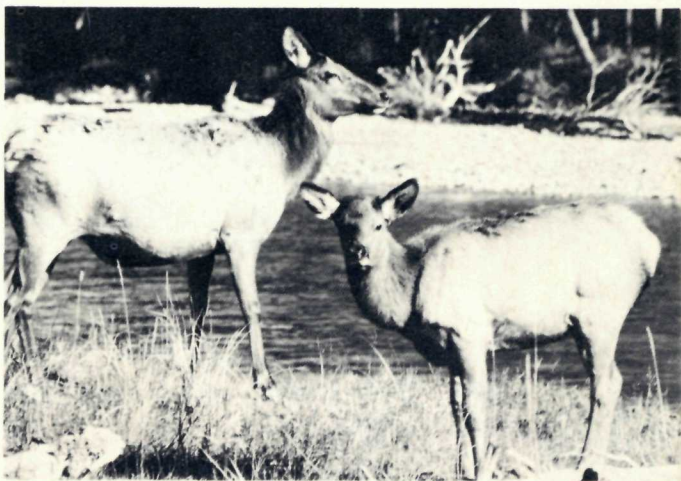


Motorists may stop to view wildlife from the road but they must park well off the travelled section on the paved shoulder. The animals are somewhat accustomed to man but they are still wild and unpredictable, making it dangerous to feed or approach them.

The road is kept open during the winter months. However, it may be closed for short periods due to avalanche hazards or dangerous driving conditions. Please check with the Western Park Gate, Park Headquarters or the local R.C.M.P. for the latest information on road conditions.

Wapiti — cow and calf
Kootenay Valley and Mitchell Range



Radium Hot Springs aquacourt
Sinclair Canyon

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Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Kootenay National Park

Banff Windermere Parkway

British Columbia

Mount Wardle



Sun, cloud, rain and snow set shifting moods against the mountain background of Kootenay National Park. Each trip is a little different from the last as the play of weather on mountains, valleys, glaciers, rivers and forests creates endless combinations of atmosphere.

Although the Parkway is meant to show visitors the features of Kootenay from the comfort of a car, those who care to explore will find it also gives access to trails, canyons, hot springs, campgrounds and picnic sites.

The history of the Park is to a large extent the history of the road. Sir James Hector, who was the first white man to travel this area when he came through Vermilion Pass in 1858, noted in his journal that the route was the best for a wagon road that he had discovered in his explorations.

However, it wasn't until the early 1900's that settlers in the Columbia River Valley began pressing for a route through the Kootenay and Vermilion Valleys from Lake Windermere to Banff. Construction began in 1911 with the British Columbia Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway starting on their side and the Dominion Government starting from Banff National Park.

Mount Stanley



Natural Bridge —
Marble Canyon

Paint Pots

The First World War was instrumental in stopping construction in 1914 after the Province had completed about 15 miles and the Dominion reached the Vermilion Pass summit.

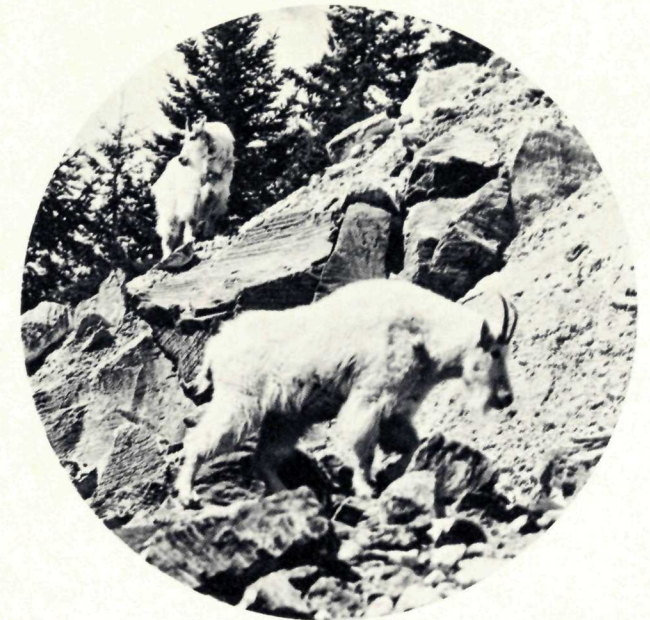
After the War, when a shortage of funds threatened to cancel the project entirely, R. Randolph Bruce of Windermere, a mine owner and later Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, proposed that the province turn the land over to the Dominion as a National Park in return for completion of the road. The two governments reached agreement in 1919 with the province granting a five-mile strip on either side of the right-of-way as Park land.

The road was completed in 1923 and has since become both transportation link between British Columbia and Alberta and gateway to the Rocky Mountain National Parks of Kootenay, Banff, Jasper and Yoho.

