

Appendix I. Fire Emergency Preparedness Plan

Since the Park is within the City of Kimberley boundary, the Kimberley Fire Department will respond to reports of smoke or fire in the area. To assist with preparedness for fire suppression in the Park the KNPS has created the map below showing sources of water, emergency vehicle access routes and turnaround points for vehicles.

Loops from Kimberley Nordic Ski Area (Entrance E1)

West Side Highline
Strenuous ~ 13 km + 475 m elevation gain
 This 'figure-8' loop will take you through Horse Barn Valley and down Creek Trail.

From the Nordic Ski Area, follow Centennial and Trapline to Five Corners. Stay right along the bench that wraps around to Rock Slide Trail. Traverse the rocky trail across this wide opening before climbing through forest toward Dipper Lake. Continue to climb up along Shannon Trail, across Bear Trail and on to the rocky crest of Coral Route with some excellent views. After a steady descent through open forest, a sharp right (just before a road) takes you back into the forest on Summer Trail. Follow this rooty trail past several wetlands and the Halfway Cabin. At the kiosk, the single track gives way to the old road that leads up Bullfrog Hill back to the junction of Shannon Trail. Turn left onto this roller coaster trail and stay right at all junctions as you descend through shaded cedar forest along Creek Trail. Riders should ride carefully to reduce erosion. At the valley bottom, turn left and follow Army Road north to Myrtle Junction. Continue north on Upper Army Road toward the golf course. Just before the greens, veer left and climb the aptly named single-track Sidcut Trail back to the Nordic trails, where you turn right to return to the trailhead.

Musser's Plateau Loop
Strenuous ~ 9.5 km + 475 m elevation gain
 This loop is for those that like climbing. It offers spectacular views of the Rockies across the Rocky Mountain Trench. Once on Musser's Plateau Trail you are not likely to see others. The end of this loop travels through an ancient larch forest in the narrow Moe's Canyon.

Park at the Rosa Chair. Climb the ski hill to Kootenay Haus (a log cabin at the top of the left end of the ski hill as you look up slope); either walking directly up the old T-Bar line just left of the "Main" ski run, or by walking/riding the service road which switchbacks up to Kootenay Haus and is usually signed by RCR (ski hill operator). Note: these features are not shown on the map. As you look at the cabin with the deck in front of you, a ski lift can be seen to your left. Walk towards this and find the Musser's Plateau Trail sign at the back of the clearing behind the lift station (about 100 m away). Descend through pine forests, crossing a logging road at 1700 m after 1 km, and arriving at a fine viewpoint over Dipper Lake at 1525 m, about 1.3 km past the road crossing. At the bottom of your descent, turn left on the Moe's Canyon Trail and marvel at the huge, ancient larch trees. A gradual ascent through this narrow defile brings you back to the ski hill. Walk across the large opening, looking for a road coming up from your right. Follow this down to the base of the Rosa Chair.

Loops from Swan Avenue (Entrance E2)

North End Circuit
Moderate ~ 5.6 km + 125 m elevation gain
 This loop winds around and through glacial ridges and basins, mostly on single track.

From Swan Avenue, travel south on Lower Army Road past the kiosk and Three Corners to Myrtle Junction. Turn right and head north on Upper Army Road, ignoring the first right onto Romantic Ridge. Watch for a narrow path on the right just 150 m beyond, notable for the large stump at the junction. Stump Trail descends into a glacial depression before climbing slightly to the junction with Cabin Trail. Continue north past a trail heading right (Hillside Trail) and finish with a steep climb onto Romantic Ridge. Turn right and follow this prominent ridge southwards to a saddle. Turn left at Hillside and left again at The Suicide Trail and continue left on it to Lower Army Road just north of Three Corners. Follow the trail that climbs steeply straight ahead from where you intersected Lower Army Road. Follow this single track along a ridge, passing to the right of the kiosk on Lower Army Road to gain Ponderosa Trail. When you regain Lower Army Road you are only 200 m from the Swan Avenue entrance.

Myrtle Mountain Traverse
Strenuous ~ 10 km + 155 m elevation gain
 This invigorating route takes you to the top of a scenic hill and then drops back down on pleasant trails, which take you past Duck Pond, a Special Place. This is a very popular and challenging ride.

