



**FRIENDS OF THE
SOUTH SLOPES**

September 2025



Photo Credit: Anne Currie

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We acknowledge that our community is located on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Syilx/Okanagan people

FOSS' Updated Trail Map is Published!

FOSS recently published its sixth reprint of the Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park Trail Map. The last update was in 2015. The new map includes land acquisitions to both Myra-Bellevue and Okanagan Mtn. Provincial Parks and updated information on trails and the Myra Canyon Trestles.

The trails in Okanagan Mountain Park are also on the map, as well as the locations of Regional Parks in the Kelowna area. The map is printed on sturdy tear and water resistant paper.

Thank you to the MAP COMMITTEE for its countless hours spent developing this map: FOSS Director Rick Ellery and committee members Teresa MacKenzie and Penny Gubbels.

FOSS' Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park Trail map is currently available at the following locations:

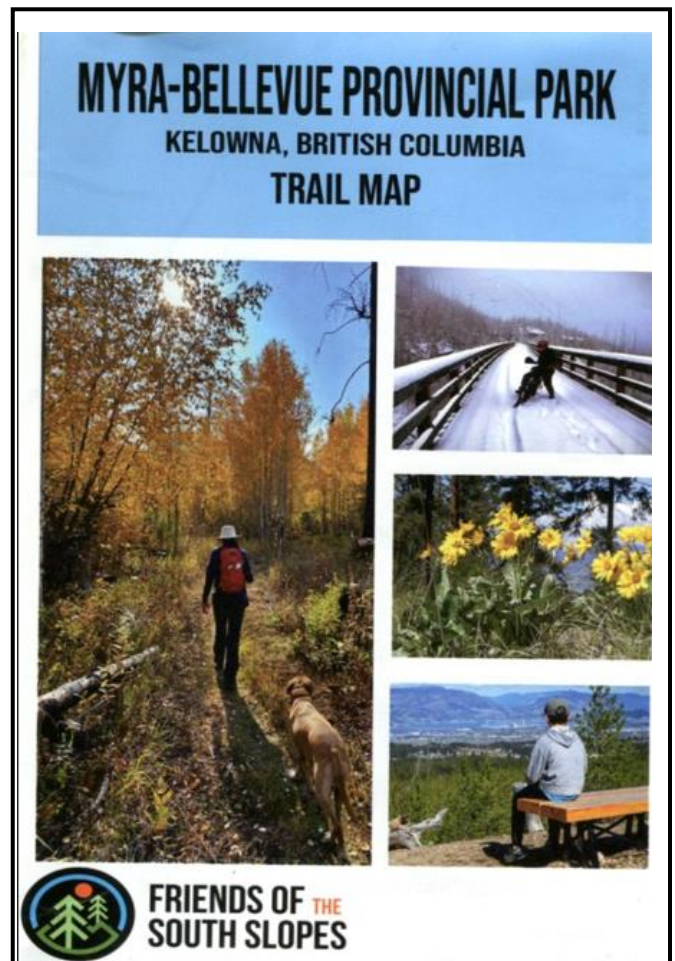
Cyclepath

Kelowna Cycle

Play Kelowna

Mosaic Books

Myra Canyon Bike Rentals & Tours



And a special thank you to the folks at **Arthon Quarry** and to Dennis Doulos of **Black Mountain Mapping** whose generous donations made the new map possible. This is the 4th update to the FOSS trail map that Dennis has done for FOSS. *So a HUGE shout out to these two local businesses for their long-time support of FOSS.*

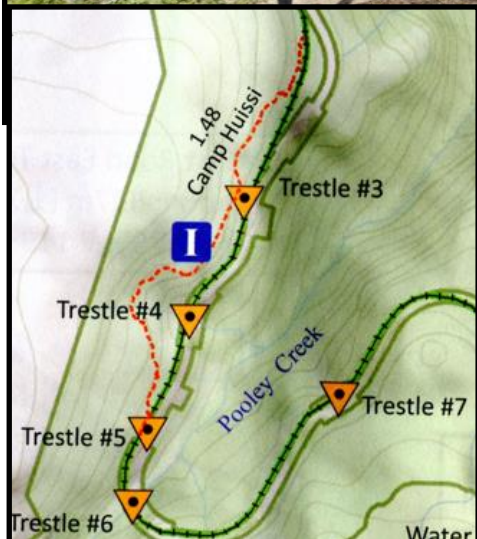


www.blackmountainmapping.com

Black Mountain Mapping Inc. is owned by Dennis Doulos, a Geoscience Technologist trained in earth sciences with a specialized focus in GIS mapping.



