



PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
*Park Act*

**Order of the Regional Director**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**DATE: September 14, 2020**

A. Skaha Bluffs Provincial Park, comprised of 489 hectares east of Skaha Lake and south of Penticton, is a Class A Provincial Park established April 21, 2010.

B. The Christie Mountain wildfire (K51287) north of Okanagan Falls on the east side of Skaha Lake burnt with high level severity through the southern portion of the park within the Gillies Creek corridor.

C. Hazards to public safety resulting from the wildfire exist throughout burnt portions of the park, including hazard trees, ash pits, trails concealed, directional signage destroyed, and potential slope instability during significant precipitation events and in steep terrain.

D. Ecological values in burnt areas are highly sensitive and vulnerable to impacts from public use, including damage to re-establishing vegetation, spread of invasive species, compaction of fragile soils, changes to watershed hydrological characteristics and increased erosion potential in hydrophobic soils.

E. Section 17 of the *Park Act* states:

A Director or any Park Officer acting on the Director's behalf may:

(c) order any person in any park, conservancy or recreation area to cease or refrain from an action, an omission or conduct that the director or park officer, in his or her discretion, considers dangerous to life or property or detrimental to the public interest.

F. Section 28 of the *Park Act* states:

(1) A person who contravenes any provision of this Act commits an offence and is liable to a fine of up to \$1,000,000 or a term of imprisonment of not more than one year or both.

(3) When a contravention of the Act or regulations continues for more than one day, the person is guilty of a separate offence for each day on which the contravention continues.

**ACCORDINGLY, the Regional Director orders:**

That effective September 14th, 2020 at 1200 PST the Gillies Creek Corridor portion of Skaha Bluffs Provincial Park, as shown on the map below, is closed to all users until further notice.

Dated at Penticton BC, this 14th day of September, 2020.



John Trehwitt  
Regional Director  
BC Parks – Kootenay Okanagan Region  
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

**MAP OF SKAHA BLUFFS GILLIES CREEK CLOSURE**

Shown in red, closed area includes all trails south and east of the Gillies Creek yellow gate on Smythe road, and all trails east of Diamondback/Grand Canyon trails.