Follow Lower Army Road south past Three Corners and Myrtle Junction. Continue on Army Road to the 3-way junction at Higgins Hill. Turn left onto Mountain Mine Road and climb gradually at first through dense stands of pine. The road steepens abruptly halfway up for a challenging 50 m climb. Near the top you follow a shallow gully to a saddle between Bump Mountain and Myrtle Mountain. (For a side trip onto the rocky shoulder of Myrtle Mountain, which provides fine views east to the Rockies, turn left at the junction for S.W. Passage Trail.) Back at the junction, follow S.W. Passage west along the ridge toward Bump Mountain and a steep descent of 100 m to the junction with Skid Road. Staying left at this and the next junctions takes you around the east side of Myrtle Mountain on the single-track Duck Pond Trail. Make sure you stop for a moment at Duck Pond (near the junction with Keiver Way) to enjoy this Special Place. Continue north on Duck Pond Trail, which turns into an old road, and watch for a sharp right before Myrtle Junction onto Pat Morrow Trail. Descend this to regain Lower Army Road. Continue north from Three Corners and veer right at the kiosk to gain Ponderosa Trail, which will take you back to the trailhead.

Loops from Higgins Street (Entrance E3)

Eimer's Lake Loop
Easy ~ 1.8 km + 35 m elevation gain
 Eimer's Lake is one of the most accessible Special Places and is an excellent short loop for people of all abilities.

Climb gradually up Eimer's Road, watching for the narrow trail through the trees that leads to Eimer's Lake. Enjoy the view at the lake and wander around the right-hand shore. Follow that trail as it loops around the lake. Descend back to the trailhead along Eimer's Road.

Romantic Ridge Loop
Moderate ~ 3.5 km + 125 m elevation gain
 This loop follows wonderful single track trails along two prominent ridges in the north end of the Park.

Start at Higgins Street entrance with a gentle climb up Eimer's Road to Three Corners. Follow Lower Army Road south and veer left onto the single-track Pat Morrow Trail. This trail follows a broad ridge toward Duck Pond Trail where a right turn takes you quickly over a small bridge to Myrtle Junction. At Myrtle Junction, head north on Upper Army Road and soon veer right onto Romantic Ridge. Halfway along the ridge, descend to the right on The Suicide Trail to Lower Army Road. Turn right and then immediately left at Three Corners and descend back to the trailhead on Eimer's Road.

KIMBERLEY ALPINE RESORT (NORTH STAR MOUNTAIN)



LEGEND

- TRAILS
- UNMAINTAINED TRAILS/ROADS
- CREEKS
- OLD ROADS
- STEEP SECTIONS
- TRANS CANADA TRAIL
- SEASONAL USE TRAILS/ROADS
- KIMBERLEY NATURE PARK BOUNDARY
- HORSE BARN VALLEY INTERPRETIVE FOREST
- WISA HABITAT AREA (Williamson's sapsucker)
- NORDIC SKI AREA BOUNDARY
- CITY LIMITS
- ROADS
- TRAIL DISTANCE (1 km intervals <0.2km not included)
- UTM GRID (1 km intervals NAD 83 Projection)
- INFORMATION KIOSK
- SPECIAL PLACES (Described on reverse)
- VIEWPOINT

DISCLAIMER:
 Trails subject to change. Users of these trails do so at their own risk.

DIAL 911 in case of emergency.

