


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

Updated: **Dec 15, 2020**


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

PARK	AREA	ROADS	TRAILS	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
<p>Kokanee Glacier</p> <p>Dogs are PROHIBITED in Kokanee Glacier Park.</p> 	<p>Kokanee Creek drainage</p>	<p>Kokanee Glacier Road is snow covered.</p> <p>SPECIAL NOTICE: Winter conditions have arrived.</p> <p>Assess avalanche hazard before crossing slopes.</p> <p>Expect snow on the road.</p> <p>Road is NOT plowed.</p>	<p>Snow covered trails Snow can make finding the trails difficult.</p> <p>Glacier safety gear (rope, crampons, axe, etc) is required for glacier travel.</p> <p>Assess Avalanche risk before crossing snow slopes. Avalanche knowledge and gear (transceiver, shovel, probe, ski buddy) is required to travel off trail safely.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.5 km to Kokanee Lake, elev. gain 450m, moderate-steep hike (1.5-2 hrs) 3 km Kokanee Lake to Kaslo Lake; easy hike (when snow-free) Camping at Kaslo Lake: 10 tent sites, food cache, greywater, outhouse; campground is open and now snow free. no fires permitted (anywhere in the park). Reservations for Kokanee Glacier Cabin (<u>not</u> campground) through Alpine Club of Canada 403-678-3200; 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. 1.3 km (0.5 hrs) Kaslo Lake to Slocan Chief Cabin; moderate Slocan Chief Cabin interpretive centre Sapphire Lakes and Kalmia Lake campgrounds are permanently CLOSED. Gibson Lake Shelter is CLOSED due to covid19 concerns. <p>Overnight visitors are advised to wrap chicken wire around their vehicles to prevent porcupines from chewing tires, brake lines, etc.</p>



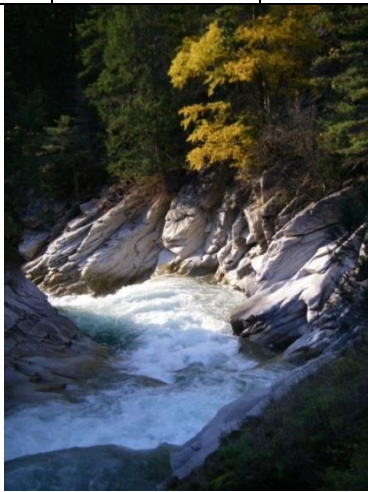


View of Kokanee Lake with ~70+cm of snow, in November 2020. Current depth is 1.3m. Usual winter snow depth is ~2m, mid winter. **Avalanche hazard exists with these winter conditions.** Trail is snow covered and difficult to follow.

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	Gibson Lake loop trail		Use caution on foot bridges around lake. snow covered trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.5 km loop Easy hike, views of lake, surrounding peaks, old mine workings.
<p style="text-align: center;">Dogs are PROHIBITED in Kokanee Glacier Park.</p> 	Woodbury Creek drainage	<p>Roads last 2 km are rough- 4x4 access only for last 2km. Driving the last 2km is not recommended.</p> <p>Expect snow on roads.</p> <p>Roads are not plowed.</p>	<p>Snow covered trails</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 & cleared trails.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Trailhead to Silver Spray Cabin: 6 km, strenuous hike, elev. gain 1016m (4-5 hrs). Cabin sleeps 10. Mining history and alpine meadows. Woodbury and Silverspray cabins are CLOSED at this time, due to covid19, look for updates on our webpage. Both cabins are usually booked through ACC reservation system (see above) for summer season only. Both cabins are closed during winter season as the hut location(s) poses avalanche hazard to users. 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. <p>Overnight visitors are advised to wrap chicken wire around their vehicles to prevent porcupines from chewing tires, brake lines, etc.</p>
	Keen Creek drainage	<p>Road permanently closed at park boundary; 8 km approximately to trailhead (bikeable)</p> <p>Condition unknown.</p> <p>Road is snow covered, not plowed.</p>	<p>Snow covered trails</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>Warning: bridge across Joker Creek washed out.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 km easy grade road from park boundary to Joker Millsite (trailhead) 3.5 km moderate-steep hike from trailhead to Helen Deane Lake (1-2 hrs)

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

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<p>Wilderness Conservancy (west)</p>	<p>Earl Grey Pass</p>	<p>Argenta to trailhead</p>	<p>pass – Hamil Creek</p> <p>UPDATE – Hamil Creek TRAIL is CLOSED at cable car #3.</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>	<p>trail and good route-finding skills are essential.</p> <p>UPDATE – Hamil Creek TRAIL is CLOSED at cable car #3.</p> <p>Cable car #3 IS CLOSED due to HAZARD trees jeopardizing the cars anchor. Do not use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 5 cable cars crossing Hamill Creek on the west side of Earl Grey Pass. Gloves are advised for pulling them. The first car (closest to Argenta) is of a heavier design and requires more effort than the others. Total trail length is 61km.
<p>Pilot Bay</p>	<p>Sawmill Bay Campground</p>	<p>Road open.</p>	<p>Trail clear</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx 30-45 min hike to Campground. Approx 1 hr hike Boomers NO BICYCLES ALLOWED Please keep dogs on leash at all times in the park.
<p>Pilot Bay</p>	<p>Lighthouse</p>	<p>Road open.</p>	<p>Trail clear</p> <p>Lighthouse is CLOSED due to covid19 concerns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 400m moderate grade to Lighthouse Top viewing platform affords excellent views in 3 directions; open to the public year-round
<p>Lockhart Creek</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"> Head for Baker Lake Forest Rec Site trail; approx 1 km in, blue flagging indicates trail jct; stay right for Lockhart Creek access Approx 15 km top to bottom, elev. change 1450m Hikers: be alert for mountain bikers descending

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