



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

FEBRUARY 2013 E-NEWS

FMCBC NEWS

Parking Restrictions at Mt Seymour and Cypress Alex Wallace for the FMCBC SW BC Trails Committee

The FMCBC has had several meetings in the last year to try and resolve the issue of parking restrictions at Mt Seymour and although these have been informative, no resolution has been reached. BC Parks is monitoring the situation and gathering data by several means on numbers of backcountry users at both Cypress and Mount Seymour parks (where the backcountry parking restrictions are now in place) and a Mount Seymour Park planning process is expected to roll out in the next few months. BC Parks has asked for feedback, and the FMCBC is encouraging this. [Read More](#).

Coquihalla Summit Recreation Area Parking Scott Webster for the SW BC Recreation & Conservation Committee

Some of our members have noticed new signs at the Zopkios Rest Area on the Coquihalla Highway. These signs suggest that users should limit their stay to one hour. The FMCBC has been in contact with BC Parks and the Ministry of Transportation and has confirmed that these signs are not targeted at backcountry users. There is an ongoing problem, mostly during the winter, with the rest area filling with trucks, causing delays on the highway. Backcountry users should try to park in "the usual place" near the washrooms and feel free to stay longer than one hour. Please always be careful to park in a way that does not impede traffic. The FMCBC is working with the relevant parties to find a long term solution with more appropriate signage.

Backcountry Access for the Callaghan Valley Scott Webster for the SW BC Recreation & Conservation Committee

The designated overnight and after-hours parking area for the Callaghan Valley is at the Alexander Falls Recreation Site this year. Some backcountry users have experienced conflict with Callaghan Country when parking here and then passing by the Callaghan Country base area on their way to their destination. An alternate route is via the water treatment facility. Immediately after turning left onto the turnoff for Callaghan Country, instead of taking the bridge over the creek, turn right onto the gated road. We believe that signs on the gate are not intended for skiers. This road then links up with the WOP trail network. Continue on the trails if you have paid the WOP fee or head into the backcountry from this point. We are working on a longer term solution that makes the access point from Alexander Falls more clear.

IN THE NEWS

[Out-of-bounds skiers face 'absolute peril' on Vancouver Island](#) - Comox Valley Record, February 21, 2013

[EcoSociety to Challenge Jumbo Municipality in Court](#) - BCTV Kootenay News, February 18, 2013

[GAS test wells ready to flow: Four-season resort proponents looking for resident participation in study](#), The Chief, February 7, 2013

[Backcountry adventure: Carving through powder has risks and rewards](#), Vancouver Sun, January 26, 2013

MOUNTAIN MATTERS

Forest Practices Board put out a report on [The Need to Manage Cumulative Effects](#)

[The 5 Weirdest Ways to Slide on Snow](#) - Outside Magazine, January 15, 2013

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are planning to go to the [Outdoor Adventure & Travel Show](#) in Vancouver on March 2-3 you can download FMCBC's Member [coupon](#) for \$4 off admission

The FMCBC **21 Mile Creek** User [Survey](#) is continuing for the 2012-2013 season. [Click here](#) for more info on snowmobiles in the non-motorized zone.

FMCBC AGM 2013 will be taking place on Saturday, June 8th in Kamloops and will be hosted by one of our newest clubs, the [Kamloops Hiking Club](#). Registration info will be up on the FMCBC website in March, but if you interested in attending you can [contact us](#) now for more info. All FMCBC members are welcome to attend. There will be social events happening on Friday night, Saturday night and a hike planned for Sunday morning.

The FMCBC would like to welcome Catheryn Fyfe and the [Victoria Outdoor Club Meetup](#) as our newest Member Club.

[Fred Beckey](#), mountaineering legend, is giving a talk at the ACC-Vancouver Section meeting on February 26th. Visit their [website](#) for details.

[Garibaldi At Squamish 2013 Proposal](#) available to review

There's a new multi-faceted outdoor recreation group forming in the Okangan called the [South Okanagan Trail Alliance](#) who will be becoming members of the FMCBC this year. They have let us know about the Okangan Trail Guide called [Sweetsingletrack.ca](#) that is available online and in print form.

[Click here](#) to view the Fall/Winter 2012 issue of Cloudburst! The deadline for articles for the next issue is **April 15, 2013**

Visit the [Canadian Avalanche Centre](#) for current conditions and bulletins

Visit Bivouac via the FMCBC [website](#) to report ORV infractions

Visit [Canada Helps](#) to make a donation to the FMCBC

The FMCBC is always looking for volunteers. [Click here](#) to find out how you can get involved.

As always the FMCBC would like to thank [Mountain Equipment Co-op](#) for supporting the FMCBC through their generous contribution of office space from which to base our administration.

The mission of the FMCBC is to advocate for safe, self-propelled activities (such as hiking, mountaineering, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, trail running and other backcountry activities) and the protection of BC's backcountry for current and future generations to experience.

You are receiving this newsletter because your local outdoor club is a member of the FMCBC or you have signed up to receive our newsletters. Please [email us](#) if you would like to update your contact information or click [unsubscribe](#) to be removed from our mailing list. Thank you.