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The West Kootenay SnoGoers Association are a nonprofit society that promotes and supports family oriented safe snowmobiling



Many neighbouring outdoor recreation clubs have come together to maintain and improve this valuable historic recreation are:



Trails of the Paulson

Trails of the Paulson is a project initiated by Grand Forks ATV and West Kootenay Sno Goers in 2020 to enhance outdoor recreational activities in the Paulson Area. This covers from Christina Lake to Castlegar and the mountain ranges adjacent to highway 3 in Southern British Columbia.



Unique view of Paulson Bridge

About the Paulson Km 59.3

Rich in railway history, the Paulson was named after the Paulson brothers who established a hotel, store and stables in Paulson. Once the railway was completed the hotel along the railway be a no brother the hotel along the railway be a no brother to a Paulson Station.

Later a significant of KM 573 to service ore ship: A station was a station and the station was a station and the remains of other buildings can be seen along the banks of McRae Creek.

Today the area is sought after by those interested in outdoor recreation and the history of the Columbia & Western Railway.



Grand Forks ATV is a registered not-for-profit society promoting the safe and responsible operation of All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) including Four-wheelers (Quads) and Sideby-Sides.

Our membership is active in preserving the local history, environment, and wildlife habitat throughout the West Kootenay region of Southern British Columbia.

We plan rides, take part in events, and plan regular meetings for every ATV enthusiast to attend. We are dedicated to promoting the safe use of trails by all users including youth, seniors, and near-seniors.

Accessable Seniors Ride



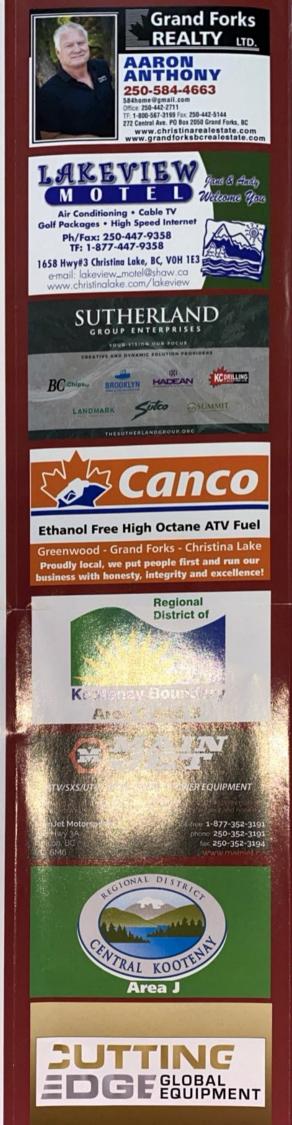
Hike/Bike/Horseback trails are intended for non-motorized use. All trails on this map are accessible by bike or foot. However, desirable areas for these activities are in the hills around Christina Lake and the Rossland Range Recreation Site at the Strawberry Summit on Highway 3B.

ATV/ORV access to the Columbia & Western Rail trail is best at Billings, Santa Rosa, Paulson Bypass, or the Parking 8.8km west of Castlegar. 24Mile and Bonanza are also great access points to loop trails and for snowmobiling in winter.

Partnership Understanding Grand Forks ATV Club and the West Kootenay SnoGoers Association recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together in the Paulson recreational area which WKSGA has held for several years by tenure agreement. "The Paulson is one of the most significant historical areas in British Columbia. GFATV looks forward to sharing development and maintenance responsibilities with the SnoGoers" said Doug Zorn, President GFATV. "Both of our organizations promote the safe and responsible use of wilderness trails." Grand Forks ATV has been involved in outdoor recreation development since registering as a nonprofit society in 2011. Their members maintain a number of amenities and trails in the Region. GFATV holds agreements with RSTBC to maintain eight recreation sites in the North Fork, Grand Forks, and Christina Lake areas. They also hold a "Lease of Occupancy" with the City of Grand Forks for the Morrissey Staging area. The Club has successfully completed two Provincially sponsored Job Creation Programs. They have held several trail safety and education events on the responsible use of ATV's. A favorite activity for Club members is providing a historic lunch and rides for seniors, the oldest participant being 94. Their latest project, the Franklin Heritage Trail, will see 19 kilometres of Historic Wagon Road located in the North Fork registered as a Heritage Trail Established in the late 1960's. The Wes Kootenay SnoGoers Association are nonprofit society that promotes and family oriented safe snowmobiling. Association maintains an extensive ra of 60 kilometres of groomed trails and large warming shelter within their tenure area on the north side of Highway 3 near Nancy Greene Lake. "Our snowmobiling area is generally referred to as 24 Mile and includes Mitchener Creek to the Paulson Summit, the Bulldog, Big Sheep and Shields Road, and to the north towards the Arrow Lake", said Mark Martin, President. "Our members are families who love snowmobiling and call Castlegar, Rossland, Trail. Fruitvale/Montrose, Nelson, and Washington state home. We host organized, fun snowmobiling events and fund raisers for our members and for the general public throughout the winter season." A trail pass. either through an affordable annual membership cost or day pass, is required to use the WKSG tenured area

The Salmo Valley ATV Club is an active 60 plus member club with members from throughout the West Kootenays. We are very pleased with the Trails of the Paulson Initiative.

https://www.svsatv.com



Points of Interest

Trestles & Tunnels - From Castlegar along the Columbia & Western Rail Trail, there are several trestles and tunnels as the trail winds up the hills along Lower Arrow Lake.

Bulldog Tunnel - The longest tunnel on the Columbia & Western Rail Trail (3000ft), passing through the Bulldog is an incredible experience. Be sure to bring your flashlight as it is pitch black inside the tunnel.

Farron Station - One of the most popular stations located at the summit of the Columbia & Western Rail Trail, Farron has a shelter and a few old artifacts.

Old Glory Mountain - A 19km return hike will take you to the peak of the tallest mountain in the area. Once a forestry lookout, Old Glory is known for it's challenging terrain as it winds into the hills.

Seven Summits Trail - 30km long, the Seven Summits Trail, completed in the summer of 2004 by the Kootenay Columbia Trails Society (KCTS), is a spectacular point to point single-track traverse of the Rossland Range.



History

Shields was the site of a former passenger train flag stop and steam locomotive water stop. Shields was named for a railway contractor, Sim & Shields, which constructed several lines in the United States and Canada, including the Great Northern between Marcus and Grand Forks.

Porcupine Bridge - Cascade Record
Two miles on the other side of the tunnel is
another high trestle, over Porcupine creek,
thus will require another million feet or
more of timber. The greater part of this has
been gotten out by Contractor Cameron,
and the work of putting it in place will soon
be started. Contractor Boomer, of Winters,
Parsons & Boomer, who have five miles of
work beyond Porcupine, has the greater part
of his work completed, but will be in camp
for a month or two yet, working on a 40.000
cubic-yard cut and in putting on the finishing
touches to their contract.



Porcupine Creek with the trestle filled in. Photo by Scott Calvert.