The Arthon Quarry, Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park's neighbour to the west, is a great supporter of FOSS and has donated aggregate to FOSS for many projects in Myra-Bellevue. Most recently, Arthon donated the crush that FOSS volunteers spread at the each end of the Myra Canyon Trestles—making it safer for cyclists to transition from the rail trail to the trestles.



In August, eight tough FOSS volunteers completed the Camp Huissi project. They dragged concrete, water, tools and two sign standards 1 km up the trail from the KVR, then they dug holes in the hardpan and installed information signs. Camp Huissi is the site of one of the historic work camps used during the construction of the Kettle Valley Railroad.

Special thanks to Maury Williams for his vision and expertise to bring this piece of history back so it can be enjoyed by present and future generations. And thank you to FOSS Director Rick Ellery for his unending support for the project.

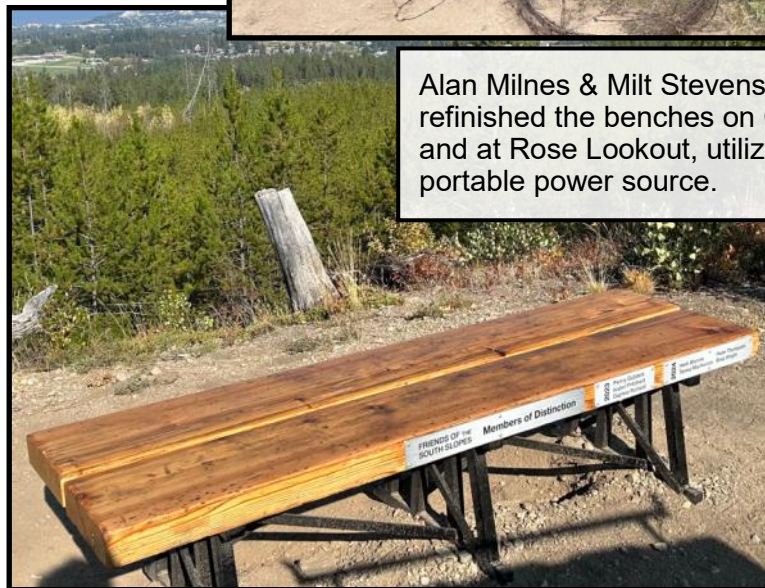
FOSS' Trail Maintenance Volunteers - Summer Projects

Here is just a small sample of the projects completed over the summer:

Willie Cheyne, Rick Ellery and Leslie Leitch were part of a FOSS crew (including Milt Stevenson, Doug Pearce and Mark Clark) that removed about 1,000 m. of triple strand barbed wire fencing lying on the ground between Lost Lake Trail and Jawbone Trail. This old fencing dated back to before Myra-Bellevue became a provincial park, when cattle grazed on the rangeland. This was a TOUGH, dirty project as barbed wire is nasty to work with.



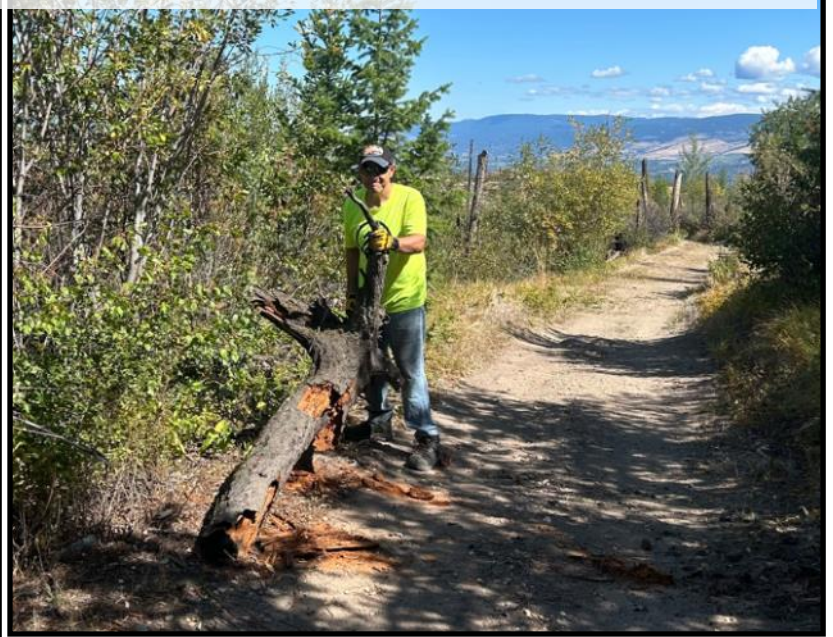
Alan Milnes & Milt Stevenson sanded and refinished the benches on Connector Trail and at Rose Lookout, utilizing FOSS' new portable power source.



