E.C. Manning Provincial Park **Friday June 21st, 2019**

Trail and Backcountry Campground Conditions Report– updated every second Friday throughout the summer.

Synopsis for June 21st – summer certainly came in with a vengeance a couple of weeks ago, with soaring temperatures and rapidly melting snow in the Park. Ranger staff have been able to get out and follow the snow line upward, cutting the trails as they go – even some of the higher elevation routes are ready to go. And fortunately the weather has cooled off a bit making for excellent hiking conditions right now! Good bets right now would be Frosty Mountain from Lightning Lake, Windy Joe, or the always popular Lightning Lake trail.

Please be aware that melting snow makes our trails – especially those in the sub-alpine – especially vulnerable to erosion from early season foot traffic. Please avoid trail braiding to avoid snow patches, or consider using trails which have been reported as dry. Another consideration is the abundance of animals now out and about looking for food. Use proper precautions when hiking and camping in bear and cougar country!

Backcountry Camping fee in effect. The fee for camping in the backcountry in Manning Park is $5.00 per person, per night. Backcountry camping permits can be purchased at https://discovercamping.ca/Backcountry/E.C.Manning?Map up to two weeks prior to your visit. This permit is not a reservation for a specific campsite in a backcountry camp. You must retain your permit while camping. Day use hiking does not require a permit.

Important Considerations

- **Caution:** Unpredictable weather may occur at any time of year. Use local Hope or Princeton weather as a source for planning your trip, and prepare accordingly. There is limited cell service in the Park; your phone WILL NOT WORK in most locations.
- To help prevent conflict with wildlife, and for the respect of other Park users, **dogs must be on a leash at all times, and picked up after.**
- To protect the Park's ecological values, please stay on trails at all times.

Help with determining which trail you should hike:

- Trail difficulty is based on the length of the trail section, change in elevation and trail type for the average Park visitor.
- Trail type is defined as:
  - **Type I**: 1.5 to 2.5 m wide, paved, crushed gravel or board walk, less than 10% grade.
  - **Type II**: 1.5 m wide, gravel surfacing in wet areas, up to 15% grade.
  - **Type III**: 0.5 m wide, grade greater than15%
  - **Type IV**: up to 0.3 m wide, lightly used wilderness trail, tread as worn not grubbed out, infrequent maintenance.

BC Parks	Estimated Distance one-way (KM)	Estimated time one-way (hours)	Estimated Elevation gained (meters)	Trail type	Trail Condition	COMMENTS/ Trail safety Information
Easy Trails						
Beaver Pond Trail	500m	10 min	Very little	Type II	**Good condition** - snow-free and windfall have been cut. Re-route (commencing near tennis courts at MPR is now complete, bypassing the old flooded section).	Possibly some small wet sections along trail.
Paintbrush Trail	1.5 km	20 min	Very little	Type III	**Fair condition** - Snow patches.	Blackwall road is now open to the sub-alpine meadows
Rein Orchid Trail	600 m	15 min	Very little	Type II	**Good condition** - Snow Free. Possibly a few windfall	
Rhododendron Flats Trail	1 km	20 min	40m	Type II	**Good condition** - Snow Free. Windfall Cut.	
Strawberry Flats Trail (From Strawberry Flats to Gibson Pass Ski Hill)	4.5 km	2 hrs	125m	Type I	**Good condition** - Snow-free. Windfall cut.	Chairlift replacement happening at ski hill – use caution and adhere to signage.
Sumallo Grove Trail	1 km	30 min	Very little	Type II	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut.	Note – Skagit Valley Provincial Park (Accessed from Sumalo Grove) is **CLOSED** as part of a broader area closure due to hazards resulting from this summer's wildfire.
Twenty Minute Lake Trail	1 km	20 min	10m	Type II	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut.	
Little Muddy Trail	5km	1 hour	100m	Type 1	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut. Re-route (commencing near tennis courts at MPR is now complete, bypassing the old flooded section).	

