




# Trail Report for KOKANEE GLACIER PROVINCIAL PARK and other Kootenay Lake Area parks (including west side of Purcell Wilderness Conservancy)

Updated: **Sept 9, 2020**




Please call 250-354-6333 if you have new trail conditions to report.

PARK	AREA	ROADS	TRAILS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Kokanee Glacier</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dogs are PROHIBITED in Kokanee Glacier Park.</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Kokanee Creek drainage</p>	<p>Road has rough section ~4km before parking lot.</p> <p>High clearance 4x4 vehicle recommended.</p>	<p>Trail from Gibson Lake to the Kokanee Glacier Cabin: clear</p> <p>Glacier safety gear (rope, crampons, axe, etc) is required for glacier travel, if moving on glaciers or snow fields.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4.5 km to Kokanee Lake, elev. gain 450m, moderate-steep hike (1.5-2 hrs)</li> <li>• 3 km Kokanee Lake to Kaslo Lake; easy hike (when snow-free)</li> <li>• Camping at Kaslo Lake: 10 tent sites, food cache, greywater, outhouse; campground is open and now snow free.</li> <li>• <b>no fires permitted (anywhere in the park).</b></li> <li>• Reservations for Kokanee Glacier Cabin (<u>not</u> campground) through <b>Alpine Club of Canada 403-678-3200</b>; operations are adjusted as per covid. No day use at the cabin. No reservations for camping at Kaslo Lake Campground, first come first serve basis.</li> <li>• <b>The campground is open but the campground cook shelter is CLOSED due to covid19. Check for updates on our webpage.</b></li> <li>• 1.3 km (0.5 hrs) Kaslo Lake to Slocan Chief Cabin; moderate</li> <li>• Slocan Chief Cabin interpretive centre</li> <li>• <b>Sapphire Lakes and Kalmia Lake campgrounds are permanently CLOSED.</b></li> <li>• <b>No camping at Gibson Lake.</b></li> <li>• <b>Gibson Lake Shelter is CLOSED due to covid19 concerns.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Overnight visitors are advised to wrap chicken wire around their vehicles to prevent porcupines from chewing tires, brake lines, etc.</b></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Gibson Lake loop trail</p>		<p>Use caution on foot bridges around lake.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.5 km loop</li> <li>• Easy hike, views of lake, surrounding peaks, old mine workings.</li> </ul>

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dogs are PROHIBITED in Kokanee Glacier Park.</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Woodbury Creek drainage</b></p>		<p><b>UPDATE - Hiking in the area is not recommended due to heavy smoke.</b></p> <p>Spray trail: cleared of windfall.</p> <p>Woodbury trail: some windfall on trail currently.</p> <p>Sunset Lake Trail: some windfall on trail currently.</p> <p>Travel times at right refer to summer &amp; cleared trails.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>UPDATE – currently a nearby wildfire (outside of the east park boundary) is creating heavy smoke. Hiking in the area is not recommended.</b></li> <li>Trailhead to Woodbury Cabin: 8 km, moderate hike, elev. gain 762m (2.5-4 hrs). Woodbury Cabin sleeps 8, also camping nearby. Trail is not cleared at this time.</li> <li>Trailhead to Silver Spray Cabin: 6 km, strenuous hike, elev. gain 1016m (4-5 hrs). Cabin sleeps 10. Mining history and alpine meadows.</li> <li><b>Woodbury and Silverspray cabins are CLOSED at this time, due to covid19, look for updates on our webpage.</b></li> <li>Both cabins are usually booked through <u>ACC</u> reservation system (see above) for summer season only.</li> <li><b>Both cabins are closed during winter season as the hut location(s) poses avalanche hazard to users.</b></li> <li>Sunset Lake Trail: ~9km one way, easy hike. Park at Y-junction, ~2 hr walk on old road to trailhead, then 30min easy hike from there to lake.</li> </ul> <p><b>Overnight visitors are advised to wrap chicken wire around their vehicles to prevent porcupines from chewing tires, brake lines, etc.</b></p>
	<p>Keen Creek drainage</p>	<p><b>Road permanently closed at park boundary; 8 km approximately to trailhead (bikeable) Condition unknown.</b></p>	<p>Trail to Joker Lakes not maintained and not recommended; known grizzly bear habitat.</p> <p>Trail to Helen Deane Lake and Slocan Chief Cabin last cleared Oct 2010.</p> <p><b>Warning: bridge across</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 km easy grade road from park boundary to Joker Millsite (trailhead)</li> <li>3.5 km moderate-steep hike from trailhead to Helen Deane Lake (1-2 hrs)</li> </ul>