Correne Martin, 'Master of Erosion Mitigation'

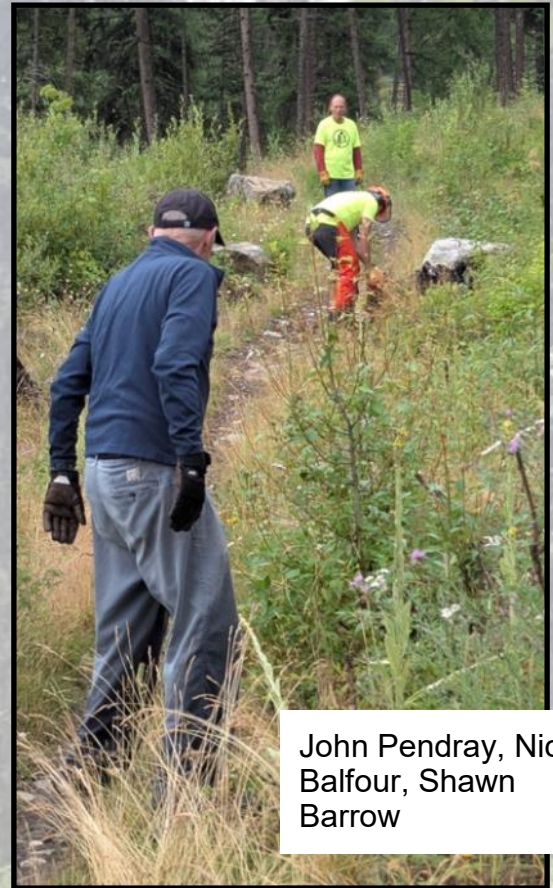


Brian Martin, caber-tossing 'pro' on Pink Highway



....Trail Maintenance Updates, Continued

Major improvements were made to Myra Bailout Trail and Larch Trail — brushing, erosion mitigation, clearing, boulder moving.



EXCITING NEWS!

Earlier this summer, FOSS was awarded a multi-year Operational Grant of \$20,400 from the **Central Okanagan Foundation**.

Spread over 3 years, this grant will support equipment upgrades including the purchase of new electric tools for the trail maintenance program. It will also help to cover ongoing costs for equipment maintenance.

These upgrades mean safer, quieter and more efficient work by our trail maintenance volunteers. By transitioning to electric there will be fewer noisy/smelly chain saws and brushing tools used by our volunteers.

Over the past 25 years FOSS has been the grateful recipient of many grants from the COF. Just two examples are grant of \$22,000 following the 2003 Okanagan Mtn. Provincial Park wildfire (to reconstruct bridges and restore trails that were burned in the fire and to replace signs and purchase safety equipment for our volunteers). And an \$8,000 grant in 2013 for FOSS to purchase its 1st UTV

and to acquire its first equipment storage unit.

Thank You COF!

Upcoming Events on the South Slopes

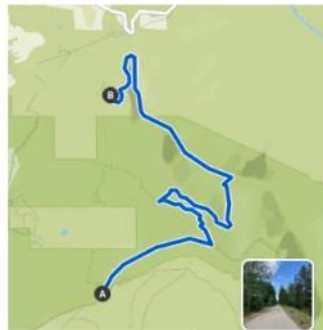
P.A.C.E. WANDERING MOOSE (12th Annual) - Oct. 11, 2025

This trail running classic will be run on sections of the Kettle Valley Rail Trail as well as trails in Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. Rene from P.A.C.E. Sport Fitness is one of FOSS' most dedicated supporters, generously donating to FOSS from events she holds in Myra-Bellevue & Okanagan Mtn. Provincial Parks. More information at: www.pacetrailruns.com/wandering-moose.html



