



# Top of the World Provincial Park

## Trail Conditions Report

Updated: [June 10, 2024](#)

Top of the World Provincial Park, is part of the Top of the World Plateau, most of which is at an elevation in excess of 2,200 metres. The jagged peaks of the Hughes Range form a backdrop to the west of the park, and the Van Nostrand Range dominated by Mount Morro--at 2,912 metres marks the highest point in the park. Several stunning high mountain lakes and tarns are found in this park.

Weather conditions are typical of the southern Rocky Mountains. About half of the days in summer are sunny, with temperatures soaring to 30 degrees Celsius. At nights, the thermometer will often drop below the freezing mark. In July and August, precipitation, mostly in the form of rain, totals about 110 mm. Fish Lake is usually free of ice by mid-June, with freeze-up occurring in late October. The access trail is passable on foot from early June to November. Snow and wet spots are present until late June. Alpine meadows and trails are not free of snow until mid-July. **Be prepared for all types of weather and have proper backcountry supplies.**

**TRAIL SUMMARY: Ice is off Fish Lake, but wet and snowy conditions persist on trails above it. Main trail in could be snow-free in another week. Please refrain from biking in until the trail is dry and firm.**

Trail Section	Distance (one way)	Elevation Gain	Trail Information	Trail Condition
<b>Parking Lot to Fish lake</b>  1.5-2 hrs	6.7 km	212 m	The trail passes through cool, dense forest, along riverside and past slide areas to Sayles meadow.	Cleared June 3, 2024. Trail is mostly snow-free except for last kilometer nearest to the campground. Wet/snowy conditions on final approach to Fish Lake.  Please refrain from biking for another couple of weeks while the trail tread dries and firms up.
<b>Parking lot to Fish lake via Horse Trail</b>  1.5-2 hrs	6.7 km	212 m	This alternate route to Fish Lake travels along the opposite side of the river as the main Fish lake trail. This trail passes by the short Crazy River and Crazy Creek loop, both of which bubble out of the ground. They result from the subterranean drainage of	Partially cleared of wind/winter felled trees June 16, 2023. Expect trees over the trail.  The section from the trail head to Sayles meadow involves fording the Lussier river and is not recommended for hikers. The second section from Sayles meadow

			a portion of the karst plateau which comprises most of the park.	to Fish Lake is bridged and is a good option as it passes by Crazy River and Crazy Creek.
<b>Fish Lake to Coyote Creek Campsite and the Sugarloaf</b>  1.5-3 hrs	7 km	368 m	This is a fairly strenuous hike. It starts approximately 100 metres north of Fish Lake and is clearly signed. The trail branches left to Sugarloaf at km 5.6. The main trail continues to Coyote Creek Campsite.	Cleared September 2023  Note: water sources are sparse throughout this area.
<b>Lakeshore Trail</b>  .5-1hrs	2 km	0 m	Suggested hiking time, 30 minutes to one hour. This is a pleasant stroll around Fish Lake, offering many different views of the lake and the surrounding peaks.	Cleared June 3, 2024.
<b>Fish Lake to Summer Pass</b>  2-4 hrs	4 km	430 m	The trail begins at the north end of Fish Lake via Lakeshore Trail, continuing on the alpine meadows trail to the talus slope (whereas it becomes a route) to Summer Pass.	Wind-felled trees WILL be encountered.  Possible snow patches at higher elevations.
<b>Fish Lake to Wildhorse Ridge</b>  2-4 hrs	3.2 km	640 m	The trail begins at the bottom of the slide to the west of Fish Lake. On the north side of the creek the trail switchbacks steeply for about 20 minutes, then levels out to follow the creek. The trail then encounters a small ravine and rock slide. Past the ravine, the trail switchbacks up the south-facing slope. The ridge offers a fine view of Mount Doolan and Dolomite Lake. It's uphill all the way, but the scenery and alpine flowers make it worthwhile.	Cleared July 2023.  Snow-covered until mid-late June. Possible snow patches at higher elevations.
<b>Fish Lake to Sparkle Lake</b>  1-2 hrs	2.8 km	350 m	The trail follows the first section of the trail to Wildhorse Ridge. At the top of the first steep pitch, it branches and crosses the creek. Follow the trail through the trees to a rock slide.	Cleared July 2023.  Snow-covered until mid-late June. Possible snow patches at higher elevations.

			<p>Traverse the western edge and slowly gain elevation until the top southern edge is reached. Proceed through a small band of trees to a large slide path. The trail stops here. Sparkle Lake is directly ahead at this point. Please walk on the rocks to prevent damage to moss and meadows. From the lake, two ridges give spectacular viewpoints. Overnight camping is not permitted at Sparkle Lake.</p>	
<p><b>Fish Lake to Alpine Viewpoint</b></p> <p>1-2 hrs</p>	3.2 km	600 m	<p>The trail starts approximately 100 metres north of Fish Lake and then is blocked by a large slide path; the rest of the journey involves picking your way through scree until attaining the ridge. Caution must be exercised while ascending and descending the scree slope so that dislodged rocks will not strike anyone climbing below. It is best to travel abreast of or directly behind one another. This hike culminates with panoramic views from the ridge of Fish Lake, Lussier Valley, the alpine meadows and Mount Morro. No camping is permitted at the viewpoint.</p>	<p>Cleared September 2023. Use caution on scree and loose rock at upper portions of trail.</p>
<p><b>Coyote Creek Campsite to Sugarloaf</b></p> <p>1 hr</p>	1.5 km	300 m	<p>Head south along coyote creek trail until you reach the sign pointing you west up Sugarloaf peak</p>	<p>Forest sections cleared August 2023. Route at upper elevations, not maintained.</p>