The Banff-Windermere Parkway provides the opportunity to view the wide variety of wildlife in Kootenay National Park as well as major geographical features such as the Paint Pots ochre beds and Marble Canyon. The mileage guide contained in this pamphlet indicates the points of interest and locations where different species of wildlife may be observed, particularly the animal lick near the halfway point on the Parkway.

Bighorn sheep may be seen in the Radium Hot Springs area while Sinclair Creek, from the Western Gateway to Olive Lake, is the best area for sighting mule deer. Farther up the Park, from McLeod Meadows Campground to the Kootenay Crossing Warden Station is the best area for white-tailed deer. Rocky Mountain goat frequent the soil banks west of the road at the base of Mount Wardle from the Hector Gorge Viewpoint to just beyond the Hector Gorge Picnic Site. If they are not close to the road they may be spotted with binoculars on the steep slopes and rocky cliffs of Mount Wardle. Wapiti are also frequently seen along the road allowance from the lick north through to Marble Canyon.

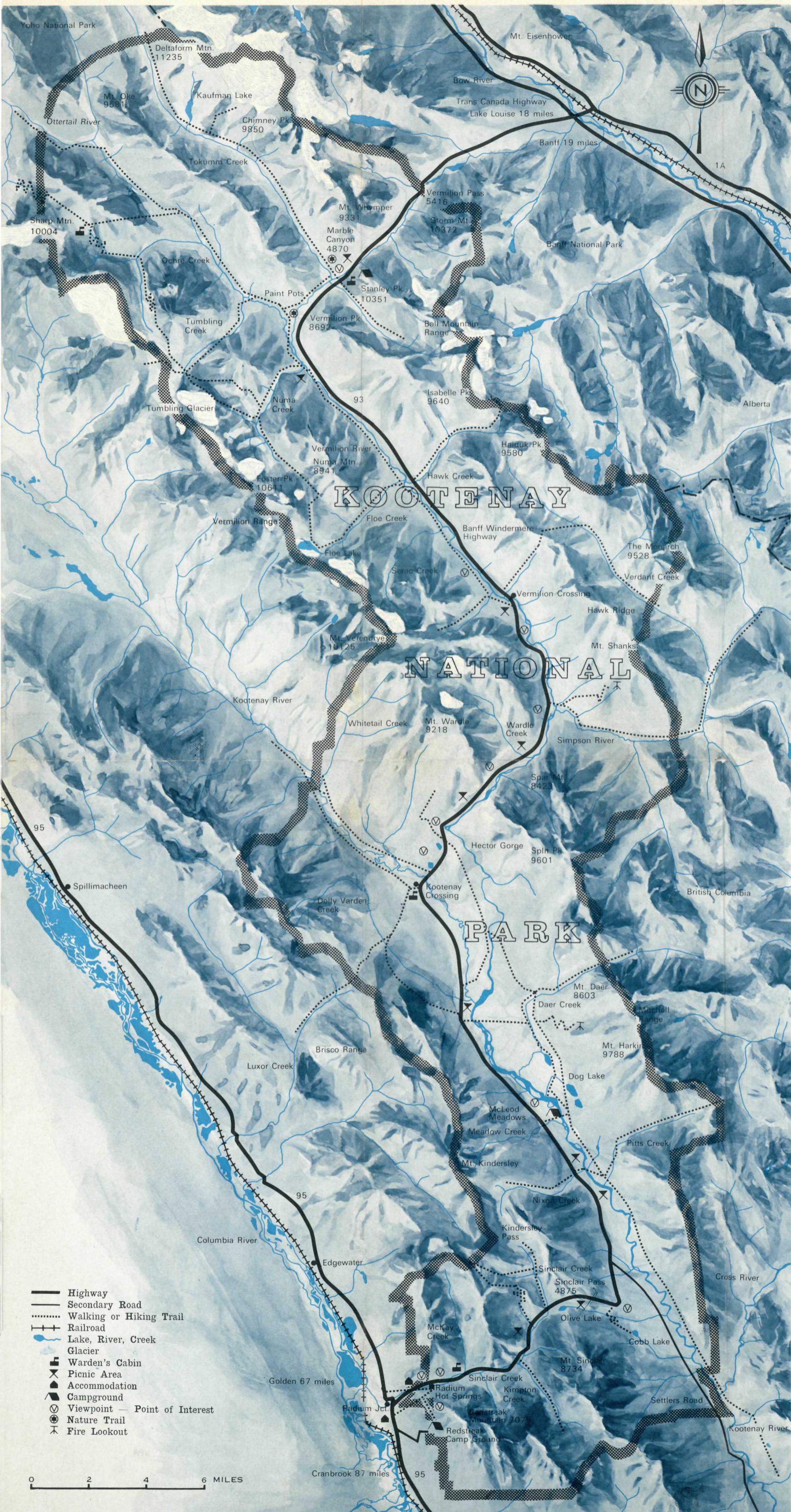
Moose in animal lick



Goats on Mount Wardle

Spar Mountain





POINTS OF INTEREST

Miles from Eisenhower Junction (read down)		Miles from Western Park Entrance (read up)
64.9	Park Entrance and Information Office. For Redstreak Campground turn off Highway 93 and 95. Drive 1/4 mile south of Junction. Watch for signs.	0.0
64.6	South entrance to Sinclair Canyon. Viewpoint of Columbia Valley and Purcell Range in distance. Geological point of interest.	0.3
63.9	Radium Hot Springs. Visitor accommodation and facilities.	1.0
63.8	Aquacourt, Radium Hot Springs. Park Information. Trails to Sinclair Canyon Viewpoint and Redstreak Campground — 0.6 mile.	1.1
62.9	Iron Gates Tunnel.	2.0
62.6	Warden Station.	2.3
59.7	Kimpton Creek Trail — 3 miles.	5.2
59.3	Picnic area — Sinclair Creek.	5.6
59.0	Kindersley Pass Trail — 4.5 miles.	5.9
57.5	Sinclair Pass Summit — Altitude 4,875'. Olive Lake — picnic area — fishing — Eastern Brook and Rainbow Trout.	7.4
55.8	Trail to Cobb Lake — 1.7 miles. Fishing, Eastern Brook Trout.	9.1
55.5	Viewpoint , Kootenay Valley and Mitchell Range.	9.4
53.3	Settlers' Road — 7 miles to park boundary (Secondary road).	11.6
48.1	McLeod Meadows Campground. Trail to Dog Lake. Fishing.	16.8