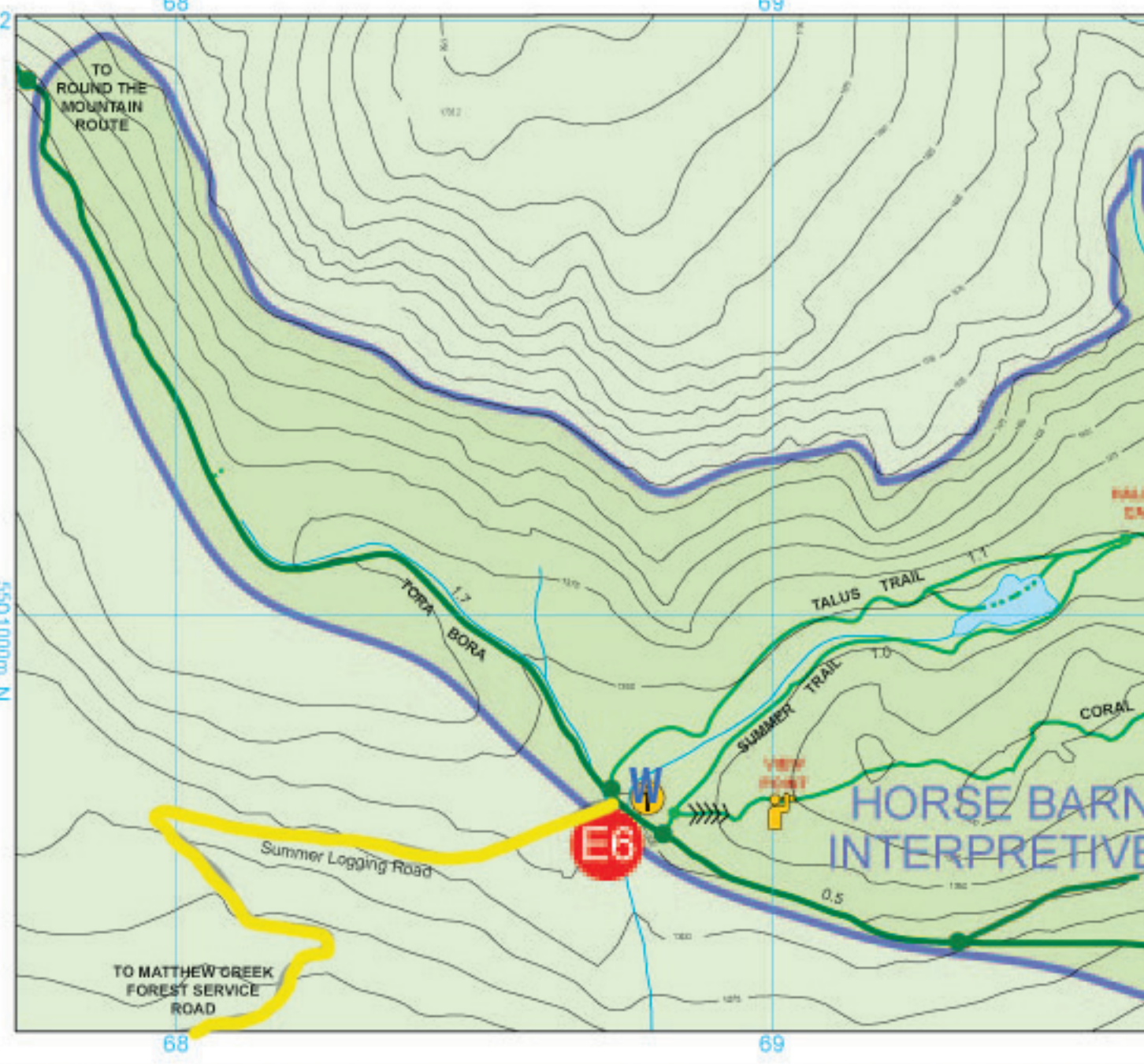
SCALE: 1:10000
 0m 200m 400m 600m 800m
 CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 METRES

Approximate mean declination of map 2008. Annual change decreasing 6 min.

True North 0°57'16.6" N
 Grid North 16°6' N
 Magnetic North

Emergency Features

- Emergency Vehicle Route
- Dependable Water Source
- Turnaround Locations



Loops from Jimmy Russell Road or Campground (Entrances E4 or E5)

Sunflower Hill Loop
Easy ~ 3.5 km + 115 m elevation gain
 This shorter outing is snow-free much of the year and offers scenic views of the Rockies and St. Mary Valley.

Climb through open ponderosa pine forest along Jimmy Russell Road from either E4 or E5. Turn right onto the Duck Pond Trail that climbs directly up the slope. At the top of Sunflower Hill, a sharp right leads along the crest of the hill with excellent views up the St. Mary Valley and across the Rocky Mountain Trench to the Canadian Rockies. The Sunflower Hill turns back on itself at the eastern end of the Park and descends steadily across the slope to rejoin Jimmy Russell Road. If you started at the Campground, you will have to climb back up Jimmy Russell Road for a short distance to access the single-track trail that leads down to the Campground.

Natural History Loop
Moderate ~ 5.5 km + 280 m elevation gain
 This moderate loop includes a steady climb, scenic viewpoint and is a favourite with local nature buffs.

From the Campground or Jimmy Russell Road entrance, follow Jimmy Russell Road up a constant ascent. Just as the road levels off, turn right onto the single-track S.W. Passage and climb to a ridge. A sidetrip to the right offers a good viewpoint over the St. Mary Valley. From the viewpoint return to S.W. Passage and turn right. In a short distance you will reach the junction with Skid Road (trail). Turn right and continue descending along Skid Road before veering right onto Duck Pond Trail. This leads downhill past several junctions back to Jimmy Russell Road. A left takes you to your starting point.

Mountain Biking Loop Ratings

- Generally smooth wide trails that are non-technical.
- Single-track trails that may include some obstacles and steeper sections.
- Technical single-track trails that may include many roots, rocks and steeper sections.

