

DESTINATION:

2 ROUTES TO THE SUMMIT

Choose one of these two summit hikes to enjoy spectacular 360° views of the Goat Range Provincial Park (Selkirk Mountains) to the east, the Valhalla Range to the south, the Monashee Range to the west and the snow-covered twin peaks of Mount Grady and Mount Burnham to the north:

1. Turner Road Trailhead

to the Summit *Elevation gain: 357m*

- Moderate hike, 2.4 km – one way
- Hiking time: Approx. 3 hours return

Note: A 4 WD or high clearance all-wheel drive vehicle is necessary on Turner Road.

This trail takes a modest climb through Engleman spruce and lush underbrush of rhododendron and ferns. After crossing a boulder slope you will continue on through an alpine meadow – *please remain on the cairn-marked trail to protect this delicate meadow.* From here, a short climb will take you to the summit at 2143m.

2. Kuskanax Mtn Road Trailhead to the Summit

Elevation gain: 930m

- Challenging hike, 4.4 km – one way
- Hiking time: Approx. 5-6 hours return

Notes: A 4 WD or high clearance all-wheel drive vehicle is necessary on Kuskanax Mountain Road. *When hiking on the ridge and above, stay alert and follow the cairns and/or flagging tape to keep on the trail.*

This route takes you on a well-built, steep trail with numerous switchbacks and stunning views. The terrain is a mixture of sand, brush and craggy rock cliffs. After passing through a sub-alpine ridge with stunted spruce, followed by a gully, you will reach the summit at 2143m. **Take drinking water with you on these hikes.**

A WEE BIT OF HISTORY

In 1973, a forest fire raced up Kuskanax Mountain and burned for over a month. A rough road was built up the mountain to fight the blaze. This “Huffy” fire was named after the local contractor managing the fire and that is why you’ll often hear locals refer to Kuskanax Mountain as *Huffy Mountain*. In the 1980’s, hang-gliders built a launch pad at the top of the road to sail over town.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- This is bear country! Be bear aware; make noise to alert wildlife to your presence e.g. sing, whistle, clap. Go to bearaware.bc.ca for more information.
- Cougars are also active in our region. Go to wildsafebc.com for more information.
- Carry lots of drinking water. **There is no access to water on these routes.**
- **NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES ON THE HIKING TRAILS.** The access roads *only* are suitable for ATVs.

Be prepared for hiking:

- Wear solid walking shoes or hiking boots
- Carry water and nutritious food
- Take first aid supplies
- Wear comfortable clothing and take rain gear
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return
- Bring emergency supplies: e.g. extra clothes, food and water, matches, knife, compass or GPS & map.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT:

- BC Hydro
- Columbia Power Corporation
- Columbia Basin Trust
- Kootenay Savings Credit Union Foundation
- Nakusp & Area Community Foundation
- Regional District of Central Kootenay
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch #20 (Nakusp)
- Susan DeSandoli
- ... and all the residents of Nakusp and Area who voted for this project in the Community Votes of 2012 and 2013!
- Photo credits: W. Mense, L. Page, E. Hurry
- ~ Thank you Kyle Kusch, for the cartography ~

(March 2015)

KUSKANAX MOUNTAIN TRAIL & VICKY'S VIEW

MAP & GUIDE



Kuskanax Mountain Trail



Vicky's View

For spectacular views, choose between a moderate¹ or a challenging² hike to reach the summit of Kuskanax Mountain, or take an easy hike to Vicky's View.

DESTINATION: VICKY'S VIEW

Vicky's View is an accessible and spectacular viewpoint close to town. You can reach Vicky's View via the Kuskanax Mountain Road. A short walk through the forest takes you to awesome views of Upper Arrow Lake, the village of Nakusp, the Valhalla Range to the south and the Monashee Range to the west.

How to get to Vicky's View:

From the 4-way stoplight in downtown Nakusp, drive north on Hwy 23 for 2.5 km. Turn right on to the Hot Springs Road. Drive 3.6 km up the Hot Springs Road. Turn left onto the Kuskanax Mountain Road (gravel). Then, drive (or hike) 1.5 km up the Kuskanax Mountain Road and you will find Vicky's View on your left. *A high clearance all-wheel drive vehicle is recommended for Kuskanax Mountain Road.*

Please park in the nearby pullout so that other vehicles can pass by.

Visit

www.nakusptrails.ca

for more trails, maps and local information.

