19 March 2021

# SPRING SWING

There's no doubt it is spring time and it's transition time in the mountains. Looks like things are about to get good again with a storm on its way. . There's a lot of snow coverage this year and the trails are still holding strong. Grooming operations will be wide open until April 11.

The first extended closure (requiring motorists to use Highways 93 and 95 as an alternative route) will have a duration of approximately one month, from April 12 to May 14, 2021. Additional plans are also taking place for March. See the Traffic Management page for details. https://www.kickinghorsecanyon.ca/

## Trail Area Conditions Reports

### Quartz Creek

**Conditions:** Main area is well tracked. A good time to travel into further bowls.
**Grooms scheduled:** Wed, Fri, Sat (if needed), Sun
**Fees:** $25, $5 discount if you can prove AST training
**Parking:** Trucks with decks park west of the kiosk, trailers use two lots on the east side.
**Road:** There's some crazy big frost whoops on the highway near Quartz - might want to slow down if you have a trailer.
**Additional notes:** Quartz has been really busy on Saturdays and people have had to park across the highway which is pretty sketchy. Maybe consider going to Gorman or Silent instead on Saturday?

### Gorman Lake

**Conditions:** Mostly firm.
**Grooms scheduled:** Wed, Sat.
**Fees:** $25, $5 discount if you can prove AST training
**Parking:** Both parking lots at 3.5 plowed.
**Road:** Road has been in good shape.
**Additional notes:** A lot of active log hauling in Gorman. The kiosk attendant can call up the road for you if you don't have a radio. RR 27 is the channel. Please yield to logging trucks. The Sea-Cabin will NOT be pulled in to Gorman this winter due to the limited size and our COVID regulations. We'll have it back in action next winter!

### Silent Pass

**Conditions:** Some fresh but mostly packed. Watch for a sleeper pow storm this weekend that brings more than expected.
**Grooms scheduled:** Wed, Sat
**Fees:** $25, $5 discount if you can prove AST training
**Parking:** Please park ON THE ROAD (not in the turn around) at the 30 km, leave enough room for others to turn around.
**Road:** Call your KMs on your VHF radio! Channel RR-3.
**Additional notes:** The road in from the 27-30km is SINGLE LANE. Banks got pushed back by our grooming team on March 1. It's more important that ever to carry a radio and call your kms. Please don't clog up the mandatory turn around at the 30 km mark. Please keep that turn around area clear.

## East Quartz

**Conditions:** Some fresh but mostly packed.
**Grooms scheduled:** As needed
**Fees:** $25, $5 discount if you can prove AST training
**Parking:** At Quartz Creek parking (see above)
**Road:** n/a
**Additional notes:** Watch for overhead danger.

## Old Man

**Conditions:** Some fresh but mostly packed.
**Grooms scheduled:** As needed
**Fees:** $25, $5 discount if you can prove AST training
**Parking:** At Quartz Creek parking (see above)
**Road:** n/a
**Additional notes:** Not recommended for beginner riders.

## Westbench Trail

**Conditions:** Groomed - not continuous!
**Grooms scheduled:** As needed
**Fees:** $25, $5 discount if you can prove AST training
**Parking:** Park at Gorman or Quartz
**Road:** n/a
**Additional notes:** WBT is not a continuous trail this year due to logging operations. Closed at Cirque Creek from Gorman. Closed at Oldman turnoff from Quartz. For both sides, it's a there-and-back trail. If you ride through the plowed road sections you could get up to a $2500 fine as sledding on plowed roads is illegal.

## Weather & Avalanche Conditions

| Avalanche Conditions | Weather Conditions |
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| https://www.avalanche.ca | https://www.snow-forecast.com/resorts/GC-HeliSki/6day/mid |