Horse Barn Valley Loop from Matthew Creek (Entrance E6)

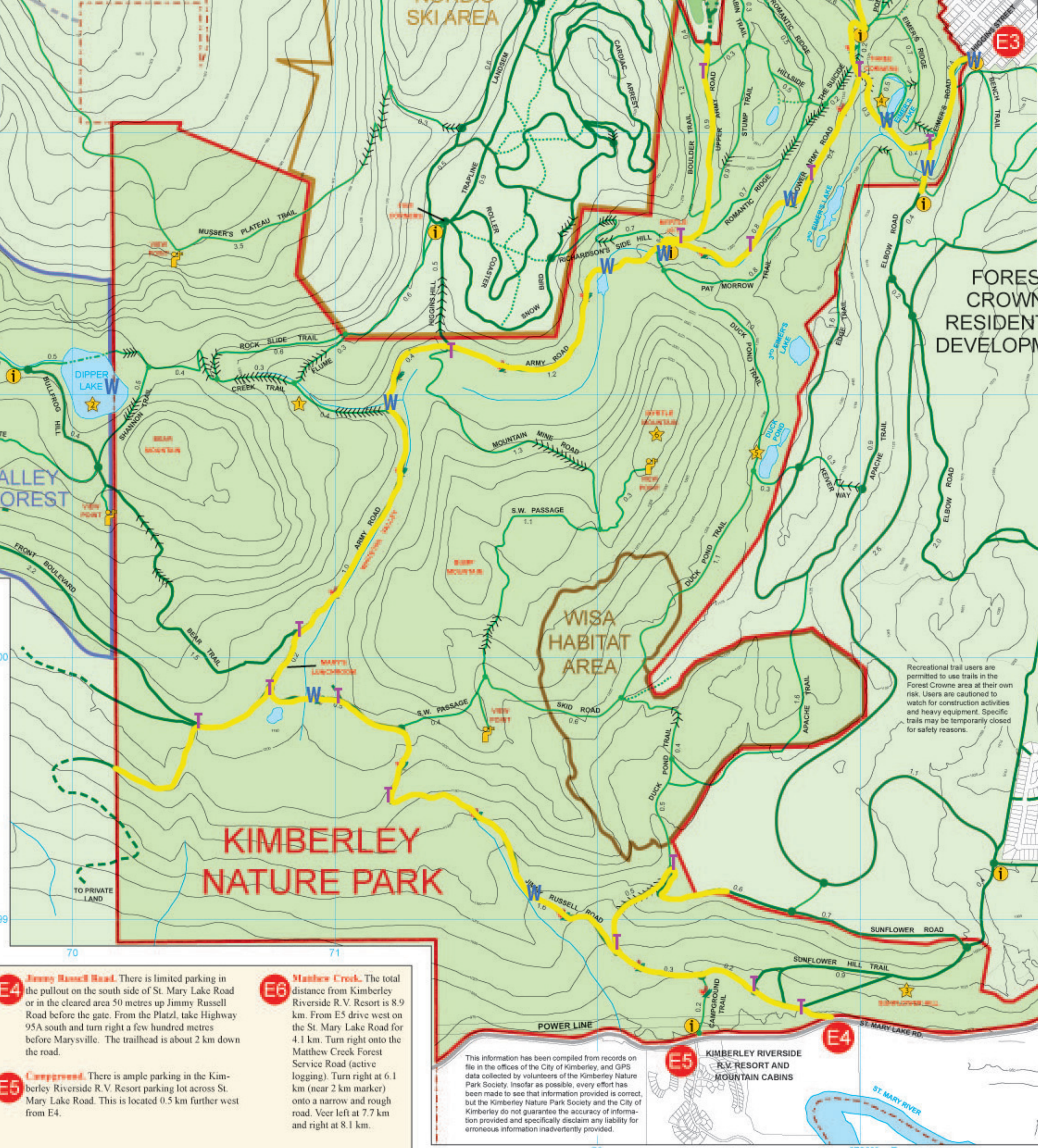
Easy ~ 3.3 km + 70 m elevation gain
 This shorter loop is varied and scenic with shaded forests and rocky ridges.

From the kiosk, go east for a short distance to gain Summer Trail and follow it through the shaded cedar forest that borders several wetlands. This narrow trail is quite rooty until it climbs slightly toward Halfway Cabin. At the second kiosk, you can veer left for a short side trip to Dipper Lake before returning to the old road that climbs Bullfrog Hill. At the top of the hill, turn right and climb the rocky single track of Coral Route. On the final descent, watch for a small trail on your left to an excellent viewpoint over the St. Mary Valley. Back on Mountain Trail, continue down to the trailhead.

