 0

## Content

Number of Volunteers: 20 individuals  
Volunteer Hours: 136.5  
Number of Theme Camps: 5

# Finances, Fiscal Management, & Future Goals

For a detailed account of Witch's Tit's accounting please see the [2025 Financial Statement](#).

Witch's Tit had an income (including donations) of \$7,735, expenses totalling \$5,658, and a previous cash balance of \$1,591. Of the remaining \$3669, \$699 is reserved for construction of a permanent sauna and \$2969 is available for general use. The general use fund will be used to fund art grants and infrastructure needed for future events.

## Department Reports

### Department of Warmth

Firewood for Community Fires: ~192 ft<sup>3</sup> (One & Half-cord)

Firewood purchased: ~ 64 ft<sup>3</sup> (Half-cord)

Firewood used total: ~256 ft<sup>3</sup> (Two cord)

Firewood remaining: ~ 64 ft<sup>3</sup> (Half-cord)

The event provided wood for four communal fires: Bonfire, Gate, Dome, & Sauna

The primary bonfire each night was loaded with uncut logs and branches from the property; minimizing cut firewood until late night. This is part of a planned conservation effort and is approved by owners.

Gate actually used very little wood as it only ran for select hours. It was also supplemented with fallen timber.

Center-camp Dome used the majority of the event-used wood. It was a huge success. Still considerably less wood used than expected or what the bonfire used in 2023.

Effigy used a lot of wood from the purchased split wood but we can minimize this in future years as well.

The sauna was using split wood provided by the burn for the woodstove but not for the exterior campfire.

# Rangers

## Successes

- Ranger Pairs: We had enough volunteers to pair our new snow Rangers with experienced snow Rangers.
- Ranger Calls: Rangers were available and effective the few times participants needed assistance.

## Opportunities

- Headquarters: We were out of the wind in a new shared structure this year and it was better, but not ideal. Next year we will have Rangers' headquartered in their own structure that will be marked with an elevated green light.

# Medical

## Successes

- Demand: There were no medical events serious enough to warrant altering medical. Participants were able to use the antiseptic cream, bandages, wraps, etc. available in the medical HQ to provide self-care for the minor events that did occur.
- Supply: Medical supplies were well-stocked with donations over the last year, including several comprehensive kits, large quantities of bandages, wraps, OTC medications, etc. Supplies were organized and labeled.

## Opportunities

- Leadership: The medical lead was sick and unable to attend for the first half of the event. An acting lead was provided from the Dept of TomFoolery, volunteers were all trained/briefed sufficiently and level of service was not impacted.
- Lighting/Signage: The building housing medical had a lack of sufficient exterior lighting and signage. This was addressed during the event and best attempts were made to troubleshoot with mild success. We have identified the need to revisit lighting and signage prior to next year's event.

# Department of TomFoolery

## Successes

- There was an overall glow-up this year compared to last. To quote a participant, "It feels like a real burn this year, instead of just survival [like 2024]."

- A town hall meeting was held on Saturday where we got direct feedback on what was working for people and what we could improve. In particular, there was lengthy discussion on how information in the website and survival guide could be made clearer.

## Actions based on feedback from 2024:

1. Feedback: Difficulty navigating, particularly at night
  - a. Significant effort clearing trails of rock, stumps, and other debris was spent over the last year, which (combined with the plowed snow) made it much easier to follow trails. We were also able to place camps along the access road which is easy to follow. Trail lighting still needs to be improved. The event map was published digitally and provided physically to participants at Gate.
2. Feedback: Center Camp was minimally heated
  - a. Center Camp and its dome had a major glow-up since 2024. We started an adoption program for it, allowing different folks to adopt and run it each year. This year, its benefactors securely wrapped it, organized a well-stocked hot-food / snack table, and put together seating, a bar, and plenty of accoutrement / decoration.
3. Feedback: Communication (primarily via Facebook) was inconsistent
  - a. A Department of Propaganda has been created, improving messaging about work weekends, deadlines, etc.
4. Feedback: Having a dedicated volunteer coordinator would make it easier for volunteers
  - a. Gate absorbed this function for 2025. We'll discuss and evaluate how well this worked and adjust if needed.
5. Feedback: Unclear where to go/who to ask for help.
  - a. Green lights were used to mark anyone, on shift, who was carrying a walkie, as well as any structure where participants could go to for help. The structure marking green lights worked without issue. Next year, the personal green lights need to be more resilient.

## Opportunities

- A better forum for advertising events (digital what/where/when, at a minimum) would be a useful addition next year.

## Gate

### Successes

- All participants signed a waiver and received a numbered lanyard
- Leads also received a lanyard badge and green light
- Census questions added to gate check in - 100% completion
- Check in list for volunteers was utilized
- Pens that don't freeze were supplied and worked perfectly

## Opportunities

- Better signage for closed early (which includes instructions for after-hour check-in)
- Formalized after-hours check-in process
- Formalized gate open/close needs/duties
- Defining “Greeter Coms” role to cover important event info, i.e. CO<sub>2</sub> detectors, hypothermia, let them know what green flights are for, any other needed comms
- Less moopy green lanyard lights for leads
- Moving gate location to first glen to allow more space for people waiting to check-in

## Department of Movement

No incidents to report. Snow accumulation was still on low-end but was more than enough for complete ground cover. Transport efforts were no more than from last year (with zero snow).

Further vehicle maintenance will eliminate the few issues we did have with cold-starts and traction.

We'll definitely be looking into another UTV or otherwise designate a regular vehicle as a shuttle from parking to center camp.