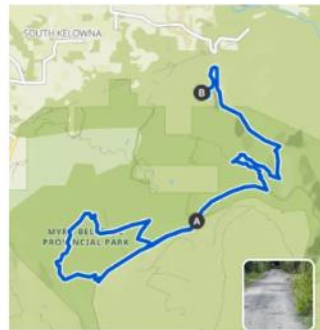
2025 WM 12km

⌚ 01:23 ↔ 7.43 mi ↗ 11:10 /mi
 ↗ 575 ft ↘ 2,150 ft



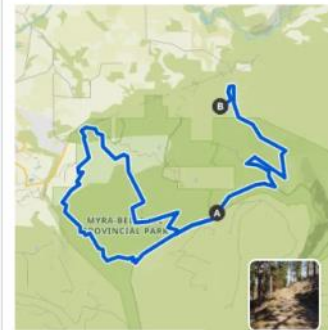
2025 WM 25km

⌚ 07:22 ↔ 15.5 mi ⌚ 2.1 mph
 ↗ 1,675 ft ↘ 3,250 ft



2025 WM 34km

⌚ 10:27 ↔ 21.4 mi ⌚ 2.0 mph
 ↗ 3,075 ft ↘ 4,675 ft



Mountain Bikers of the Central Okanagan

CRANKSGIVING - Oct. 4 & 5, 2025

Saturday Oct. 4 - Funduro & Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day (TAKMBD)

Sunday Oct. 5 - Enduro

For more information, contact MTBco

[Cranksgiving 2025 - Events - Mountain Bikers of Central Okanagan - Kelowna, British Columbia](#)

Oct. 4 FOSS WILL BE ON SITE WITH DESSERT!

Bellevue Trestle Re-Decked

The Bellevue Creek Trestle on the Kettle Valley Rail Trail is not as well known as its more famous neighbours, the Myra Canyon Trestles. However, this spectacular steel trestle bridge (238 meters long, 65 meters high) is an impressive structure on the KVR railbed on Kelowna's South Slopes. Lying within a narrow corner of Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park, the Bellevue Creek Trestle offers spectacular views down Bellevue Creek Canyon towards the City of Kelowna. In 2024, BC Parks contracted with Cabin Operations/Recreation Division to replace the decking, which now extends the width of the trestle.

In 2013, Bellevue Trestle was showcased on the Amazing Race Canada where contestants competed in a 'Myra Canyon Trestle Challenge'.



Hunting in BC Parks

Autumn is upon us and that means its time for FOSS' regular reminder to the public that hunting is a permitted use in both Myra-Bellevue and Okanagan Mountain Provincial Parks. Those planning to hunt in a Provincial Park must ensure that they comply with all regulations, including restrictions on e-bikes. To learn more, go to: [Fishing and hunting guide | BC Parks](#)

RAPP

**Report All Poachers and Polluters
Conservation Officer 24 hour hotline
1-877-952-RAPP (7277)**

Firearms are prohibited in BC Parks except in parks where hunting is permitted, when they can be carried by a properly licensed hunter during an open season defined by the [Wildlife Act](#). Discharging firearms is not permitted within 400m of any park road or highway. Except for authorized vehicles (like the UTV's & trucks used by FOSS' trail maintenance crews), the use of motorized vehicles is not permitted in Myra-Bellevue or Okanagan Mtn. Provincial Parks.

Under BC's hunting regulations, Myra-Bellevue & Okanagan Mtn. Provincial Parks lie within Region 8-9 and 8-10 - Okanagan. You can find the complete 2024-2026 BC Hunting & Trapping Regulations on line by searching BC Government Hunting and Trapping Regulations. See Page #7 of this newsletter for specifics on open seasons in the Okanagan Region.

