

## Chilkoot Trail NHS Winter Information Kit

(Applicable December 15, 2020-May 15, 2021)

*As of: December 15, 2020*

The [Chilkoot Trail NHS](#) will resume winter visitation on Dec. 15, 2020 under normal levels of winter service and operations. Parks Canada may scale service back to partial or full closure at any time, depending on current [orders and direction of the B.C. Provincial Health Officer](#) and under [Yukon's Civil Emergency Measures Act \(CEMA\)](#), [guidelines from Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health \(CMOH\)](#), Parks Canada direction, and/or as dictated by other COVID-19 mitigation measure. The Chilkoot Trail NHS is in B.C. Visitors must follow all provincial orders while in B.C. and the NHS.

'Normal' winter operations include:

- [Winter camping and fire authorization](#) in effect between Dec. 15, 2020 and May 15, 2021;
- [Winter Restricted Activity Order](#) in effect throughout entire NHS, which is a list of activities prohibited within the site without prior written approval or permit;
- [Bennett City Restricted Activity Area Order](#) in effect: Random camping & motorized use is prohibited in the area known as Bennett City (see Restricted Activity Area map), camping immediately next to the Day Use Cabin is permitted, the Day Use Cabin is closed for winter;
- [Lindeman City Restricted Activity Area Order](#) in effect: Random camping & motorized use is prohibited in the area known as Lindeman City (see Restricted Activity Area map), camping immediately next to the Day Use Cabins is permitted, the Day Use Cabins are open but not maintained over the winter;
- A delineation between non-motorized and motorized use as per the [2020-21 Non-Motorized-Weekend schedule](#).

For detailed information, please read complete bulletins. Users must also adhere to [Chilkoot Trail NHS Winter Regulations](#) at all times. **Travel across the international border is currently prohibited, including within the bounds of the NHS.**

### Be Self-Reliant

Yukoners are encouraged to get outdoors and enjoy the backcountry, however, getting into the backcountry must be done safely so that you do not put yourself, your friends and first responders at risk. Your safety is your responsibility. Be extra cautious when engaging in any activities to avoid injury and/or getting lost to help minimize the demands placed on emergency response, search and rescue teams, and on the health care system.

- There is limited emergency response in this area.
- Natural hazards are present.
- Trails and facilities are not maintained, with the exception of Log Cabin parking lot where maintenance services are limited.
- When recreating in the backcountry, keep your group sizes limited and maintain physical distancing.

- Know before you go! Use resources like [Yukon Avalanche Association](#) and [Avalanche Canada](#) websites, check the [Yukon avalanche bulletin](#) before you head out to play, and use the [Mountain Information Network \(MIN\)](#) to keep well informed.
- Plan ahead and be prepared! Leave a trip-plan with someone at home. Visit [adventuresmart.ca](#) to learn about trip planning and how to best prepare for the backcountry. Download the AdventureSmart app.

#### **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

Parks Canada: 1-877-852-3100

Parks Canada from a satellite phone: 1-780-852-3100

RCMP: 1-867-821-5555

*\*There is no cell service in the area. Nearest telephone is at Canada Customs, Fraser*

### **Mitigate the Spread of COVID-19**

The health and safety of visitors and employees is of the utmost importance to Parks Canada. Parks Canada is following the advice of public health experts and continues to make every effort to limit the spread of COVID-19. Access to the Chilkoot Trail NHS requires travel through Yukon communities for most users. Travel responsibly and respectfully to help protect Yukoners who call these places home.

- Adhere to current [orders and directions under B.C.'s Provincial Health Officer](#) while in B.C., and under [Yukon's CEMA](#) while in Yukon. Remember that the Chilkoot Trail NHS is in B.C. and provincial orders apply. For further information on provincial guidelines, please contact the Province of B.C.
- Stay home if you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- [Practice the Safe 6.](#)
- Avoid stopping in vulnerable communities, and follow [travel advisories](#) issued by First Nation governments and communities. If a First Nations government or community has not issued an advisory, travel responsibly and follow the Safe 6.
- Maintain social distancing requirements and adhere to outdoor group size restrictions. Parks Canada will not support any gathering or event that exceeds this maximum.
- Parks Canada will refrain from permitting events and cancel existing events during a provincial suspension of events and/or social gatherings. An approved COVID-19 mitigation plan will be a requirement of all event permitting.

### **Be Part of a Joint Effort**

It takes a joint effort to keep a site clean and safe. Recognise there to be no maintenance and upkeep to Chilkoot Trail NHS facilities throughout the winter, with the exception of minimal upkeep to services at the Log Cabin parking lot. You can help in the following ways:

- Be kind and respectful of others.
- Come prepared with your own 'COVID-kit' including hand sanitizer, masks for everyone in your group, water and snacks. Parks Canada will not be providing hand-sanitizer on site.
- Recreate within small, family/friend bubbles.
- Gear up and go! Pack up and go! Avoid lingering unnecessarily in the Log Cabin parking lot and at trailheads, and avoid the potential for your activities to turn into social gatherings.

- Use the site and its services at your own risk. Indoor and outdoor surfaces (including outhouses, day use cabins and garbage receptacles) are not sanitized.
- Keep outhouses clean for the next user:
  - Don't leave litter
  - Refrain from throwing garbage down the toilet
  - Latch the door after use to keep snow out
  - Shovel the stairs if you can, when you can
- Minimize your garbage. Take what garbage you do have home.
- If the garbage containers are overflowing or garbage has been left adjacent to containers, let Parks Canada know.
- Camp in small, family/friend bubbles and avoid the potential to create social gatherings while camping. Random camping is permitted throughout the site (except in restricted areas) between Dec. 8 and May 15, but may be reassessed and revoked at any time.
- Adhere to Covid-capacity limits while inside day use cabins. Signage will be posted at cabins.
- Refrain from burning palettes – nails are difficult to clean up and may end up puncturing your tire or the tires of fellow-users. Dispose of your ash at home. Fires are permitted at Log Cabin between Dec. 15 and May 15, but only in self-contained fire-pans or drums.
- Be patient with snow removal at Log Cabin parking lot. Parks Canada does not have the capacity or ability to plow the parking lot – Yukon Highways plows as a partnership gesture, and only as other priorities permit. Thank you Yukon Highways for your ongoing support!
- Please don't park on the highway whether Log Cabin parking lot is closed, snowed in or at full capacity. You are only putting yourself and others at risk. Find another safe pull-out.

Parks Canada will:

- Patrol the site regularly for compliance, as well as minimum upkeep and maintenance. Winter stakeholder groups are requested to report the status of facilities/services to Parks Canada regularly. If required, Parks Canada will request winter stakeholder groups play a more active role in site upkeep.
- Keep winter stakeholder groups informed of changes to service and operation levels. Winter stakeholder groups are requested to:
  - Share information and messaging with their memberships;
  - Jointly monitor efforts and user-behaviour for success (observe and report only); and
  - Report back to Parks Canada regularly.

Recreating within the Chilkoot Trail NHS? Report any deficiencies, messes or inappropriate use of the site to your Winter User Group or directly to Parks Canada at 867-667-3910 or 1-800-661-0486. Thank you for being proactive and recreating responsibly.

This Information Kit is being sent out by the following organisation as a member of the Chilkoot Trail NHS Winter User Group. Please contact them, and they will report to Parks Canada on your behalf:

Group name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number or email: \_\_\_\_\_