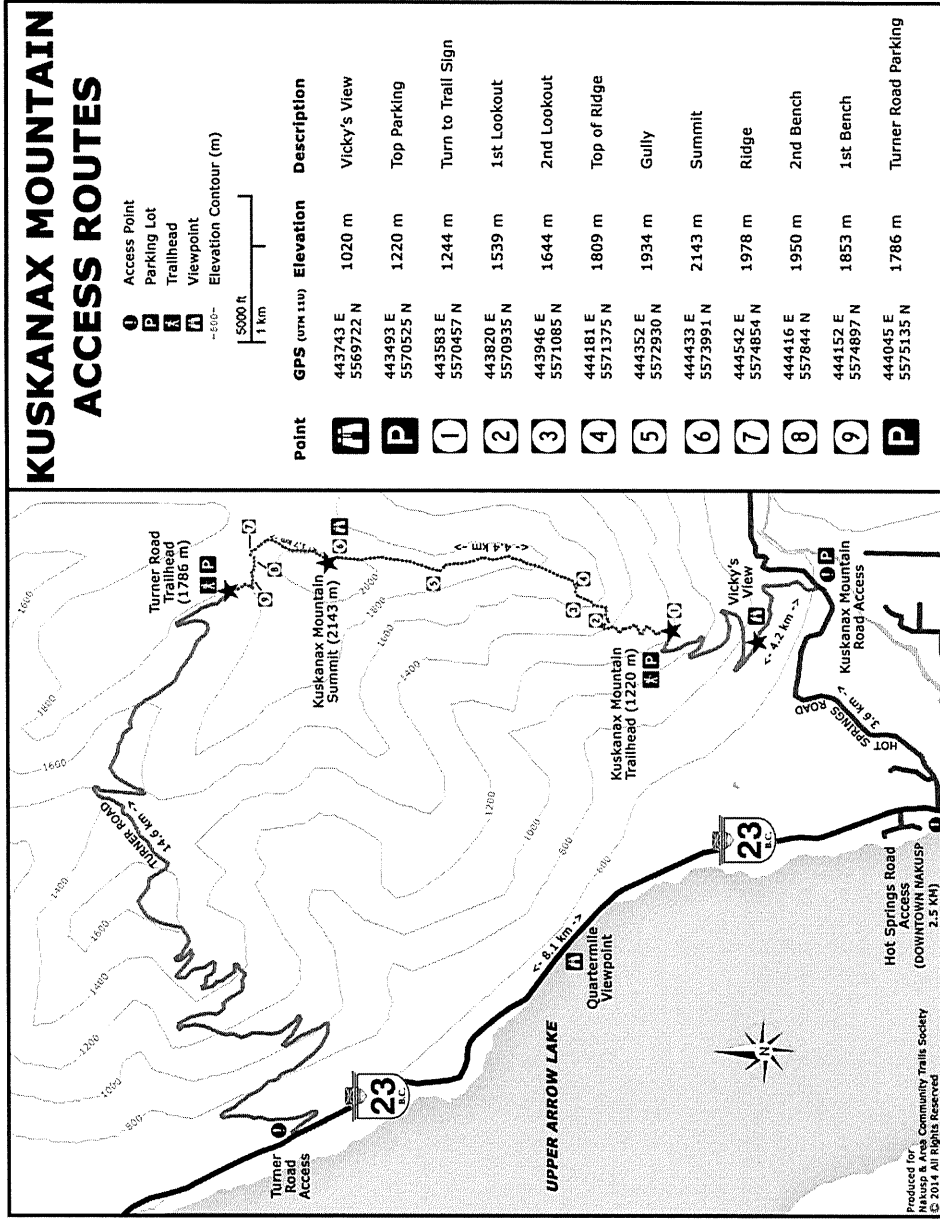
HOW TO GET TO THE SUMMIT-HIKE TRAILHEADS:

1. To access the Turner Road Trailhead:

From the 4-way stoplight in downtown Nakusp, drive north on Hwy 23 for 11.5 km. Turn right onto Turner Road (gravel). Follow the wooden "TRAIL" signs for 15 km (50 minutes) to the end of the road. In a large clear-cut at the end of the road you will find the signed parking area/trailhead.

2. To access the Kuskanax Mountain Road Trailhead:

From the 4-way stoplight in downtown Nakusp, drive north on Hwy 23 for 2.5 km. Turn right onto the Hot Springs Road. Drive 3.6 km up the Hot Springs Road. Turn left onto the Kuskanax Mountain Road (gravel). Drive for 4.2 km to the signed parking area/trailhead. Watch closely for the trail signs – just above the parking area, the trail takes a sharp left off of the old road.



Loop Route: The Kuskanax Mountain Trail can be made into a *loop route* by leaving a vehicle at one trailhead and starting your hike at the other trailhead.

- Challenging hike, 6.8 km
- Hiking time: 5-7 hours, one trailhead to the other

Follow safe hiking practices and be sure to tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return. **Take drinking water.**