



Parks
Canada

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KLUANE WINTER RECREATION

YUKON





Welcome to the World of Winter

Kluane doesn't hibernate when the snow begins to fly! Rather hiking boots are exchanged for skis, or snowshoes. Come on out, join in and "PARK-TICIPATE"!

Cross Country Skiing

Kluane offers a skiing challenge for anyone — whether you are a novice or a veteran — whether you want to go for an hour, a day or a week. Skiing within the park may mean following a prepared trail, or breaking your own trail across Kluane's vast natural wilderness.

Snowshoeing

Snowshoeing is also a popular pastime in Kluane. You have a perfect opportunity to explore some of the untouched areas in the park. If you are following the trails, please avoid skiers' tracks.

Dog Sledding

Dog sledding is permitted on the Mush Lake Road. To travel elsewhere in the park by dog sled, you must obtain authorization from the Superintendent. Dog mushers are requested to stay off skiers' tracks.

Snowmobiling

In Kluane National Park, snowmobiling is permitted only on the access road from the Haines Road to Kathleen Lake and on the **ice surface** of Kathleen Lake. Oversnow vehicles are **not** permitted to operate on Sockeye Creek, nor in the area surrounding Kathleen Lake. A map outlining the designated area for snowmobiling is displayed on the bulletin board at Kathleen Lake.

Rallies, meets, or other similar activities are prohibited within the park. Oversnow vehicles must be properly provincially or territorially licensed.



Camping

Camping in Kluane is geared for summer use, but winter camping can be just as enjoyable if you are prepared for it. The only campground in the park (Kathleen Lake Campground) is closed during the winter season, but it is permissible to camp in the day use area at the lake shore. Wilderness camping is permitted throughout the park. Primitive campgrounds (shown on map) are located near trails throughout the park. These campgrounds are also geared for summer use. In the winter, night temperatures can drop rapidly, and it might be necessary to dig for firewood. Be prepared!

Registration

If you are venturing into Kluane on an overnight expedition, you must register at the Visitor Reception Centre in Haines Junction or with any park warden. With this information the Warden Service will know where you are and will be able to provide assistance if required. Up to date travel conditions and other information is also available upon registration.

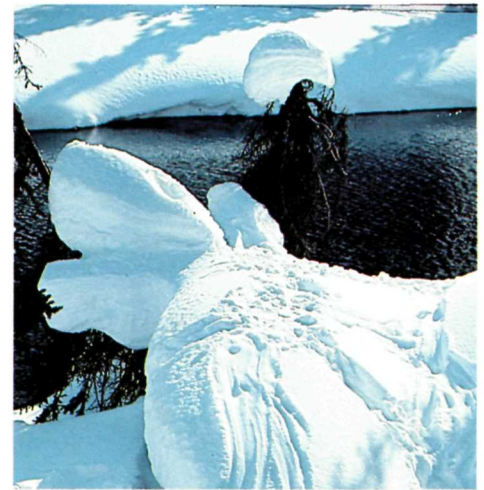
The VRC is open 7 days/week, 8:30 to 4:30.

Be Prepared!

- Never travel alone - let someone at the park and at home know your plans, even for a day trip.
- Do not overexert yourself; the possibility of hypothermia is greatest when the body is tired and cold.
- Prevent snowblindness - wear sunglasses.
- Pack waterproof matches.
- On long or overnight trips into the backcountry, carry emergency equipment: a repair kit, a survival kit, a first aid kit.
- Dress for the conditions you expect to encounter, and be prepared for a change in the weather. It is advisable to wear several layers of clothing as you can add to them or shed them when necessary. Overheating and perspiring lowers your resistance to cold, so remove layers of clothing when necessary!
- Check weather forecasts.

Warnings

You may encounter water under the snow layer on any of the lakes, rivers or creeks in the area. This slush layer may also be present in areas of underground



springs. If you are near lakes, rivers and creeks, you should be prepared to dry out your gear, or carry dry gear for you to change into. Travel is not recommended on Mush, Bates or St. Elias Lakes, as they are continuously subject to overflow and open water which creates conditions that are hazardous.

Snow can mean avalanches - The highest avalanche danger exists during or immediately after a heavy snowfall, with prolonged period of high winds, or sudden temperature changes (i.e. chinooks). You should avoid cornices, steep slopes (25°+) and areas of heavy snow accumulations i.e. gullies, wind blown creek banks, lee side of ridges. Check with the Warden Service or the Information Centre for current conditions.

Pack In - Pack Out

To keep Kluane in its natural state, it is important to pack out everything you packed in. Litter bags are available on request at the park headquarters.

