Winter Activities

Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation
This education and research facility is located at kilometer 19 on Highway 88. Here you will find exciting displays in our exhibit gallery as well as snowshoe and cross-country ski loans. During the winter months, the Centre is open Mon-Fri from September to December and Mon-Sat from January to March. Be sure to call ahead if you are planning to come to the Centre Mon-Fri during the winter, as staff may be busy with school programs and ski and snowshoe equipment may not be available on these days.

Cross-country Skiing
There are 24.4 km of cross-country ski trails. The trails are not patrolled and skiers should be prepared for emergencies.

Snowshoeing
There are no formal snowshoe trails, but snowshoers are welcome to explore the park in the open or forested areas. Please do not snowshoe on groomed cross-country ski tracks, although you are welcome to snowshoe next to them.

Walking
All cross-country ski trails are groomed with a single track, leaving packed snow next to them for walkers. Please do not walk or allow your dogs to walk on the groomed cross-country ski tracks. Dogs must be on leash at all times.

Snowmobiling
Snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles may not be operated in the park.

Visitor Guidelines

Frostbite and hypothermia are real dangers in winter. Be sure you are prepared before you head outside. Dress in layers and wear a hat. Carry extra socks and a sweater.

Please respect wildlife and other visitors by following these guidelines:
• Keep your dog on a leash and off the ski track.
• Obey all signs.
• Use the fire pits and stoves provided at shelters and picnic areas.
• Pack out all your garbage and leave no trace of your passing.
• Alcohol is not permitted.

When cross-country skiing:
• Ski on the right, pass on the left.
• Step off the trail to the right when stopping.
• Downhill traffic has the right of way.
• Use caution when approaching steep slopes and bridges.

For information on conditions, especially after heavy snow or severe weather, please contact the Alberta Parks office.

Contact

Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park
c/o Alberta Parks
Slave Lake Government Centre
Suite 102, 101-3rd St SW
Slave Lake, AB
T0G 2A4

Monday to Friday, 8:15 am—4:30 pm
Phone: (780) 849-7100

Parks Help Line (24 Hours)
Phone: (780) 833-4369

General Alberta Parks Information
Web: albertaparks.ca
Toll Free: 1-866-427-3582

Emergency (Police, Fire, Ambulance)
Phone: 911
Cross-Country Ski Trails

Northshore Lakeside Trail Complex
● Easy—3.7 km total on two trails.
Follow the lakeshore from Northshore Day Use south on a 1.2 km trail through mixed wood forest and willows, where you might find moose tracks. It then swings away from the shore and joins the Beach Road, which you follow back to Northshore Day Use Area. From the day use area, you can continue north on a series of loops totaling 2.5 km through mixed wood forest and along the lakeshore.

Northshore to the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation
● Easy—8.4 km
Take the Great Trail through a mixed wood forest along the shore of Lesser Slave Lake. This is one of the longest trails in the park with relatively flat and easy skiing. It’s a linear trail so plan to park a vehicle at both ends or prepare to double back.

Boreal Centre Loops
● Easy—3.4 km total on two trails
The south loop trail takes you through a mixed wood forest to an old group use area. From there you make a short loop around the campground or take a slightly longer route along the old access road; either choice brings you back to the Great Trail and returns you to the Boreal Centre.

The north loop trail takes you through the forest along the lake and the Great Trail to Lily Creek. It then follows the power lines back to the Boreal Centre.

These trails are flat with easy skiing except for a steep hill and sharp turn just west of the power lines.

Songbird Trail
● Easy—600 m
This flat and easy loop trail is just outside the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation and is a great place to learn and practice your cross-country ski skills. Keep an eye out for winter residents like the black-capped chickadees, downy woodpeckers, and pine siskins.

Lily Creek Group Use to Marten River
● Easy—8.5 km
Take the Great Trail through a mixed wood forest along the shore of Lesser Slave Lake. This is the second longest trail in the park, with relatively flat and easy skiing. It’s a linear trail so plan to park a vehicle at both ends or prepare to double back.

Whispering Sands Trail
Walking Trail —2.1 km
This trail is not groomed for skiing. It’s a popular trail for walking dogs but please remember that dogs must be on leash at all times.