

Park Information

Phone: 780-960-8170

Alberta Parks Visitor Information

Web: albertaparks.ca

Phone: 1-877-537-2757

Illegal Activity/Public Safety (24/7)

Noise complaints and wildlife concerns

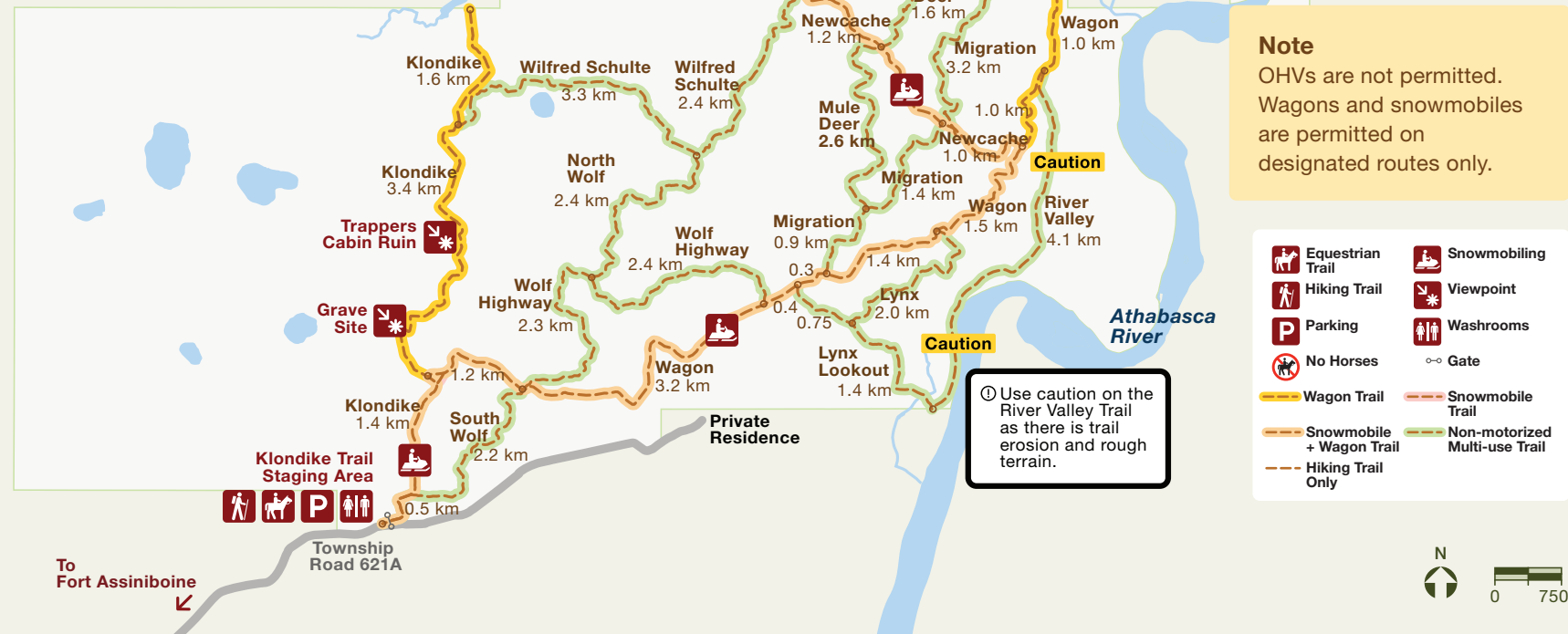
Phone: 310-LAND (5263)

Fire Bans in Alberta

Web: albertaparks.ca/firebans

Emergency (Police, Fire, Ambulance)

Phone: 911



Welcome to Fort Assiniboine Sandhills Wildland Provincial Park

Fort Assiniboine Sandhills was designated a wildland park in 1997. It covers approximately 66 square kilometres along the west shore of the Athabasca River northeast of the Hamlet of Ft. Assiniboine, roughly 40 kilometres northwest of Barrhead. The Athabasca River forms the eastern boundary of the park. The park includes Pemmican Island and other islands in the Athabasca River.

The area contains 436 plant species, including rare species and old-growth mixed wood forests over 160 years old.

Access to the park is via Highway 661 from the west through Ft. Assiniboine; from the east, access is via Klondyke ferry crossing.

Visitors to the park can enjoy bird and wildlife watching, fishing, hiking and horseback riding. Three staging areas, Central, Athabasca Viewpoint and Klondike Trail, provide limited parking and access to more than 80 km of trails.

Backcountry Safety Tips

- Inform family or friends of your intended route and estimated return time
- Never travel alone
- Bring sufficient clothing and gear such as food, matches, first aid kit and emergency blanket, even on day trips
- Be prepared for sudden changes in weather
- Be knowledgeable about your route; obtain maps; keep track of where you are by map and compass and GPS
- Be cautious when fording streams and rivers – they can be dangerous, especially when stream flows are high
- Familiarize yourself with wildlife safety techniques.

When hiking or riding in bear country

- Never feed or approach bears
- Keep in mind that bears will eat just about anything, even things we don't think of as food, like barbecue grease and toiletries
- Avoid outdoor activities from dusk until early morning when bears are most active
- Keep a close watch on children at all times
- Keep bear spray accessible and know how to use it
- If you see signs of bear activity leave the area: tracks, scat (bear dung), rolled logs or rocks, claw-marked trees, disturbed anthills, areas with many noisy birds

- Make plenty of noise when hiking into the wind, in dense shrubbery and along streams and rivers
- It is best to leave your pet at home: however, if you do travel with a pet, keep it on a leash at all times (loose dogs can attract and irritate bears)
- For more information about bears and bear safety, pick up the BearSmart brochure, or visit albertaparks.ca.

Hiking

- Use well-defined trails
- Walk single file to avoid widening trails
- Don't create your own pathways around muddy or rough sections of trail; this only makes the problem worse
- Approach fragile areas such as low wet regions with caution; avoid such areas whenever possible
- Never drop litter along trails; keep a plastic bag handy and pick up any litter you find along trails.

Equestrian Use

- Use established trails and routes in areas open to horseback riding
- Be cautious around hikers
- Supplemental feeds such as hay, grain pellets and alfalfa cubes can be used to prevent over-grazing and reduce competition with wildlife for food. Supplemental feed should be stored in sealed containers to prevent tampering by wildlife. Please note that using hay as supplemental feed has the potential to introduce noxious weeds into the backcountry; grain and/or alfalfa pellets are preferable.

