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Baucus begins 630-mile trek

CORWIN SPRINGS (AP) — Icicles hanging from his nose and clad in longjohns, State Rep. Max Baucus, D-Missoula, walked from Gardiner to Corwin Springs Tuesday, starting his planned 630-mile political trek to Yaak on an ominous tone.

He fought near blizzard conditions during the start of the six to eight-week walk which Baucus hopes will end with the Democratic nomination to Congress.

Baucus was the first candidate to announce he would seek his party's nomination to challenge incumbent Republican Rep. Dick Shoup for Montana's western district seat in Congress. Shoup, a former Missoula mayor, announced last week he would seek re-election to a third, two-year term.