

Peter Lougheed Provincial Park Winter Trail Conditions

Date: Thursday, April 19th, 2012

| Trails | Last Day Groomed | Last Day Trackset | Individual Trail Comments (overview comments located below itemized trail information) |
|----------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Amos | April 7 | April 7 | |
| Blueberry Hill | April 6 | April 6 | |
| Boulton Creek | March 29 | March 29 | |
| Braille | April 4 | April 4 | |
| Come Along | April 7 | April 7 | |
| Elk Pass | April 6 | April 6 | |
| Fox Creek | March 29 | March 29 | |
| Hydroline | April 6 | April 6 | |
| LL Group Camp | April 8 | April 8 | |
| Lodgepole | April 5 | April 5 | |
| Lookout | April 8/5 | April 8/5 | 8th = Pocaterra to the summit; 5th = remainder; please use caution on steep southern section |
| Lynx | April 7 | April 7 | |
| Meadow | April 7/5 | April 7/5 | 7th = Elkwood parking lot to visitor centre; 5th = Sinclair to visitor centre |
| Moraine | March 29 | March 29 | Caution: the track through Boulton Creek Campground has been plowed |
| Packers | April 8 | April 8 | |
| Patterson | April 6 | April 6 | |
| Pocaterra | April 8/7 | April 8/7 | 8th = Packers to Tyrwhitt; 7th = Pocaterra Hut to Packers |
| Rolly Road | April 7 | April 7 | |
| Sinclair | April 4 | April 4 | |
| Spruce Road | April 5 | April 5 | |
| Stroil | April 7 | April 7 | |
| Tyrwhitt | Trail Closed Due to Avalanche Risk in the area | | |
| Upper Lake Connector | April 6 | April 6 | |
| Wheeler | April 5 | April 5 | |
| Whiskey Jack | April 8 | April 8 | Caution: the track through Boulton Creek Campground has been plowed |
| Woolley | April 7 | April 7 | |
| WWL Access | April 5 | April 5 | |

Ungroomed Backcountry Trails

| | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| Burstall Pass | Please share the trail, keeping to the tracks specific to your chosen sport. | | |
| Chester Lake | Note: Chester Lake Seasonal Closure will be in place May 1st - June 29th | | |

Comments:

Though grooming and tracksetting has ended for the season, good spring skiing is still available on the Peter Lougheed Provincial Park Cross-Country Ski Trail system. The last major snowfall was 11cm over April 4th and 5th, which covers trails groomed prior to April 5th; expect skier set track on these trails. Trails worked on the 6th, 7th and 8th appear to have good conditions, though warm temperatures are beginning to decay the side walls of the tracks.

Due to daytime heating and cooling spring skiing conditions exist; come prepared for glazed or icy trails in the morning, and softer snow in the afternoon. With Spring comes warmer temperatures, April showers and wet avalanche season; if heading into the backcountry please check the weather and the Kananaskis Country avalanche report. In preparation for summer the snowploughing of campground roads continues; please use caution when skiing in the Boulton Creek and Elkwood Campground area.

Closed:

1. The Tyrwhitt Ski Trail is currently closed due to avalanche hazards in the area.
2. The Penstock Snowshoe Trail, Canyon Campground, and Kananaskis Canyon Interpretive Trail are closed to accommodate TransAlta construction in the area. The closure is expected to be in place to Dec. 2012.

Note: Dogs are prohibited on the PLPP ski trail system.

Pocaterra Grid: Groomed and trackset with 6 sets of track on April 7th.

William Watson Winter Walking Trail: Groomed on April 4th.

Snow Depths: Pocaterra Hut: 54 cm (last significant snowfall was 11cm over April 4th and 5th).

Chester Lake Trailhead: 158 cm (including 11 cm since April 15th).

Pocaterra Warming Hut : Open daily 8:00 am to 4:30 pm to the evening of Friday, May 4th.

Smith-Dorrien/Spray Trail (Highway 742): Expect rough, muddy spring driving conditions.

William Watson Lodge: William Watson Lodge's seasonal closure begins the afternoon of Sunday, April 15th and continues to Thursday, May 3rd inclusive. The lodge will re-open for use Friday, May 4th.

Peter Lougheed Visitor Information Centre Hours: The visitor centre (403-591-6322) is in the midst of its seasonal closure, and will re-open on May 17th. For area information please contact Barrier Lake Visitor Information Centre, at (403) 673-3985, open daily from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Please note that these hours are subject to change.