

Jura Creek Trailhead

A proposal to add land to Bow Valley Provincial Park and construct a trailhead facility at Jura Creek

1. What is being proposed?

Jura Creek, located east of the Hamlet of Exshaw on Hwy 1A, has become a popular year round destination for hikers seeking access up Jura Creek Canyon, Door Jamb Mountain and Loder Peak. Alberta Parks is proposing to add 0.56 hectares of vacant public land to Bow Valley Provincial Park and create a trailhead facility in order to provide safe access and parking for Jura Creek.

2. Why is Alberta Parks proposing this Project?

Currently there is no official parking or access to Jura Creek. Jura Creek users park at the following locations:

- 250m east of the Graymont Exshaw Plant in the Hwy 1A ditch or on the shoulder of Hwy1A.
- On Graymont private property.

The access to the unofficial parking off Hwy 1A is located in the steep roadway ditch. The unofficial parking area has limited space – when full, vehicles are parking on the shoulder of Hwy 1A. The parking area at Graymont is on private property and is designated for tractor trailers. These options do not provide proper parking, washroom or garbage facilities, and present safety concerns. The Hwy 1A ditch parking is eroded and evidence of visitors using the surrounding area for washroom and garbage disposal are obvious. Alberta Parks wants to the address safety, environmental and land owner conflict issues for this site.

3. What are the details of the Project?

As part of the Project, Alberta Parks proposes to:

- Conduct consultation on the addition of new land to Bow Valley Provincial Park for the purposes
 of the Project.
- Establish an interim disposition regulated under the *Public Lands Act* on the section of vacant public land (0.56 ha).
- Construct a trailhead facility that includes:
 - 50 standard, 2 handicap and 2 bus parking stalls.
 - One washroom and garbage.
 - Information kiosk.
 - Highway and trailhead signage for the new parking lot.
- Establish the Jura Creek Trailhead as a facility zone in Bow Valley Provincial Park managed under <u>Bow Valley Protected Areas Management Plan</u> and regulated under the <u>Provincial Parks</u> Act.

4. Why is Alberta Parks adding land to Bow Valley Provincial Park for this Project?

Alberta Parks is seeking a 0.56 hectare disposition for the Jura Creek trailhead. The trail up Jura Creek is located on Public Lands and not formalized or designated. The purpose of this Project is to provide a safe parking area and proper facilities to reduce adjacent land owner conflict and environmental degradation.

5. How do I comment on this Project?

Alberta Parks encourages feedback on this Project. Send in your comments, suggestions and concerns by clicking on the online comment link below, or by emailing or mailing in your feedback to the appropriate address outlined below. Feedback will be collected until September 30, 2017.

Online: Online Comment

By Email: ParkNews@gov.ab.ca

By Mail:

Thea Mitchell,
Park Planner
Alberta Environment and Parks
Canmore Provincial Building,
Suite 201, 800 Railway Avenue,
Canmore, AB T1W 1P1

6. What happens after the public comment period?

Alberta Parks will make a decision regarding the Project after the 60-day public comment period is over. Alberta Parks will consider public feedback before a making a final decision.

A "What We Heard" document and the proposed actions and responses will be posted on www.albertaparks.ca/consult once a decision has been reached.

7. Who can I contact for further information on this Project?

If you would like further information on the Jura Creek Trailhead Facility Project, please call Thea Mitchell, Park Planner for Alberta Environment and Parks at 403-679-8416.

