

CHALLENGING TIMES

Sledding in Golden has been enjoyable in the past week but there's also a lot going on and SledGolden has had its hands full managing all sorts of things.

There's public health travel advisories, there's still active mining in Gorman, the Silent Pass trail got partly ruined by a truck with chains and the parking lot is now at the 30km, Oldman has seen a groomer and Quartz is full of beginners who apparently have no clue. Please keep reading to find out more and how you can be a part of the solution.

Trail Area Conditions Reports

Quartz Creek

Conditions: Excellent early season. A lot of traffic in the regular bowls. Still powder in the trees. 20-30 cms fell on Monday/Tues.

Grooms scheduled: Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun.

Fees: \$25

Parking: Main parking lot is plowed. Please do not drive up the trail.

Road: Groomed from parking lot.

Additional notes: A lot of traffic in Quartz by beginners lately, who may or may not have any clue about mountain safety. Be careful and patient with each other. Trail is in good shape and groomed regularly.

Gorman Lake

Conditions: Filling in, but still thin.

Grooms scheduled: Dec 16 (tentative).

Fees: No fees.

Parking: Park at 9km .

Road: Road is in rough shape. Very icy. Road is being used by mining trucks from the Holt bridge down (from approximately 13 km and down). A small parking lot is apparently made at km 9.

Silent Pass

Conditions: Excellent early season. A lot of traffic but also new snow. Northern alpine bowls on the backside are wind scoured. Best snow is in the trees.

Grooms scheduled: Thur, Sat.

Fees: \$25 / sled

Parking: Please DO NOT park at the 27km. Please park ON THE ROAD (not in the turn around) at the 30 km. Please keep the turn around free at the 30km so that trucks with trailers can turn around.

Additional notes: Last Saturday some asshole decided it was a good idea to chain up and pin it on the groomed trail all the way to the 47km. This made a huge mess of expensive grooms we put in and ruined the trail for hundreds of people...sigh... We can almost understand the challenge of the mission but honestly, that was seriously selfish... The loggers working west of the 27 km point have asked us to please NOT park at the 27km. We've made a good turn around at the 30 km mark but ask that people do NOT park in the turn around. Reminder, give loggers the right of way. Call your KMs on your VHF radio! Channel RR-3

East Quartz

Conditions: Thin and sporty.

Grooms scheduled: Road building to start next week.

Fees: Same for Quartz.

Parking: Quartz Creek parking will be plowed for weekend. Please do not drive up the trail.

Road: n/a

Additional notes: We will try to get E Quartz road building started, or at least a portion of it, next week. Don't bring your novice buddy up there. It's early season, adventure sledding up there.

Old Man

Conditions: Thin.

Grooms scheduled: First pass Monday Dec 7. Still too early for a grooming drag.

Fees: \$25 - pay at Quartz Kiosk

Parking: Quartz Creek parking will be plowed for weekend. Please do not drive up the trail.

Road: n/a

Additional notes: We put our first groom into Oldman this week. To be honest, we probably should of waited because the trail is quite thin. The waterfall access area looks like an oversized stegosaurus skeleton... Tread carefully.

Westbench Trail

Conditions: No information yet.

Grooms scheduled: None.

Fees: No fees.

Parking: Quartz Creek or Gorman Lake (Gorman not maintained)

Road: n/a

Additional notes: West Bench Trail will be discontinuous for the first half of this season as the loggers do some road building work and bridge replacement. Park at either Gorman or Quartz and ride to where the trail ends and back. The longer ride will be from Gorman.

Weather & Avalanche Conditions

Avalanche Conditions

<https://www.avalanche.ca>

Weather Conditions

<https://www.snow-forecast.com/resorts/GC-HeliSki/6day/mid>

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