

Strathcona Trail and Area Conditions

Spring conditions are in effect. Visitors to the backcountry during the spring/early summer should be aware that heavy snow, thin ice and other spring hazards may exist anywhere. Visitors should not venture into terrain they are not prepared for.

Visitors are reminded that fires are not permitted anywhere or at any time (all seasons) within Strathcona Park except in authorized and provided BC Parks steel fire rings. This regulation is in effect at all times of the year. No open fires are allowed in any backcountry areas.

Reminder: New backcountry camping fees are now in effect. Adults (19 years & over) are \$10 per person/night, Youth (13-18 years) are \$5 per person/night, and Children 12 years and under- no charge. Backcountry fees are in effect from June 15th to September 30th in core fee zones along the Bedwell Lakes Trail, Elk River Trail and Forbidden Plateau areas.

Trail updates are appreciated from all visitors to the park – To provide trail information please contact :

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Buttle Lake Area

Marine Locations:

Trail Area:	Latest Condition:	Last Updated:
Boat Launches	Watch for natural hazards (ie. submerged stumps and wind conditions) Lake levels have risen in the last couple of weeks but still not quite at the normal summer high level.	August 22, 2011
Marine Sites	Titus; Wolf and Phillips - All Open Backcountry Marine fees are in effect from June 15 th – Sept 30 th ; Adults (19 years and over) \$10 per person/night, Youth (13-18 years) \$5 per person/night and children under 13 years no charge. Self-registration fee stations are located at boat launches (Buttle/Karst) and day-use areas (Karst/Lupin/Auger Pt). All Marine sites have tent pads and tables.	August 18, 2011

Nature Walks and Short Trails:

Trail Area:	Latest Condition:	Last Updated:
Karst Creek	Snow free. Trail is open. Windfall has been cleared. Use caution on trail to upper waterfall. Notice: seasonal dry creek bed; cross at own risk.	August 18, 2011

Lady Falls, Elk River Viewpoint, Crest Crags, Lupin Falls, Wild Ginger, Shepherd Creek, Lower Myra Falls,	Snow free. Trails are open.	August 18, 2011
Auger Point	Snow free. Trails are open.	August 22, 2011

Buttle Lake Area Trails:

Trail Area:	Latest Condition:	Last Updated:
Elk River	<p>Elk River trail is clear of snow. Use caution and pack appropriate gear.</p> <p>The bridge between the second campsite and Landslide Lake has one railing hit but is passable. The bridge deck is fine. Lots of alder around Landslide lake, easy to lose trail.</p> <p>Crampons and an ice axe are crucial for wilderness backpacking in the alpine past landslide lake up the Elk River Valley at this time</p>	August 18, 2011
Crest Mountain	<p>Trail is open with new access bridge (completed fall 2010). Trail clear of snow. Some patches of snow on the plateau. Large wasps nest on handrail of first bridge. Use Caution! Some unknown person smashed the wasp's nest on the narrow's bridge left handrail and it has been treated with wasp killing spray but may still be active or another nest constructed in the area so keep watch</p>	September 11, 2011
King's Peak	<p>A complete bowl of snow at camping area [meadows] very slushy and wet; beyond should not be attempted without proper equipment of crampons and ice axe. Reports from an Aug 13 ascent confirm that an ice axe and crampons are required for the upper part of the route. The snow starts at the flat valley.</p> <p>Creeks are passable as water level is down.</p> <p>The areas of the meadows that get less sun still has snow on it, while the sun exposed sides have less.</p>	Aug 23, 2011
Bedwell Lakes	<p>Bedwell Lake and Baby Bedwell Lakes are completely ice free. Small patches of snow above steel ladders. Not much snow surrounding lakes. A couple of footbridges have lost part of the railing but present no problems.</p> <p>All tent pads are clear.</p> <p>Report of wolves between Bedwell and Little Jim Lakes</p>	Aug 30, 2011
Price Creek/Cream	<p>High presence of bears. Use caution and 'bear aware' techniques. Advanced navigation skills required on this</p>	August 11, 2011

Lake	route, trail difficult to follow. Heavy run-off at the creek crossing soon after leaving the old road [left at the signpost]; care needed when crossing.	
Upper Myra Falls	Trail is snow free but there are muddy/wet areas due to runoff. Minor deadfalls across trail. The footbridge over the creek has a weak railing which wobbles.	August 27, 2011
Arnica Lake/Phillips Ridge	Trail clear and in good condition to Arnica Lake. Some small snow patches starting at 1200m. Arnica Lake camp is clear of snow. Lots of bear sign in the wet meadows on the east side of Arnica Lake. Heavier snow patches starting at the 1400m level. Up to half of the trail is under snow from that point, but the route is still reasonably easy to follow	September 1, 2011
Tennent Lake/Mount Myra	Reports of a mud and rock slide at 800m was not verified, may not exist. Snow begins 50 minutes up from the trailhead. Several deadfalls across trail near the start. Lots of fresh bear droppings.	September 1, 2011
Flower Ridge	The ridge is 40% covered with snow patches and they are thin so should melt quickly.	August 11, 2011
Marble Meadows	covered at about 25% with snow at higher elevations but still accessible	September 6, 2011

Forbidden Plateau Area Trails

Trail Area:	Latest Condition:	Last Updated:
Paradise Meadows Trailhead	Trailhead is clear of snow, as is the centennial loop	August 18, 2011
Helen Mackenzie/ Battleship Loop, Helen Mackenzie to Kwai Lake via Croteau Lake, Cruickshank Canyon Lookout, Helen Mackenzie to Circlet Lk, Amphitheatre Lake, Moat Lake, Mount Albert	Trailhead & Centennial Trail free of snow, small snow patches around Helen Mackenzie loop (no danger of losing trail though). West side of trail past Helen Mackenzie has minimal snow cover, however the east trail past Battleship is mostly bare. The Kwai lake, Ranger cabin, Helen Mackenzie is snow free with a few patches Circlet Lake campsite is open, and the tent pads are snow free. Mt. Albert Edward route has snow but is passable.	September 11, 2011

Edward, Wood Mountain Traverse	Well prepared experienced hikers, only please.	
Mt. Beecher Trail	trail is in very good condition with the exception of a few winter windfall trees across the trail. Only a few minor snow patches need to be traversed at the top of the Mountain, otherwise free of snow	September 11, 2011

Other Trails and Areas

Trail Area:	Latest Condition:	Last Updated:
Della Falls & Love Lake Trail	<p>Bear sightings have been reported in the upper campsite. Please use bear caches where available or bring rope and create your own where necessary. Bear aware information: http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/misc/bears/bearsaf.html</p> <p>Trail is open. Cable car is operable.</p> <p>One post missing on northern span of steel bridges, but is passable. Please be very careful when crossing.</p> <p>Windfall has been cleared.</p> <p>New bear cache at main camp!</p> <p>Please be advised fires are not permitted on this trail.</p> <p>Upper campground which had been officially closed for last several years has now been cleared of danger trees and branches, allowing site to be re-opened. NOTE – this is an old growth forest with natural hazards. Campers/hikers should be cautious during storm events.</p>	September 11, 2011
Oshinow Lake	Not inspected yet.	July 11, 2011
Kunlin/Donner Lakes	Not inspected yet. Travel by vehicle is not recommended to Donner Lake. Road to Kunlin Lake is becoming overgrown – watch for deep water bars and small road failures. Windfall likely.	July 11, 2011
Gold Lake	Not inspected yet. High probability of windfall.	July 11, 2011