

Happy New Year and Happy Canada 150 to all!

Discovery Pass 150

It's 2017 and Canadian's are celebrating 150 years of Confederation. As a gift to all, the Canadian government is providing free entry to Parks Canada places, from coast to coast, to coast throughout the year. Get an early start to your celebration by visiting Prince Albert National Park this winter to pick up your free Canada 150 Discovery Pass. Don't forget to enter the Discover Canada contest and you could win a trip for 4 to Gros Morne National Park in Western Newfoundland!

Ski trails

Thanks to the support of the Waskesiu Ski Club and a recent snowfall, trails around Waskesiu are packed, tracked and in excellent condition. Also, thanks to a new partnership with Saskatchewan Parks, Spruce River Highlands Trail is packed and connects to 18km of ski trails located at Anglin Lake in Great Blue Heron Provincial Park.

Snow Days

Join us in Waskesiu as we kick off Canada 150 celebrations during "Snow Days" February 17 – 26. Enjoy winter programming, skiing, skating, snowshoeing, ice fishing, campfires and more throughout the week-long celebration!

For more information on the Canada 150 Discovery Pass, C150 celebrations and the Discover Canada contest visit www.parksCanada.ca.

Waskesiu Lake Marina rehabilitation

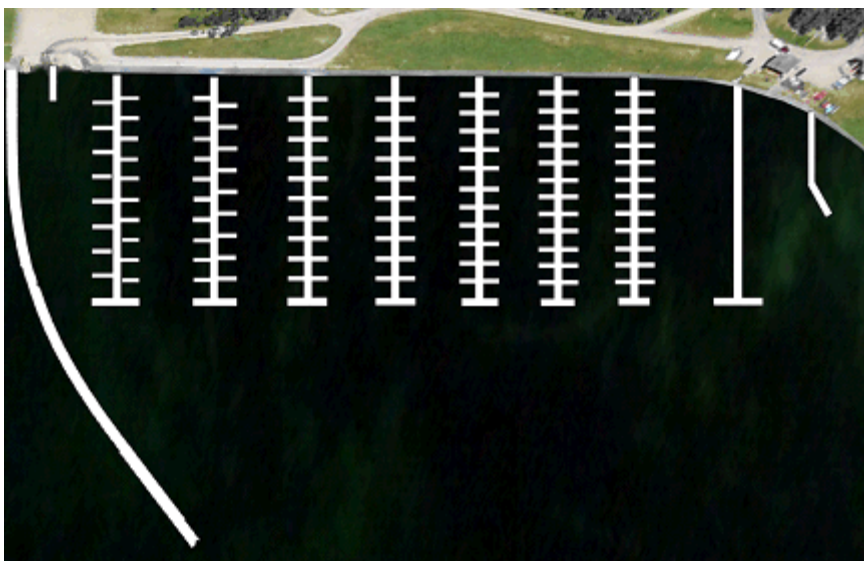
Rehabilitation at the Waskesiu Lake Marina is currently on schedule.

The removal of moorage docks was completed prior to freeze up in December 2016. Construction crews then increased the thickness of lake ice in the marina area by pumping water onto the surface in order to support the heavy equipment needed to install piles for the new docks. Pile installation is expected to begin mid-February. The new floating docks will be installed last.

Please note: For Visitor Safety the Waskesiu Lake Marina construction site is closed to public access.

Parks Canada has invested a total of \$2.9M into the rehabilitation of marina facilities, including the replacement of moorage docks. The Waskesiu marina operator has invested an additional \$600K to expand the marina's moorage capacity. Once complete, the Waskesiu Lake Marina will be able host more than 300 vessels. For information on marina services visit www.waskesiumarina.com.

The expected completion date for the marina is May 15, 2017.



Shown at left is an overview of the site plan for new moorage docks at the Waskesiu Lake Marina.



Building ice at the Waskesiu Lake Marina.



New docks arrive before installation begins later in February.



A first look at a piece of the new Waskesiu Lake Marina docks.

Grey Owl site and Kingsmere area rehabilitation

Heavy snowfall in October forced an early end to the 2016 construction season. As a result, the Kingsmere River boat launch and Kingsmere Road rehabilitation projects are incomplete. Contractors will resume work on these projects in spring of 2017. A superintendent's order to close the Kingsmere Road to vehicular traffic remains in effect until the work is complete.

This closure to vehicular traffic includes:

- The Kingsmere Road, north of the Hanging Heart Lakes
- Kingsmere River boat launch
- Kingsmere day-use and picnic area

Restoration work to Grey Owl's cabin began in September 2016 and will continue in spring 2017. The interior of Grey Owl's cabin is also closed until the restoration work is complete.

Installation of a new pedestrian bridge across the Kingsmere River is near complete! Contractors installed the bridge and will be completing stairs and hand rails in the near future. Some additional reclamation of the work site will be completed in the spring.



The new Kingsmere River Bridge is made from reinforced aluminium. This material is low-maintenance and will provide a safe and reliable river crossing for decades. The new bridge is situated higher than the previous bridge to avoid past flooding issues.



While the Grey Owl site and Kingsmere Lake area rehabilitation projects are underway, travel in the Kingsmere area is not recommended. Visitors are encouraged to enjoy similar backcountry experiences by choosing alternative destinations.

For additional details on Kingsmere Lake access, alternative destinations and project updates, please contact the Prince Albert National Park Visitor Centre at 306-663-4522 or panp.info@pc.gc.ca.

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