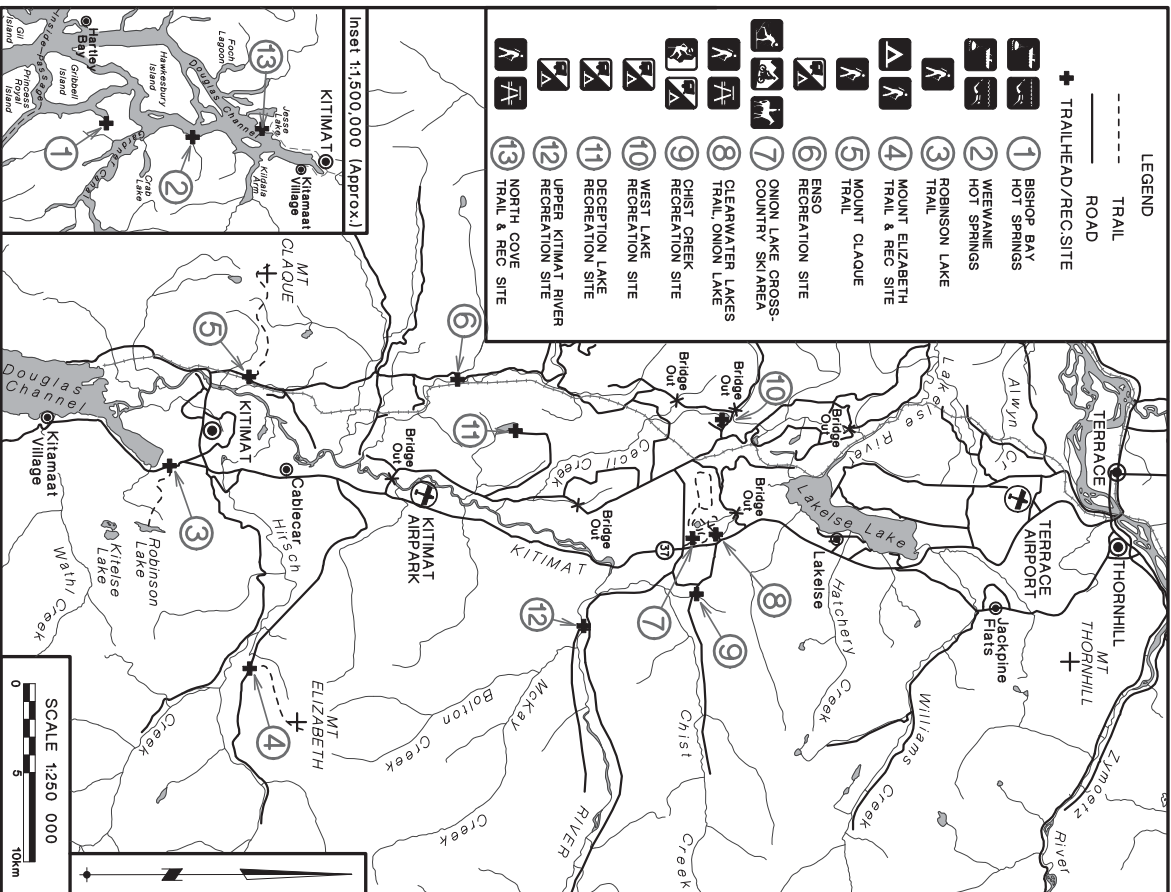


SITES + TRAILS

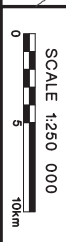
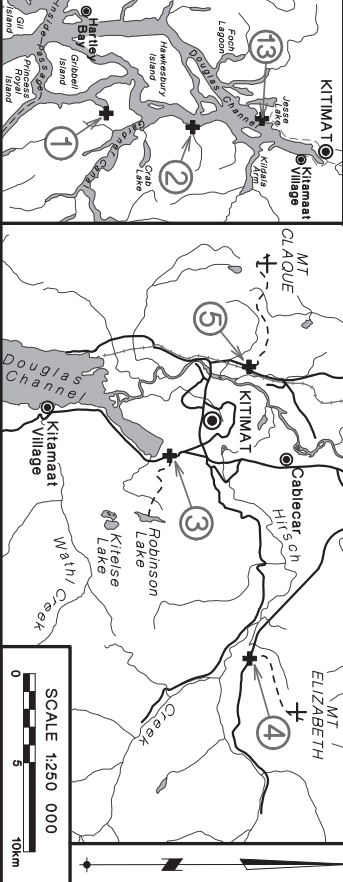