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East Similkameen Trail (From Windy Joe Trail to Castle Creek)	4.7 km	2 hrs	75	Type II & III	**Fair condition** - Windfall has been cut to within 1km of Castle Creek. Wet areas.	Bridge over Castle Creek **CLOSED** at 7 km accessing Monument 78 trail. Trail has not been cleared 200m from Castle Creek.
West Similkameen Trail (From PCT trailhead to Windy Joe Jct.)	2.1 km	1hrs	75m	Type II	**Good condition** – Snow-free and windfall has been cut.	
Moderate Trails						
Canyon Nature Trail (From Gibson Pass Road to Coldspring Campground, and back)	2 km	45min	50m	Type II	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut.	
Monument 78 Trail (From Highway 3 to border)	12 km	4 hrs	200m	Type III	**Fair condition** - Most wind-fall has been cut; some erosion and flooding issues in places.	Bridge over Castle Creek **CLOSED** at 7 km of the Similkameen Trail accessing Monument 78 trail. Trail has not been cleared 200m from Castle Creek. Use Monument 78/83 trailhead for access.
Dry Ridge Trail (From and to Blackwall Road)	.7 km	40min	75m	Type III	**Good condition** - windfall cut, snow free	Blackwall road is closed to vehicle traffic at the Dry Ridge gate.
Engineers Loop Trail (@Westgate – the Marmot)	1km	15min	200m	Type III	**Good condition** - snow free, windfall has been cut, and the trail has been brushed.	Huge thanks to the BC Wildfire Service IA crews from Hope for helping to get this trail cleared and brushed.

BC Parks	Estimated Distance one-way (KM)	Estimated time one-way (hours)	Estimated Elevation gained (meters)	Trail type	Trail Condition	COMMENTS/ Trail safety Information
Heather Trail (From Blackwall Peak parking lot to Buckhorn camp)	5 km	1.5 hrs	100m	Type III	**Good Condition** – snow-free and windfall has been cut	Blackwall road is now open to the sub-alpine meadows
Heather Trail (From Buckhorn to Kicking Horse campsite)	7km	2.5 hrs	292m	Type III	**Fair condition** – expect snow patches and a few windfall	Blackwall road is now open to the sub-alpine meadows
Heather Trail (From Kicking Horse campsite to Nicomen Lake Campsite)	9km	3 hrs	122m	Type III	**Fair condition** – expect snow patches and a few windfall	Blackwall road is now open to the sub-alpine meadows
Lighting Lake Loop (Around Lightning Lake)	9 km	3 hrs	200m	Type III	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut.	
Lightning Lake Trail (to and around Rainbow Bridge)	4.5 km	2 hrs	10m	Type II	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut.	
Lighting Lake Trail - Flash Lake Loop	3.5 km	1.5 hrs	Very little	Type III	**Closed** due to failing bridge and boardwalk structures.	
Lighting Lake Trail (From Lightning Lake to Flash Lake and Strike Lake Camp)	2 km	30m	31m	Type III	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut as far as Strike Camp. Back side of LL loop is brushy.	
Lighting Lake Trail (Strike Lake Camp to Thunder Lake)	3 km	1hrs	30m	Type III	**Fair condition** - expect some trees down and brushy sections	

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North Gibson Trail (From Lightning Lake Campground to Strawberry Flats)	3.5 km	1.5 hrs	90m	Type III	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut.	
South Gibson Trail (From Lightning Lake Campground to Strawberry Flats)	3.5 km	1.5 hrs	90m	Type II	**Fair condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut. Some muddy sections	
Three Falls Trail (From the bottom of the T-bar)	9km r/t	2-3 hrs.	-160 one way	Type III	**Fair Condition** - Likely windfall but snow-free	
Difficult Trails						
Bonnevier Trail (From Eastgate Portal – the Bear – to Heather Trail)	18 km	5 hrs	950m	Type III	**Fair condition** – bottom eight kilometres cut out, expect windfall higher up. Some brushy sections	Huge thanks to Tom Moore, Erik Bird and David Lee for cutting windfall on the Eastgate connector and a few kms of the main trail!
Bonnevier – Upper Eastgate Bypass Trail (km 12 on the Bonnevier Trail to Eastgate/Park Boundary)	3km approx.	30min		Type III	**Good condition** - snow free and windfall has been cut.	Huge thanks to Tom Moore, Erik Bird and David Lee for cutting windfall on the Eastgate connector and a few kms of the main trail!
Dewdney Trail (From Cascade Parking Area to Whipsaw FSR)	36 km	10 hrs	1131m	Type III	**Fair condition** - likely a fair amount of windfall and snow patches after about 8km.	
Grainger Creek Trail (From the Hope Pass Trail to Nicomen Lake)	9 km	3 hrs	952m	Type III	**Fair condition** – windfall cut 2 km into the trail from Hope Pass.	
Hope Pass Trail (From Cayuse Flats to Whipsaw FSR)	24 km	7 hrs	1000m	Type III	**Fair condition** – windfall cut as far as Grainger Creek Trail	

