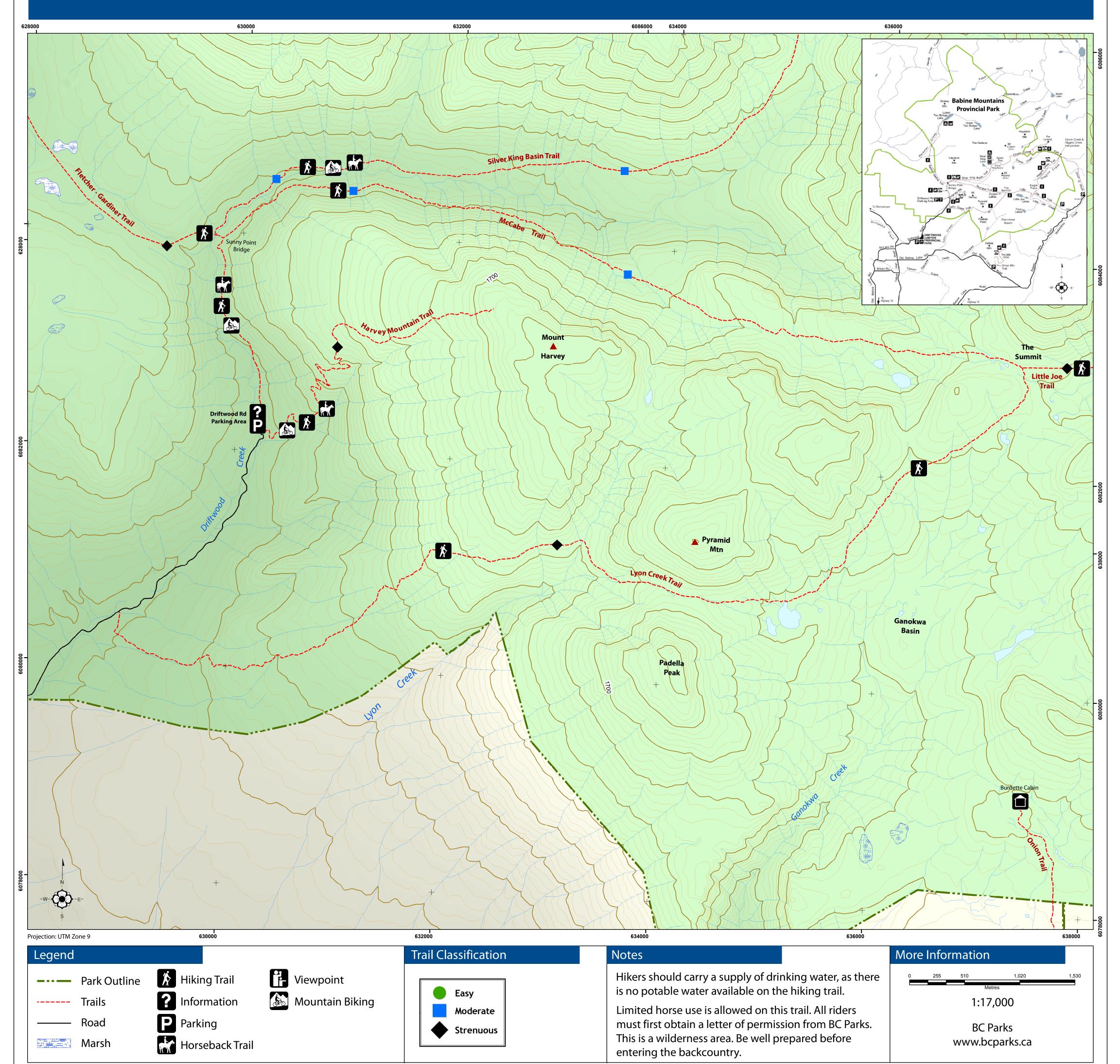


## BABINE MOUNTAINS PROVINCIAL PARK LYON CREEK TRAIL



## About Babine Mountains Provincial Park

Babine Mountains Provincial Park is a 32,400 hectare mountainous environment within the Skeena Mountains ecosection that offers some of the finest hiking opportunities in west-central British Columbia. The Provincial Park is one of the most accessible backcountry areas in northern B.C. Glacier-fed lakes, rugged peaks and extensive sub-alpine meadows provide day and overnight hiking opportunities. Park habitat supports healthy populations of mountain goat, moose, marmot and many species of birds. Rolling alpine plateaus, rugged mountains and an abundance of snow provides skiers, snowmobilers and snowshoers with experiences for all skill levels.

## Lyon Creek Trail

A steady climb of less than 2 hours leads hikers into the alpine (1450 m). The entire trail is 11.1 km (one way) and takes about 5 hours and 45 minutes, gaining 844m in elevation. The trail is well defined and board walk spans several swampy sections. Beyond tree line the grade eases, and hikers can enjoy spectacular views of the Bulkley Valley, Hudson Bay Mountain and the Telkwa Range. The trail swings east as it descends to cross Lyon Creek before traversing Ramrock Pass (1450 m). From this point, hikers descend into the Ganokwa Basin. The trail then heads out of the basin, past two mountain lakes which are ideal camping sites, and climbs north eastward onto a grassy slope. Trail markers lead hikers to "The Summit", the divide of the Ganokwa, Driftwood and Little Joe Creek watersheds and the intersection of the Lyon Creek, Little Joe and McCabe trails.

The McCabe Trail is rated moderate, 8 km in length, hiking time is 3-4 hours one way.

## Lyon Creek Trail (continued)

The Little Joe Trail is also rated moderate, is 9 km in length, and can be hiked in 3-4 hours; the trailhead begins from a parking lot 32 km up Babine Lake Road.

Along the way white spruce, lodgepole pine, trembling aspen, black huckleberry, bunchberry and feather mosses can be seen as the trail ascends into the alpine, the vegetation shifts to mainly subalpine fir, mountain heather and a variety of wildflowers, such as indian paintbrush, subalpine buttercup, red columbine, and mountain monkshood. Many wildlife species can also be observed along the trail. The most commonly seen animals are mountain goats, moose, black bear, ground squirrels, marmots and deer, as well as a host of smaller animals. Of the larger animals, only mountain goats make the area their year-round home. Occasionally grizzly bear, lynx and wolverine have been observed. Park users should always be aware of bears and other wildlife in our park environment.

