Hiking

When hiking, keep your group under 10 and be respectful of the grassland, wildlife, cattle and other users. The following guidelines will help you enjoy your hike.

- Avoid trampling areas; when this is not possible, take care to minimize your disturbance of the vegetation.
- Bob Creek Wildland and Black Creek Heritage Rangeland is a wilderness area and all visitors must be prepared for backcountry hiking. Ensure you have enough gear and safety equipment should you need it due to changing weather conditions and enough experience to safely travel in the area.

- Keep litter in your pockets or bring along a bag to put it in.
- Please be considerate of neighbouring private land, seek permission well ahead of time if you intend to cross.
- The best way to access Bob Creek Wildland and Black Creek Heritage Rangeland is from the south end.
- Never park your vehicle so it blocks access to a cattle guard, loading ramps, other vehicles or roadsides.
- When hiking ridge tops, please keep your group size to a maximum of 10 individuals.

Cycling

When show please respect the natural environment in the following ways:

- When coming up behind other trail users and when approaching blind corners, use your bell to warn others of your presence.
- The rider will increase your chances of survival.
- If you get lost, stay put. Keep warm and dry. Then, call for help. Your family or friends will be waiting for you.
- Be aware of the potential negative effects of recreational use on wildlife disruption, soil and water contamination, loss of vegetation cover, soil erosion, noise.

Hunting

Hunting is permitted in Bob Creek Wildland and Black Creek Heritage Rangeland subject to wildlife regulations pertinent to the wildlife management the protected areas are in. These are WMU 358, 402 and a small portion of 356. It is the responsibility of the hunter to know the regulations for each WMU. Currently trails for recreational OHV use west and north of trail marker 7 are closed until further notice.

Fishing

World-class fishing is possible from Maycroft Provincial Recreation Area just outside the wildland. Park in designated day use parking and carefully access the Oldman River. Be aware of the potential danger of high water and cliffs when navigating to the edge of the river.

Please follow the fishing regulations from the sport fishing operators, beware wherever you purchased your fishing license.

Caution to Trail Users

The designated OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) trails in Bob Creek Wildland should be considered narrow or overgrown and may present obstacles and challenges to users due to weather related conditions, blow downs, etc. The trails also have steep sections where caution must be exercised. It is recommended that users travel in groups.

Practice “No-Trace” Camping

- Hikers, hunters and equine trail users are welcome to pack in, set up and take down camps. 
- Backcountry camping is permitted in Bob Creek Wildland. 
- Backcountry camping is not permitted in the Heritage Rangeland at any time.
- Camp is not permitted within the confines of the Staging Area.
- If you pack it, pack it out! Please help us out by packing out any garbage that you may come across.
- Wash and relax yourself at a minimum of 50 meters (150 feet) from any water source.
- Bury human waste and toilet paper.
- If you use wood burning camp stoves in the wildland, ensure spark arresters are on the chimney.
- No open fires are allowed in Black Creek Heritage Rangeland.
- The maximum stay for a camp is 16 days. All camps must be completely removed and disposed of at the end of your stay. Any abandoned items will be removed and disposed of by conservation officers.

Respect the Rights of Others

- All users should respect each other.
- Obtain permission from all landowners prior to accessing or crossing any lands other than the heritage rangeland. Access to the Heritage Rangeland can be restricted by the landholder of the area for management purposes.
- Leave gates as you find them.
- Wildfire and livestock need space, quiet and time to feed. Respect these needs.
- Please report vandalism or other illegal behavior to conservation officers 1-844-Help-PRK or 1-844-435-7775.

Equestrian Users

Enjoy your ride and please show respect to the natural environment in the following ways:

- Please only park your horse trailer in designated parking location and never block cattle guards, other vehicles, loading ramps or roadsides.
- Please use cubes, pallets or certified feed free hay. Make sure your horses finish their feed so that none is left behind.
- Do not clean your horse trailer out in the parking lot.
- When accessing water, use hard ground surfaces and avoid soft ground conditions to prevent steam bank erosion and possible boggying of your horse. Be extremely careful around springs, wetlands and small muddy stream crossings. These can potentially be very dangerous to animals.
- Do not feed or frighten your horses to evergreen trees or cottonwood trees near creeks or springs. Aspen are a tree species that is taking over the fescue grassland and are more suitable for tying your horses.
- Bring extra clothing and safety supplies. Bob Creek Wildland is a remote location and the weather can change quickly.

Minimize Your Impact

- Be aware of your effect on the environment and act responsibly.
- Familiarize yourself with regulations in effect in the areas you are using. Choose lightweight equipment that is durable and safe.
- Check weather conditions before you go.
- Be aware of the potential negative effects of recreational use on wildlife disruption, soil and water contamination, loss of vegetation cover, soil erosion, noise.
- Be prepared for weather changes. Dress in layers. Bring clothing and equipment that will keep you warm, dry and comfortable.
- If you got lost, stay put. Keep warm and dry. In winter, think first... then act. This will increase your chances of survival.
- Familiarize yourself with wildlife safety techniques.

Safety in the Backcountry

When heading into bear country:

- Carry bear spray and know how to use it. Warning of your presence by making noise.
- Avoid any kill sites you may come across.
- Be aware of bear signs such as tracks, droppings, diggings and food sources and how to avoid close encounters with bears.
- If you see a bear, or fresh bear scents, leave the area.
- For detailed information about safety in bear country, read our Bear Smart brochure, downloadable from albertaparks.ca.
- Don’t forget, other wildlife like moose, can also be dangerous.
- Stay alert and aware to avoid dangerous close encounters.

Contact

Alberta Parks Information
Phone: (403) 627-1165
General Provincial Park Information
Web: albertaparks.ca
Phone: 1-866-427-3582
Conservation Officer and Public Safety
Toll Free: 1-844-Help-PRK (435-7775)
Fire Information
Web: albertafirebans.ca
Report a Forest Fire
Toll Free: 1-844-FIRE-PARKS (347-3745)
Report-A-Poacher and Public Lands Complaints
Phone: 1-800-642-3800
Emergency (Fire, Police, Ambulance)
Phone: 911

Recommended Resources

Alberta Guide to Sport Fishing Regulations
Published annually, available where you purchase fishing permits and online at www.archa.ca

Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations
Published annually, available where you pick up hunting permits and online at www.archa.ca

Parks Brochures online at albertaparks.ca:
- Bear Smart
- Living With Cougars
- Regulations brochure
- Research & Collection Permits
- Filming & Photography in Alberta Parks

Updated September 2019
All trails in Bob Creek are open for recreation OHV use except for those west and north of trail marker 7.

Caution to Trail Users: The designated trails in Bob Creek Wildland should be considered rustic or unimproved and may, from time to time, present obstacles and challenges to users due to weather related conditions, blow downs, etc. The trails also have steep sections where caution must be exercised. It is recommended that users travel in groups.

Map Disclaimer: This map is intended to provide a general orientation. If you are planning extensive hiking or horseback riding within these areas, you might want to purchase proper topographic maps from a map dealer for most accurate navigation information.

All trails are unimproved. For more information about recreational access on leased lands, visit mywildalberta.com.