



Restricted Activity Notice

Banff, Yoho and Kootenay National Parks of Canada

Pursuant to subsection 7(1) of the *National Parks General Regulations*, the following activity is restricted or prohibited in Banff, Yoho and Kootenay National Parks:

Backcountry travel by any custodial group* in avalanche terrain described by the Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale (ATES) as class 2 and 3, between the dates of November 15 and April 30.

Date: 2023-10-27

Field Unit Superintendent
Lake Louise, Yoho and Kootenay Field Unit

Date: 2023-10-20

Field Unit Superintendent
Banff Field Unit

* A "custodial group" means a group affiliated with an institution, where at least one person is below the age of majority and that minor is not in the company of his/her parent or legal guardian. Institutions include but are not limited to schools, Scouts/Guides, churches, clubs, cadets, and community youth programs.

Note:

1. Subject to the following restrictions, authorization for a custodial group to travel in **ATES class 2 avalanche terrain** may be granted by the Superintendent:
 - 1.1 The custodial group must be led by a mountain, alpine or ski guide certified by the Association of Canadian Mountain Guides or International Federation of Mountain Guide Associations.
 - 1.2 Maximum group size is nine (9) persons plus certified guide(s).
 - 1.3 Authorization for travel by a custodial group in class 2 terrain will only apply when the certified guide has rated the slope specific "Danger Rating" in that area to be 'Low' or 'Moderate'.
3. **Backcountry travel by a custodial group in areas of the Park designated as ATES class 3 avalanche terrain is prohibited.**
4. Travel in ATES class 1 avalanche terrain is not restricted.



AVALANCHE TERRAIN EXPOSURE SCALE (ATES)

Description	Class	Terrain Criteria
Simple	1	Exposure to low angle or primarily forested terrain. Some forest openings may involve the runout zones of infrequent avalanches. Many options to reduce or eliminate exposure. No glacier travel.
Challenging	2	Exposure to well-defined avalanche paths, starting zones or terrain traps; options exist to reduce or eliminate exposure with careful routefinding. Glacier travel is straightforward but crevasse hazards may exist.
Complex	3	Exposure to multiple overlapping avalanche paths or large expanses of steep, open terrain; multiple avalanche starting zones and terrain traps below; minimal options to reduce exposure. Complicated glacier travel with extensive crevasse bands or icefalls.

Further information on hiring guides, obtaining permits, and a complete listing of rated trips can be found at Parks Canada Information Centres or at: www.parksmountainsafety.ca