

Mt. Shark and Chester/Sawmill Winter Trail Conditions

Date: Thursday, February 9th, 2012

Mount Shark Trails

| Trail Names | Date Last Groomed | Date Last Trackset | Comments <small>(overview comments located below itemized trail information)</small> |
|------------------|--|--------------------|---|
| Watridge Lake | Feb. 6 | Feb. 6 | |
| 2km Blue Loop | Feb. 6 | Feb. 6 | |
| 5km Red Loop | Feb. 6 | Feb. 6 | |
| 5km Red/Black | Feb. 6 | Feb. 6 | |
| 5 km Red/Purple | Feb. 6 | Feb. 6 | |
| 10km Yellow Loop | Feb. 6 | Feb. 6 | |
| 15km Green Loop | The last loop of this trail is not maintained. | | |

COMMENTS:

Monday's grooming and tracksetting has left trails in excellent condition, thanks to cooperative weather. While the recent chinook has impacted trails elsewhere, temperatures at Chester have been at zero or below since Jan. 30th. Windy days earlier in the week may have resulted in drifted snow, and tree debris on trails may still be present. Come prepared for variable conditions, and dress in layers.

Note: If venturing beyond the designated trails system, please consult the Kananaskis Country avalanche report at www.kananaskis-country.ca

Mass Start Area: The mass start area was groomed and trackset with 8 sets of track of Feb. 2nd.

Snow Depth: Chester Lake Trailhead: 98 cm (last significant snowfall was 12 cm on Feb. 1)

Smith-Dorrien/Spray Road (Hwy. 742): Expect winter driving conditions.

Ungroomed Chester/Sawmill Trails

Trails in this area are in "Simple-Class 1" terrain which is defined as: "Exposure to low angle or primarily forested terrain. Some forest openings may involve the run-out zones of infrequent avalanches. Many options to reduce or eliminate avalanche exposure and no glacier travel required." More information on the Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale can be found on our website under the avalanche report link.

Snowshoers: Please avoid skier-set tracks and keep to the edge of trails.

Please Note: The lower section of the Chester Lake Ski Trail (the loop) is now a one-way system due to public safety concerns. Skiers must now travel in a counter-clockwise direction.

Note: Watch for natural hazards such as brush and downed trees. Please ensure that you stay well away from avalanche run-out zones, pay attention to potential terrain traps, and make conservative route selection decisions.

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Smith-Dorrien/Spray Road (Hwy. 742): Expect winter driving conditions

Please Note: The Avalanche Report is available at: www.kananaskis-country.ca

Ungroomed Backcountry Trails

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|---------------|--|
| Burstall Pass | Please share the trail, keeping to the tracks specific to your chosen sport. |
| Rummel Lake | Please share the trail, keeping to the tracks specific to your chosen sport. |
| Chester Lake | Please share the trail, keeping to the tracks specific to your chosen sport. |

COMMENTS:

These trails are shared by multiple user groups. Please keep to the tracks specific to your sport and exercise caution on trails. Please ensure you are prepared and consult the **backcountry avalanche report** at: www.kananaskis-country.ca prior to heading out.