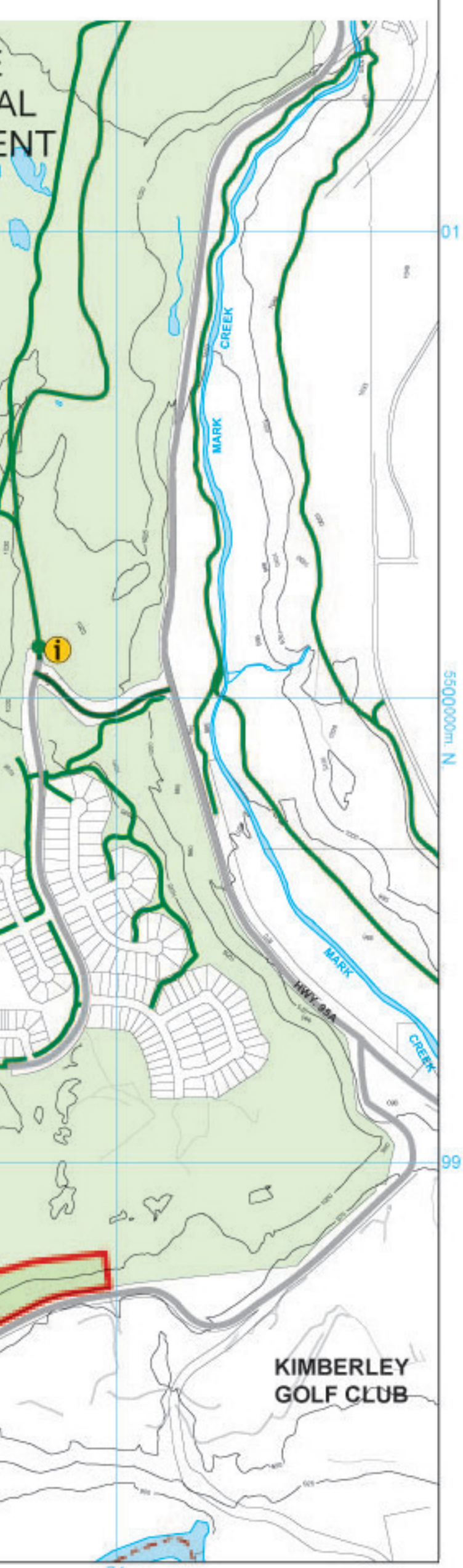
Park Entrances

There are many ways to access the Park. Major entry points accessible to the public are described. Informal entrances behind people's yards and along side streets are not indicated. Please respect private driveways and lawns, especially at entrances with limited parking.

- E1 Kimberley Nordic Ski Area.** There is ample parking available and free access to the trails in summer. In winter, there is a nominal charge, and no dogs or walkers are allowed. From the Platzl, follow Gerry Sorensen Way, turn left at the top of the hill by the Rosa Chair, and continue to the end of the road.
- E2 Swan Avenue.** There is limited parking near the gate, but more parking exists across Burdett Street on Swan Avenue. From the Platzl, take Highway 95A south and turn right a few hundred metres before Marysville. The trailhead is about 2 km down the road.
- E3 Higgins Street.** There is very limited parking near the gate. It is recommended that users park one block east where there is more parking. From the Platzl, head south on Wallinger Ave., past the Overwaita grocery store. Turn right at Higgins Street.



- E4 Jimmy Russell Road.** There is limited parking in the pullout on the south side of St. Mary Lake Road or in the cleared area 50 metres up Jimmy Russell Road before the gate. From the Platzl, take Highway 95A south and turn right a few hundred metres before Marysville. The trailhead is about 2 km down the road.
- E5 Campground.** There is ample parking in the Kimberley Riverside R.V. Resort parking lot across St. Mary Lake Road. This is located 0.5 km further west from E4.
- E6 Matthew Creek.** The total distance from Kimberley Riverside R.V. Resort is 8.9 km. From E5 drive west on the St. Mary Lake Road for 4.1 km. Turn right onto the Matthew Creek Forest Service Road (active logging). Turn right at 6.1 km (near 2 km marker) onto a narrow and rough road. Veer left at 7.7 km and right at 8.1 km.



Recreational trail users are permitted to use trails in the Forest Crowne area at their own risk. Users are cautioned to watch for construction activities and heavy equipment. Specific trails may be temporarily closed for safety reasons.

This information has been compiled from records on file in the offices of the City of Kimberley and GPS data collected by volunteers of the Kimberley Nature Park Society. Insofar as possible, every effort has been made to see that information provided is correct, but the Kimberley Nature Park Society and the City of Kimberley do not guarantee the accuracy of information provided and specifically disclaim any liability for erroneous information inadvertently provided.