KITIMAT VALLEY – DOUGLAS CHANNEL SITES + TRAILS

- LEGEND**
- TRAIL
 - ROAD
 - + TRAILHEAD/REC SITE

- 1 BISHOP BAY HOT SPRINGS
- 2 WEEWANE HOT SPRINGS
- 3 ROBNSON LAKE TRAIL
- 4 MOUNT ELIZABETH TRAIL & REC SITE
- 5 MOUNT CLAOUÉ TRAIL
- 6 ENSO RECREATION SITE
- 7 ONION LAKE CROSS-COUNTRY SKI AREA
- 8 CLEARWATER LAKE TRAIL, ONION LAKE
- 9 CHIST CREEK RECREATION SITE
- 10 WEST LAKE RECEPTION SITE
- 11 RECEPTION LAKE RECREATION SITE
- 12 UPPER KITIMAT RIVER RECREATION SITE
- 13 NORTH COVE TRAIL & REC SITE

Inset 1:1,500,000 (approx.)



SITES AND TRAILS

The Kitimat Valley and Douglas Channel area include rustic sites and trails for hiking, canoeing, and trail skiing. There are also a number of hiking trails that range from easy family walks to difficult routes into alpine areas. All sites and trailheads are accessible by 2 wheel drive vehicles unless otherwise noted.