Hypothermia

Definition

Hypothermia is the lowering of the interior body temperature, and is caused by exposure to the cold, aggravated by wetness, wind and personal exhaustion. Your body is similar to a furnace, if it loses more than it can produce, the body's core temperature will drop and without an external heat source hypothermia can be fatal.

Symptoms:

Hypothermia symptoms can be recognized in an individual by uncontrollable fits of shivering, slurred speech and stumbling. Loss of coordination and simple things become a problem. Normal behaviour may change. A good-natured person may begin to grumble and complain about anything and everything. **WATCH FOR THESE SYMPTOMS.**

Prevention is the best cure

- Understand causes, symptoms and treatment of hypothermia.
- Wear warm clothing and good rain gear



- (wool clothing still insulates when wet).
- Protect your head area for heat loss.
 - Don't eat snow. Your body has to warm and melt the snow resulting in a drop in body temperature.

Treat Early

Learn about hypothermia symptoms for yourself and others. If you or someone in your party feels tired or cold, has slurred speech, or complains about some other problems, don't ignore it - STOP - start a campfire, drink something hot and sweet (NO ALCOHOL - it causes decreased sensitivity to cold and a lower heat production by the body). Eat chocolate or another high calorie food, dry out your clothes and get into your sleeping bag and tent.

Emergency Treatment

If proper care is taken, no one in your group should need emergency treatment, but if you encounter a person needing such treatment, move the patient to medical assistance quickly. If this isn't possible, get the victim to a shelter, gently remove the victim's clothes, arrange for a naked individual to locate on each side of the patient, and keep all three well covered by blankets. Feed the victim a warm sweet drink (Non alcoholic).

Frostbite

Frostbite is the actual freezing of body tissues. There is a sensation of numbness, the skin turns white, yellow-white and mottled blue-white and the area becomes cold and insensitive to touch.

The nose, cheeks, ears and chin are usually parts of the body to be affected, but more severe cases of frostbite involve the hands and feet.

Treatment

Minor Frostbite:

Add more clothing to the affected area and shelter from the cold. Rewarm the area with body heat. Hold your hands to the area, **but do not massage.**

Serious Frostbite:

The first treatment for frostbite is to prevent further freezing. Don't thaw the frozen area if there is a danger of refreezing. If refreezing can be prevented, rapid rewarming is best. Rewarming should be done by immersing the frozen area in water, starting at a comfortable hand temperature and increasing the temperature gradually. Get medical aid as quickly as possible.



There is considerable tissue damage in serious frostbite, since cells rupture when they freeze. Because there is a high risk of infection after the rewarming process, it is necessary to keep the area clean at all times.

Trails

The following is a list of trails in Kluane National Park (see attached map). Trail distances are one way, unless otherwise stated. The trails may contain more than one level of difficulty - if so, they are listed in the order in which they are encountered on the trail.

For more information, please contact Superintendent, Kluane National Park, Haines Junction, Yukon Y0B 1L0.

1. *Congdon Creek

Starting point: Km 1725 Alaska Highway

Distance: 4 km

Skill level: Novice/Advanced*

Note: follows the creek bed or Old Access road through the boreal forest to a narrow canyon. Beyond this point the creek bed must be followed.

2. Dezadeash River

Starting point: Km 1636 Alaska Highway

Distance: 11 km (looptrail)

Skill level: Novice

Note: follows the Dezadeash River. A winding trail through stands of poplar and spruce.

3. Auriol Trail

Starting point: Km 248.3 Haines Road

Distance: 19 km (looptrail)

Skill level: Novice/Intermediate/Advanced

Note: loop trail leading through open meadows and mixed forest, sub-alpine and alpine zones provides excellent view of the Shawkak and Dezadeash River valleys.



4. *Quill Creek South

Starting point: Km 240 Haines Road

Distance: 6 km

Skill level: Novice/Advanced*

Note: follows the creek up into the alpine zone, excellent views of the Dezadeash River valley and Kathleen Lake area.

5. Campground Loop

Starting point: Km 229 Haines Road

Distance: 1.5 km

Skill level: Novice

Note: looping through stands of poplar and spruce.

6. Kathleen Lake/Cottonwood Trail/Mush Lake

Starting point: Km 229 or Km 201.6 Haines Road

Distance: 85 km (looptrail)

Skill level: Novice/Intermediate/Advanced

Note: a 4 to 5 day trip across lakes, through mixed forest to high alpine country returning to the Haines Highway at Dezadeash.

7. Mush Lake

Starting point: Km 201.7 Haines Road

Distance: 21.6 km

Skill level: Novice/Intermediate

Note: an abandoned mining road from the Haines Road to Mush Lake.

