

# Strathcona Trail and Area Conditions

Please note for the August Long Weekend popular trails in Strathcona Park will be very busy. If planning to camp at any of the main backcountry campsites in the Park (Paradise Meadows/Circlet Lake area; Elk River Trail; Bedwell/Cream Lakes), plan ahead and arrive early to ensure you are able to either secure a campsite, or to hike beyond core areas to where random wilderness camping is allowed. Overflow camping is not available at all sites.

BC Parks appreciates any information about trail conditions. If you are hiking along trails in Strathcona Park and want to provide any information that you may have regarding trail conditions please contact Jamie Godfrey, Strathcona Senior Ranger at [James.Godfrey@gov.bc.ca](mailto:James.Godfrey@gov.bc.ca)

Summer conditions are in effect. Visitors to the backcountry during the summer should be aware that snow may persist in alpine areas of the park through the summer. Visitors should not venture into terrain they are not prepared for and must be aware that variable weather conditions still persist in higher elevations. Trip planning and research is key to safety.

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.

**NOTE:** Conditions in the park changed quickly this year from snow-bound to very dry with high fire risk. Additionally, local wildfire resources have been deployed to assist with the current fire situation in the interior. Due to these conditions, chainsaw work needed to clear trails has been postponed. These conditions add weight to the standard fire ban in all backcountry areas of Strathcona park, and potential fines are increased.

## Buttle Lake Area

### Marine Locations:

Trail Area:	Latest Condition:	Last Updated:
Boat Launches	Water level is avg; boat with caution and look for submerged hazards. 4x4 vehicles only recommended for launching boats at boat launches	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Marine Sites	Titus, Wolf, Phillips, and Upper Campbell Marine sites are Open and serviced at this time. Camping fees are in effect.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021

## Nature Walks and Short Trails:

Trail Area:	Latest Condition:	Last Updated:
Karst Creek	Trail cleared of windfall. Beware of rock fall hazard at falls viewing area. Obey posted signage.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Lady Falls, Elk River Viewpoint, Crest Crags, Lupin Falls, Wild Ginger, Shepherd Creek, Lower Myra Falls,	All free of windfall.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Auger Point	Trail has not been inspected at this time.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021

## Buttle Lake Area Trails:

Trail Area:	Latest Condition:	Last Updated:
Elk River	The trail is clear of snow and windfall to Landslide Lake.  NOTE: Beyond the upper campsite is an unmaintained "route", and is rougher and more technical than the trail to the campsites.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Crest Mountain	Trail free windfall to 1100m. Not inspected beyond this point. Reports of few windfall beyond this point. Snow may remain at alpine elevations.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
King's Peak	Not inspected yet. Expect windfall throughout trail and snow at higher elevations.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Bedwell Lakes	Trail to Main Bedwell is free of snow and windfall.  NOTE: No facilities are available at Cream Lake. Practice <a href="#">Leave No Trace</a> camping if staying in this area.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Cream Lake	Not inspected yet. Reports of patchy snow remaining on route to Cream Lake starting at Little Jim Lake. Cream lake is snow free.  NOTE: No facilities are available at Cream Lake. Practice <a href="#">Leave No Trace</a> camping if staying in this area.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Upper Myra Falls	Trail has been cleared of brush and windfall.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Arnica Lake/Phillips Ridge	Trail is clear of snow and windfall. Expect snow at higher elevations beyond Arnica Lake campsite.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Tennent Lake/Mount Myra	Not inspected yet. Expect windfall throughout trail and snow in alpine areas.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021

Flower Ridge	Trail not inspected at this time. Moderate windfall reported throughout trail. Snow may be present at higher elevations	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Marble Meadows	Not inspected yet. Expect windfall throughout trail. Snow may be present at higher elevations.  No park user reports in 2021. Any information on trail conditions would be appreciated.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021

### **Forbidden Plateau Area Trails**

<b>Trail Area:</b>	<b>Latest Condition:</b>	<b>Last Updated:</b>
Paradise Meadows Trailhead	Trails are snow free and in good repair.  NOTE: Be aware that there are no garbage facilities at this trailhead – Pack it in, Pack it out.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Helen Mackenzie/ Battleship Loop, Helen Mackenzie to Kwai Lake via Croteau Lake, Cruickshank Canyon Lookout, Helen Mackenzie to Cirlet Lk, Amphitheatre Lake, Moat Lake, Mount Albert Edward, Wood Mountain Traverse	Trails snow free to Cirlet Lake.  Snow may persist on alpine routes beyond Cirlet Lake.  Reports of snow on Albert Edwards route, but passable without crampons/ice axe.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021

### **Other Trails and Areas**

<b>Trail Area:</b>	<b>Latest Condition:</b>	<b>Last Updated:</b>
Della Falls & Love Lake Trail	Trail snow free to Della Falls. Moderate but passable windfall throughout trail. All toilets moved to new holes July 21-22.  Snow may be present on Love Lake trail.  <b>NOTE:</b> This is an old growth forest with natural hazards. Campers/hikers should be cautious during storm events.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Oshinow Lake	Not inspected in 2021	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021

Kunlin/Donner Lakes	Travel by vehicle is not possible to Donner Lake. Road to Kunlin Lake is becoming overgrown – watch for deep water bars and small road failures.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Gold Lake	Not inspected in 2021. No vehicle access due to bridge decommissioning.	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Comox Glacier/ Century Sam Lake	<p>Reports of significant windfall on Comox Glacier trail. Expect snow on both trails at higher elevations.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Be advised that hours for the Comox Main gate access can be found on the Island Timberlands blog. The gate is currently closed on weekends due to fire risk.</p>	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Mount Becher	<p>Trail free of snow and windfall.</p> <p>Mt. Becher trail is maintained by Comox District Mountaineering Club.</p>	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021
Forbidden Plateau Traverse	<p>Not inspected yet. Reports of windfall near Slingshot Meadows/Drabble Lakes area.</p> <p>Forbidden Plateau Traverse trail is maintained by Comox District Mountaineering Club.</p>	July 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021