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			<b>Joker Creek washed out.</b>	
	Enterprise Creek drainage	<p><b>Road closed to motorized vehicles at 5 km; approximately 7 km from there to trailhead on good wilderness road with gentle grade.</b></p> <p><b>Current condition unknown.</b></p>	Trail condition unknown at this time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enterprise Creek Trail: 7 km, elev. gain 500m, moderate hike (2.5-3 hrs) to Tanal Lake</li> <li>Tanal Lake to Kaslo Lake: 2.5 km (1.5 hrs), moderate hike</li> <li>Paupo Creek Trail to Blue Grouse Basin: 6.4 km, elev. gain 700m, moderate to strenuous hike (3-4 hrs); lovely subalpine area;</li> <li><b>no camping or fires</b></li> </ul>
	Lemon Creek, Sapphire Lakes	Access via 6-mile Lakes Road and Summit South FSR is <b>very rough</b> in places.	<p><b>Lemon Creek Trail</b> was cleared in 2016. Thanks to Glen Erickson family!</p> <p>Trails up Nilsik Creek and to Crazy Jane Lake have not been cleared.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 km Lemon Creek FSR to Sapphire Lakes, elev. gain 950m, moderate to strenuous hike with washed out sections (5 hrs)</li> <li>3 km Kaslo Lake to Sapphire Lakes, moderate hike (1-2 hrs)</li> <li><b>No camping at Sapphire Lakes</b></li> </ul>
<b>Purcell Wilderness Conservancy (west)</b>	Fry Creek	Road through <b>Johnson's Landing is open</b> , but may be closed without notice if previous landslide area becomes active again.	<p>Portion from trailhead to Fry Creek is clear.</p> <p><b>Route above Fry Creek bridge up the canyon is NOT RECOMMENDED.</b> This is a steep, narrow, exposed route. <b>For your safety DO NOT hike this route during high water periods.</b> Also the Carney Creek cable car was removed from this route and is no longer in place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.5 km trailhead to Fry Creek (start of canyon), easy hike (1-1.5 hrs)</li> <li>Route is 8.5 km up canyon to Carney Creek. NOT RECOMMENDED as this is a steep, narrow, exposed route. In some places the route is hard to follow. <b>For your safety DO NOT hike this route during high water periods.</b> Note that the <b>Cable car that crossed Carney Creek was removed at ~8km.</b> Moderate to steep hike.</li> <li><b>The trail starts on private property; please be respectful.</b></li> </ul>
				
	Fry Creek Canyon			

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<p><b>Purcell Wilderness Conservancy (west)</b></p>	<p>Hamill Creek, Earl Grey Pass</p>	<p>Road open above Argenta to trailhead</p>	<p><b>West side of Earl Grey pass – Hamil Creek</b></p> <p><b>UPDATE – Hamil Creek TRAIL is CLOSED at cable car #3.</b></p> <p>Expect windfall on the trail</p> <p>Cable cars 1-5 assessed this season. Cable car #3 is NOW CLOSED.</p> <p>Strongly recommend 2 persons to operate cars.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hamill Creek Trail is a wilderness trail and good route-finding skills are essential.</li> </ul> <p><b>UPDATE – Hamil Creek TRAIL is CLOSED at cable car #3.</b></p> <p><b>Cable car #3 IS CLOSED due to HAZARD trees jeopardizing the cars anchor. Do not use.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are 5 cable cars crossing Hamill Creek on the west side of Earl Grey Pass. Gloves are advised for pulling them. <b>The first car (closest to Argenta) is of a heavier design and requires more effort than the others.</b> Total trail length is 61km.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pilot Bay</b></p>	<p>Sawmill Bay Campground</p>	<p>Road open.</p>	<p>Trail clear</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx 30-45 min hike to Campground.</li> <li>Approx 1 hr hike Boomers</li> <li>NO BICYCLES ALLOWED</li> <li><b>Please keep dogs on leash at all times in the park.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Pilot Bay</b></p>	<p>Lighthouse</p>	<p>Road open.</p>	<p>Trail clear</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Lighthouse is CLOSED due to covid19 concerns.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>400m moderate grade to Lighthouse</li> <li>Top viewing platform affords excellent views in 3 directions; open to the public year-round</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lockhart Creek</b></p>		<p>Access through Gray Creek Pass open. Redding Cr FSR has washout approx 6 km below trailhead; road beyond washout very good for bicycles</p>	<p>Lockhart Creek Trail:</p> <p>first 8km cleared, June 2020 - Thanks Friends of West Kootenay Parks!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Head for Baker Lake Forest Rec Site trail; approx 1 km in, blue flagging indicates trail jct; stay right for Lockhart Creek access</li> <li>Approx 15 km top to bottom, elev. change 1450m</li> <li>Hikers: be alert for mountain bikers descending</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Kianuko</b></p>	<p>Sanca Creek</p>	<p>Road status: Forestry dirt roads are open and generally require a high clearance vehicle.</p>	<p><b>Haystack Alpine Trail is OPEN but hazards exist from the 2018 wildfire.</b></p> <p><b>Use caution – potential risks include :</b>          -danger trees &amp; overhead hazards, ash pits,          -terrain instabilities,          -amplified runoff after rainfall or snowmelt,          -respiratory effects caused by breathing soot and charcoal for extended periods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Haystack Alpine Trail is from Sanca Creek to Meachen Creek</b> Trailhead at end of Sanca Creek FSR; approx. 1 km to park boundary.</li> <li>• Approx 8.5 km through to Meachen Creek trailhead</li> <li>• No official campsites or facilities in this park.</li> <li>• <b>Motorized use is not permitted in the park.</b></li> </ul>
	<p>Kianuko Creek</p>	<p>Road to confluence of Skelly Creek and Kianuko Creek unknown at this time.</p>	<p><b>Kianuko Creek Trail is OPEN but hazards exist from the 2018 wildfire.</b></p> <p><b>Use caution – potential risks include :</b>          -danger trees &amp; overhead hazards, ash pits,          -terrain instabilities,          -amplified runoff after rainfall or snowmelt,          -respiratory effects caused by breathing soot and charcoal for extended periods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kianuko Creek Trail</b></li> <li>• Follow Goat River from Kitchener on Hwy 3, to about 20 km, turn west on Skelly Cr road.</li> <li>• 3.5 km to Kianuko Creek turnoff, approx 1.5 km from there to park boundary</li> <li>• Road deactivated; no vehicles beyond park boundary</li> <li>• Old FSR follows Kianuko valley north.</li> </ul>