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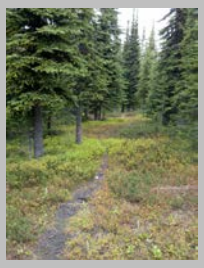
Windy Joe Trail (From West Similkameen Trail Junction)	5.5 km	2 hrs	525m	Type II	**Good condition**, windfall cut, no snow.	
Mt. Frosty Trail (From Lightning Lake Day Use Area to Summit)	10.5 km	3.5 hrs	1150m	Type III	**Good condition** – most windfall have been cut; a few snow patches in sub-alpine	
Mt. Frosty Trail (From Windy Joe Trail to Summit Junction)	7 km	3 hrs	854m	Type III	**Fair Condition** – Windfall cut as far as PCT camp, expect a few trees on trail from there.	
Memaloose Trail (From Poland Lake to Highway 3)	9 km	3 hrs	427m	Type IV	**Fair condition** – Windfall cut up to 7km (2km from Poland Lake). Expect a number of windfall and heavy brush past this point.	Big Thanks to the BC Wildfire Service IA crew from Hope for helping to cut the Memaloose Trail out!
Mount Outram Trail (From Westgate – the Marmot)	10 km	3.5 hrs	1699m	Type IV	**Poor condition** – First ¼ km has been cut and brushed; expect heavy windfall past there.	Not maintained by BC Parks Past the Park Boundary
Monument 83 Trail (From Highway 3 to Lookout)	16 km	5 hrs	859m	Type II	**Poor condition** – Windfall has been cut to 5km; expect heavy windfall past there.	
Nicomen Lake Trail (From Nicomen Lake to Hope Pass Trail)	7.5 km	2.5 hrs	31m	Type IV	**Fair condition** – Likely a few windfall.	
Pacific Crest Trail (From Windy Joe Junction to	8 km	2.5 hrs	450m	Type III	**Fair condition** – Windfall	

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Border)					has been cut and is snow free, but expect some brushy sections near the border and some erosion issues along the route.	
Poland Lake Trail (From Strawberry Flats)	8 km	4 hrs	35m	Type II	**Fair condition** – Expect a few windfall; snow-free	
Skagit Bluffs Trail (From Cayuse Flats to Cascade Parking Area)	5.6 km	2.5 hrs	225m	Type III	**Fair condition** – snow free and windfall have been cut	Some retaining features on the trail are failing; use caution. A few wet areas.
Skagit River Trail (in Skagit Valley Provincial Park)	16 km	4 hrs		Type III	Trail is currently **CLOSED**	Note – Skagit Valley Provincial Park (Accessed from Sumalo Grove) is **CLOSED** as part of a broader area closure due to hazards resulting from this summer's wildfire.
Skyline Trail (From Lightning Lake to Strawberry Flats Loop)	16.6 km	5 hrs	775m	Type III	**Fair condition** – Snow-free but a number of windfall	
Skyline II Trail (From Despair Pass to Mowich Camp)	12.5 km	3 hrs	469m	Type III & IV	**Fair condition** – Snow free but expect 35+ windfall over the first 4km	
Silverdaisy Mountain Trail (Crown Land into Skagit Valley Provincial Park)	10 km	2.5 hrs		Type IV	**Unknown**.	Not maintained by BC Parks. Note – Skagit Valley Provincial Park (Accessed from Sumalo Grove) is **CLOSED** as part of a broader area closure due to hazards resulting from this summer's wildfire.
Warburton Loop (To and From the Dewdney Trail)	7 km	2 hrs	280m	Type IV	**Fair condition** – Likely some snow patches and a few windfall	

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Whatcom Trail (To and From the Dewdney Trail)	9.5 km	4 hrs	1081m	Type III	**Fair condition** – Snow free; windfall cut on the first 3 km.	The trail starts out snow free and cleared but elevation gain will have snow patches on the trail by the alpine.