OKANAGAN GENERAL OPEN SEASONS

SPECIES	MANAGEMENT UNIT	CLASS	SEASON DATES	BAG LIMIT	
MULE DEER (Black-tailed)	8-1 to 8-11, 8-21 to 8-26	★4 Point Bucks	Sept 10 - Sept 30	Refer to Regional Bag Limits on p. 67 and the Deer Bag Limits article on p. 14	
	8-12 to 8-15	★4 Point Bucks	Sept 10 - Nov 10		
	8-1 to 8-11, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks	Oct 1 - Oct 31		
	8-1 to 8-11, 8-21 to 8-26	★4 Point Bucks	Nov 1 - Nov 10		
	Youth Only*	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks		Sept 1 - Sept 30
Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks	Sept 1 - Sept 9		
* Restricted to hunters under the age of 18. ★ See Definitions section: Mule (Black-tailed) Deer. The antlers must accompany the species licence.					
WHITE-TAILED DEER	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks	Sept 10 - Nov 30	Refer to Regional Bag Limits on p. 67 and the Deer Bag Limits article on p. 14	
	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Antlerless	Oct 10 - Oct 31		
	Youth Only*	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks		Sept 1 - Sept 9
	Youth Only*	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Either Sex		Nov 1 - Nov 30
	Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Bucks		Sept 1 - Sept 9
Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	Either Sex	Dec 1 - Dec 20		
* Restricted to hunters under the age of 18.					
MOOSE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	★Spike-fork Bulls	Nov 1 - Nov 15	1	
All individuals with a moose species licence must submit a Mandatory Hunter Report by January 15th. See page 16 for more details.					
★ See Definitions section: Moose. Antlers must accompany the species licence. Compulsory inspection required.					
ELK	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	▲6 Point Bulls	Sept 10 - Oct 20	1	
Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26	▲6 Point Bulls	Sept 1 - Sept 9		
▲ See Definitions section: Elk. The antlers must accompany the species licence.					
BLACK BEAR	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Apr 1 - June 30	2	
	▲8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Aug 1 - Aug 31		
		8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26			Sept 1 - Nov 30
▲ MU's 8-1 to 8-15 and 8-21 to 8-26 is restricted to private land only. Hunters must obtain permission from landowners.					
WOLF	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Apr 1 - June 15 Sept 10 - Mar 31	3	
COYOTE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 1 - June 30	NBL	
BOBCAT	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Nov 15 - Feb 28	1	
Hunters may not hunt a bobcat accompanied by one or more bobcat. Compulsory inspection required.					
LYNX	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Nov 15 - Feb 28	1	
Hunters may not hunt a lynx accompanied by one or more lynx. Compulsory inspection required.					
COUGAR	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Nov 15 - Mar 31	1	
Hunters may not hunt a cougar kitten or any cougar in its company. See Definitions section: Cougar kitten. Compulsory inspection required.					
SKUNK, RACCOON	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		No Closed Season	NBL	
SNOWSHOE HARE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Aug 1 - Apr 30	10 (daily)	
GROUSE: DUSKY (Blue), RUFFED, & SPRUCE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 10 - Nov 30	5 (15)	
Youth Only*	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 1 - Sept 9		
Bow Only	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Dec 1 - Dec 10		
For Dusky, Spruce, and Ruffed grouse, the daily aggregate bag limit is 5; the aggregate possession limit is 15. ★ Restricted to hunters under the age of 18.					
CHUKAR PARTRIDGE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Oct 1 - Nov 30	5 (15)	
GRAY (Hungarian) PARTRIDGE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Oct 1 - Nov 30	3 (9)	
PHEASANT (Cocks)	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Oct 1 - Nov 30	2 (6)	
QUAIL	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Oct 1 - Nov 30	10 (30)	
TURKEY	8-1, 8-9, 8-10, 8-12, 8-14, 8-15, 8-22, 8-26	Bearded	Apr 15 - May 15	▼1	
	8-10, 8-12, 8-14, 8-15, 8-22, 8-26	Any Turkey	Oct 1 - Oct 15		
	8-1, 8-9	Any Turkey	Oct 1 - Nov 30		
▼ The aggregate regional bag limit is 2 and only one turkey may be taken in each of the spring and fall.					
DOVE: MOURNING, EURASIAN COLLARED	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 1 - Sept 30	5 (15)	
COMMON SNIPE	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	10 (30)	
COOTS	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	10 (30)	
DUCKS	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	8 (24)	
Daily aggregate bag limit for ducks is 8: max of 4 Pintails, 4 Canvasbacks, 2 Goldeneyes (Barrow's and Common in aggregate) and 2 Harlequins - see page 12.					
GEESE: SNOW & ROSS'S	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	5 (15)	
GEESE: WHITE-FRONTED	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 23 - Jan 7	5 (15)	
	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Sept 20 - Nov 28		
GEESE: CANADA & CACKLING	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Dec 20 - Jan 5	10 (30)	
	8-1 to 8-15, 8-21 to 8-26		Feb 21 - Mar 10		

Planning for 2026 - FOSS is seeking new members for its 2026 Board of Directors. If you have skills and talents that you can bring to FOSS' board, you have a passion for supporting recreation on Kelowna's South Slopes and you would like to be part of a vibrant volunteer community please contact FOSS President Cam Kourany at: camkourany@gmail.com