



## Flight Restrictions in BC Provincial Parks

This notice is to remind all private aviators and commercial operators to abide by the regulations, and respect the voluntary guidelines and management plans on flight restrictions in popular BC Parks, particularly Garibaldi and Tantalus Provincial Parks. This will ensure a better visitor experience by safeguarding wildlife habitat, strengthening conservation values, benefitting public park use and promoting high standards of aviation ethics.

### Regulations

Arrivals and departures of aircraft in Provincial Parks are regulated under the Parks, Conservancy and Recreation Area Regulation (PCRAR) 27 (2), subject to restrictions and exceptions in Schedule A. Failure to comply is subject to a fines and possible Park Use Permit implications.

### **Mountain Goats**

Tantalus and Garibaldi Provincial Parks protect the habitat of endangered Mountain Goat (*Oreamnos americanus*). These animals are Blue-listed (special concern) in BC and require a suitable habitat with reduced human disturbance to survive. The impacts of aviation disturbance on mountain goats are well documented.

- 1) mountain goats experience prolonged stress reactions to aviation interactions such as increased energy expenditure, reduced fat accumulation and overall physical condition.
- 2) Disturbance from aviation traffic can cause separation (nanny and kid, herd, etc.) and induces escape behavior.
- 3) Recent research suggest that mountain goats exhibit very minimal habituation to aviation disturbances even after 15 years of reported traffic in the area.
- 4) Increased aviation traffic leads to displacement of goats out of their habitat and affect

To protect Mountain Goats we ask all aviators to keep a minimum altitude of 2000ft and a clearance of 1500ft while flying over known goat habitat and/or when seeing a mountain goat from the air. Please do your part to protect this endangered species.



## Voluntary Flight Paths in Garibaldi Provincial Park

During 2022 & 2023, Park Rangers observed many aircraft flying close to Black Tusk, Panorama Ridge, and other summits and glaciers in Garibaldi Provincial Park. These low flights have a negative impact on both conservation and recreation values in the park, disturbing park visitors and wildlife. They are also in contravention of the Voluntary Flight Guidelines agreed upon by BC Parks and the BC Aviation Council.

These voluntary measures are in place to forestall any requirement for legislative regulations to be created and enacted. The four Flight-Free Zones minimize disturbance of the public on the ground as well as wildlife in the Nature Conservancy zone by providing areas where low flights do not occur. Three flight-free zones; Diamond Head, Black Tusk and Singing Pass, have a specified overflight minimum of 9000 ft (2743.2 m) and a 1000 ft (304.8 m) minimum horizontal distance from obstacles. There is a designated low-flight corridor that allows low elevation sightseeing from the air (minimum 500 ft (152 m), above ground and away from obstacles. Please see the attached Garibaldi Provincial Park Voluntary Flight Guidelines (1990) as well as the updated georeferenced map, also available on the website.

## Aviation Plan for Tantalus Provincial Park

Tantalus Provincial Park has mandatory flight paths, outlined in the park's Aviation Plan and Flight Paths Map (attached and posted on website). These mandatory flight paths must be honoured by all private aviators and permittees, as per the conditions defined in their commercial Park Use Permits. Respecting these management plans and flight paths will provide an enjoyable visitor experience, public safety, and support wildlife conservation.

These guidelines are very important to the overall experience park users get when visiting the Provincial Parks. They also safeguard habitat by minimizing disturbance of wildlife including endangered Mountain Goat, Grizzly Bear, Wolverine and Pika, that are sensitive to human activities.

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Please review and familiarize yourselves with the guidelines and management plans. Thank you for your cooperation in upholding the conservation and recreation values protected within these Parks.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik Smeets".

**Erik Smeets** (he/him)

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*I feel fortunate to live and work on the traditional lands of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), səlilwát (Tsleil-Waututh) and Lílwat Nations.*