



# TEMPORARY AREA CLOSURES FOR AVALANCHE CONTROL

## Avalanche Control Areas

**WHAT:** Pursuant to Section 36(1) of the National Parks General Regulations of the Canada National Parks Act, the Superintendents authorize, annually, the temporary closure of small, posted areas, to all traffic and travel, as and when required, for the purpose of Avalanche Control Operations. Avalanche control is done to protect roadways and railways within the National Parks.

**WHERE:** Banff, Yoho and Kootenay National Parks

Designated avalanche paths, and adjacent areas within the National Parks, may be temporarily closed, to restrict public access during avalanche control operations. Areas affected by such closures are indicated on the attached maps of "Avalanche Paths" and indicated in the field through permanent warning signs. Timing of closures is determined by avalanche forecasters and will be communicated the day prior through social media, avalanche bulletins and temporary closure signage. These closures are generally short in duration (approximately 24 - 36 hours).

**WHY:** To ensure public safety by preventing human-use near avalanche slide paths when staff are artificially triggering avalanches to reduce risks for park motorists and railway operations. Please note that staff use various tools to do this, including remotely operated devices that allow for control any time of the day or night.

**PENALTY:** Violators may be charged under the *Canada National Parks Act*: maximum penalty \$25 000.

**Start date: 2023-11-01**

**End date: 2024-05-30**

Approved by

Superintendent, Banff Field Unit

Superintendent, LLYK Field Unit

*For more information, call Banff Park Emergency Dispatch at 403-762-1470  
See reverse side for information in French.*