47.4	Viewpoint , Mt. Harkin. Named after the first Commissioner of Canada's National Parks.	17.5
42.7	Dolly Varden Creek — Picnic area. Fishing — cutthroat and Dolly Varden trout.	22.2
41.6	Trail to Mt. Daer Fire Lookout, 8 miles.	23.3
38.3	Warden Station — Emergency facilities. Trail to Park Boundary, 6 miles.	26.6
38.1	Kootenay River Crossing — Elevation 3,840'.	26.8
37.5	Viewpoint , Kootenay Pond. Fishing, rainbow and cutthroat trout. View of Brisco Range and Luxor Pass looking southeast across Kootenay Valley.	27.4
35.8	Viewpoint , Mt. Wardle and Vermilion Valley east, Hector Gorge on Vermilion River, south.	29.1
34.6	Hector Gorge Picnic Area, beside Vermilion River.	30.3
33.8	Typical Mountain Goat range.	31.1
31.8	Picnic area, Wardle Creek.	33.1
30.8	Viewpoint , Rocky Springs, emerging from a cave (dry in late summer).	34.1
30.5	Viewpoint , animal lick. Moose, elk and mule deer can be observed here.	34.4
29.7	Viewpoint , Simpson Monument. (Historical). Simpson River entering Vermilion River from the east.	35.2
29.3	Road to Mt. Shanks Fire Lookout. Trail up Simpson River. Fishing, cutthroat and Dolly Varden trout. Access to Mt. Assiniboine — 20 miles.	35.6
27.1	Viewpoint , Mt. Assiniboine — 11,870'. Southeast above lower ranges. Visible on clear days only.	37.8
25.7	Vermilion River Crossing. Bungalows and gas during the summer months, picnic area. Fishing, cutthroat and Dolly Varden trout.	39.2
25.0	Viewpoint , Mt. Verendrye — 10,125' westward.	39.9
20.3	Hawk Creek Road Maintenance Camp. Departmental use only. Trail to Floe Lake 6.2 miles west.	44.6
15.3	Vermilion Canyon on Vermilion River. Picnic area. Access to Numa Valley.	49.6
12.4	Paint Pots Nature Trail, 1/2 mile. Geological and historical point of interest.	52.5
10.9	Warden Station — Emergency facilities.	54.0
10.7	Marble Canyon Nature Trail, 1/2 mile. Geological point of interest. Picnic area near parking lot. Tokumm Creek Trail; Kaufmann Lake.	54.2
10.6	Marble Canyon Campground.	54.3
9.3	Trail to Stanley Glacier, 3 miles.	55.6
6.3	Park boundary and provincial boundary. Vermilion Pass — elevation 5,416'. View of Storm Mountain, 10,372'; Mt. Whympier, 9,311'; Stanley Peak, 10,351'; Mt. Eisenhower, 9,030'.	58.6
0.0	Eisenhower Junction — Junction with No. 1, Trans-Canada Highway. Banff, 19 miles east; Lake Louise, 18 miles west; Radium Hot Springs, 62.9 miles south.	64.9

Note: Trail mileages are one way. indicates Points of Interest as well as Viewpoints.