8. St. Elias Lake

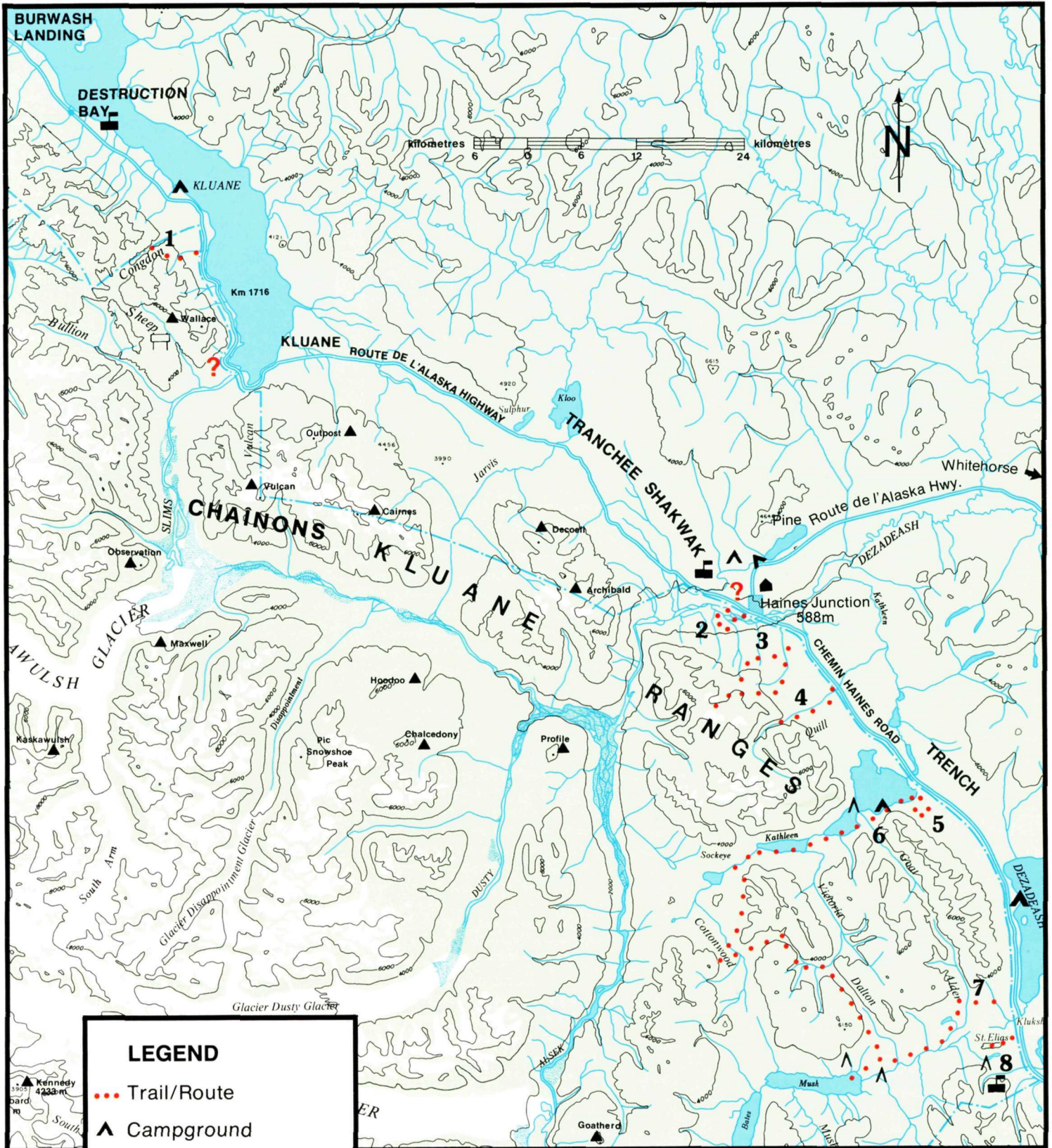
Starting point: Km 196 Haines Road

Distance: 4 km

Skill level: Intermediate

Note: an old recreational road, leads to a beautiful alpine lake, which is flanked by high, goat inhabited peaks.

* The Congdon Creek and Quill Creek trails become advanced skill level at the mountains, and the avalanche danger increases. These trails have been marked on the map only as far as the novice trail. It is permissible to ski further into these areas but one must be aware of avalanche conditions.



LEGEND

- Trail/Route
- ▲ Campground
- △ Primitive Campground
- ▲ Mountain
- ? Information Centre
- Park Boundary
- Warden Station

National Parks Centennial

1885

1985

Centenaire des parcs nationaux

1885-1985:
100 years of Heritage Conservation
 Canada's first national park was established in 1885 at Banff, Alberta. Today there are national parks and national historic parks in every province and territory. The National Parks Centennial is an occasion to renew our commitment to preserve examples of our heritage unimpaired for the benefit of all Canadians.

Ce dépliant est disponible en français.

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