

BABINE RIVER CORRIDOR PROVINCIAL PARK RIVER RAFTING INFORMATION

Babine River Corridor Park protects the heart of the Babine River watershed – a wild river – home to steelhead and salmon and to the bears who feed on them. The river originates in Babine Lake, the longest natural lake entirely within British Columbia.

Babine River Corridor Park hugs the Babine River for 85 km as it flows from the bridge crossing, 2 km downstream of Nilkitkwa Lake, northwest to Kisgegas, a First Nations Reserve, 10 km from the confluence with the Skeena River. Access to the day-use area (boat launch) by road is approximately 130km from Smithers. Follow Babine Lake Road east, then Nilkitkwa Forest Service Road north for 58km. Caution should be used while traveling the Nilkitkwa Forest Service Road as it is an active logging road.

Conservation

Babine River Corridor Park is located within the Southern Skeena Mountains and Babine Upland Ecoregions. The Park was established to protect the wilderness values of the river corridor for fish and the significant grizzly bear population that feeds on them. Flowers, trees and shrubs are part of the park's natural heritage, please don't damage or remove them.

Babine River Corridor Park is home to an internationally significant wild steelhead population and a provincially significant sockeye salmon run, as well as populations of chinook, coho and pink salmon, dolly varden and rainbow and bull trout.

The river is a critical seasonal feeding location for a provincially significant grizzly bear population estimated at about 100 bears. There is also a high seasonal bald eagle population. The park contains habitat for many mammals including bat, black bear, wolf, coyote, otter, mink, wolverine, fisher, marten, beaver, muskrat and moose, and birds including geese, osprey, shorebirds and owls.

No camping facilities are provided at this park. Nearby Forest Service recreation sites provide overnight camping 4 km to the West or 30 km to the East, or Fort Babine Lodge offers cabins or camping.

Recreation

Along with protecting significant wildlife habitat, the Park provides outstanding wilderness river recreation. It protects internationally significant rafting and kayaking opportunities, with 30 km. of Class III and IV rapids.

Do not underestimate the challenges of this river. It can be very treacherous. Even the experienced guides stop to check the best channels for running.

Park Hazards

Active logging roads surround the Park. Exercise extreme caution on the roads and narrow bridges, and watch for logging trucks.

Large numbers of Grizzly and Black bears frequent the area and use the trails in the park. Please take precautions to avoid a bear encounter, such as not using the trails between dusk and dawn, and making noise while hiking.

Special Notes:

This Park is **User Maintained**. Please pack out everything you pack in. Do not bury or burn garbage or human waste.

You can find more information on this Park, as well as other BC Parks by accessing our web site at: <http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/explore.htm> or call us at (250) 847-7320.