1. **BISHOP BAY HOT SPRINGS**
(North Coast Forest District)
Access: Located approximately 60km south of Kitimat off Ustula Channel. Bishop Bay is accessible only by boat or float plane.
Site description: A short trail from the dock leads to a covered hot springs pool, rocky picnic area, raised viewing platform and a viewing area. The trail is well maintained and is well signposted and they may not be able to find a suitable anchorage or mooring space. Large vessels are encouraged to anchor in the bay or use the mooring buoys instead of using the dock for overnight stays.
2. **WEEWANE HOT SPRINGS**
Access: Located approximately 40km south of Kitimat on Devastation Channel. Weewane is accessible only by boat.
Site description: There are 2 sets of stairs in the small sheltered bay for the hot springs. The site has picnic tables, fire pits, a toilet and a small trail house.
3. **ROBNSON LAKE TRAIL**
Access: Drive north from the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce building along Highway 37 to approximately 7.5 km, turn right just south from where the Hydro transmission line crosses the highway. Drive north for 13.5 km, turn right onto Highway 37 and follow the left/furthest north Hirsch Marine onto a rough, narrow, 4WD road, continue up the road for 2.5 km to the trailhead.
Trail description: A difficult 6 km trail to alpine that offers good views of Kitimat and the Douglas Channel. Allow 3 to 4 hours to reach alpine. Once in the alpine, Mount Elizabeth peak is almost due east. The trail to the peak takes 9 to 12 hours return (from trailhead).
Caution: This trail is very difficult beyond Little Elizabeth Peak and is only recommended for experienced hikers.
4. **MOUNT ELIZABETH TRAIL**
Access: Drive north from the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce building along Highway 37 to approximately 7.5 km, turn right just south from where the Hydro transmission line crosses the highway. Drive north for 13.5 km, turn right onto Highway 37 and follow the left/furthest north Hirsch Marine onto a rough, narrow, 4WD road, continue up the road for 2.5 km to the trailhead.
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Caution: This trail is very difficult beyond Little Elizabeth Peak and is only recommended for experienced hikers.
5. **MOUNT ELIZABETH RECREATION SITE**
Access: Drive north from the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce building along Highway 37 to approximately 7.5 km, turn right just south from where the Hydro transmission line crosses the highway and follow the north Hirsch Marine for 13.5 km, turn right and follow the road as it leads to Hirsch Creek.
Site description: A small rustic site with two camping areas next to Hirsch Creek.
Note: The compact nature of the site does not make it suitable for large trailers or motor homes.
6. **MOUNT CLAOUÉ TRAIL**
Access: From the Kitimat Service Centre head north along Enterprise Avenue until you reach the Weewane Forest Service Road and follow the road for approximately 1 km to the trailhead and follow the side road for approximately 2 km to the trail description: A difficult 6 km trail that leads to alpine on the west side of the Kitimat valley, with a return time of 8 to 10 hours. Excellent views of the Kitimat valley and Douglas Channel from alpine.
7. **ONION LAKE RECREATION SITE**
Access: Located 63 km north of Kitimat along Highway 37 at the intersection of Highway 37 and Highway 29. The site is a small, rustic site with parking facilities and fishing opportunities.
ONION LAKE CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAILS
Access: The trailhead is located 29 km north of Kitimat where the Weewane Forest Service Road meets Highway 37.
Trail description: 2.3 km of cross country ski trails used during the summer for mountain biking and horse back riding. Excellent views of Lakeise Lake and the valley from viewpoints along the Moose Highway trail the site is maintained and managed by the Kitimat Recreation Society.
ONION LAKE TRAIL
Access: Drive north on Highway 37 about 31 km north of Kitimat on Highway 37, next to Onion Lake.
Trail description: An easy hike along a 6 km trail that begins at Onion Lake. The trail runs through an old growth reserve which encompasses Onion, Big Chevalier and Little Chevalier Lakes. A side trail leads to a viewpoint overlooking Lakese Lake and the valley to the north. A small day use area is located at Onion Lake.
8. **CHIST CREEK RECREATION SITE**
Access: Turn east off Highway 37 across from the Onion Lake Ski Trails turn left onto Kitimat Forest Service Road, 29 km north of Kitimat. Follow the road for approximately 2 km and turn left onto the trail for approximately 2 km to the trailhead. The trail is well signposted and they may not be able to find a suitable anchorage or mooring space. Large vessels are encouraged to anchor in the bay or use the mooring buoys instead of using the dock for overnight stays.
9. **WEST LAKE RECEPTION SITE**
Access: Turn west off Highway 37 at the Onion Lake Ski Trails 29 km north of Kitimat. Follow the Weewane Forest Service Road for approximately 5 km, turn right onto the Lakeise West Lake Service Road and follow for another 4 km, turn left and follow the road for 2 km to the site.
Site description: A small rustic site with 2 camping spots next to West Lake.
Caution: A small, rustic site with three camping spots located near to rock climbing areas.
10. **RECEPTION LAKE RECREATION SITE**
Access: Turn west off Highway 37 at the Onion Lake Ski Trails, 29 km north of Kitimat. Follow the Weewane Forest Service Road for approximately 4.5 km and then turn right. Continue south past the first main junction then turn right at the second main junction (approx. 2.5 km) and follow the road for approx. 7.5 km. At this point turn right again and continue south for approx. 3.5 km. Make another right and follow the road for 6.5 km to the site.
Site description: A small rustic site with 3 camping spots overlooking West Lake.
Note: The compact nature of the site does not make it suitable for large trailers or motor homes.
Update: Please be advised that the Reception Lake Recreation Site was decommissioned on Friday November 19, 2004. All the directional and site signs, tables, fire rings and outbuildings were removed.
The site establishment will remain so if circumstances in the future warrant the site can be rebuilt.
11. **UPPER KITIMAT RIVER RECREATION SITE**
Access: Turn east off Highway 37 across from the Onion Lake Ski Trails turn left onto Kitimat Forest Service Road and follow the road for approximately 1 km to the trailhead and follow the side road for approximately 2 km to the trail description: A small, rustic, fire unit site near to the Kitimat River.
12. **NORTH COVE TRAIL AND RECREATION SITE**
Access: From Kitimat head south past the Mean Shelter and take the Moon Bay Marina Road. Continue past the marina for approximately 7 km to the trailhead. It's about a 1 km hike to the recreation site.
Site description: Located on the shore of Douglas Channel this small rustic site has a table and spectacular views. Walk in and deal access only, a short walk to rocky ocean piers further west of the Douglas Channel and Kitimat area.

ROBNSON RIDGE SNOWMOBILING TRAIL

Access: From the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce office located on Enterprise Avenue, follow Highway 37 to approximately 7.5 km, turn right onto Hirsch 100 and go another 4 km to the trailhead. Road access from Forest Avenue to the trailhead is dependent on snow conditions.

Trail description: From the end of the road this 3 km trail climbs steeply up the west side of the ridge through heavy timber and into the sub-alpine. The trail continues south along the ridge to a cabin maintained by the Kitimat Snowmobile Club. The cabin has a registration book that you are welcome to sign.
Caution: This trail is not recommended for beginner or intermediate snowmobilers.

TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Designated trails, short cutting on switchbacks, damaging the plants and soils which keep rain and snow from eroding the trail, do not cut down live trees, take only photographs, leave only footprints.

SITE ETIQUETTE

Bears are often used by visitors as paths and play areas, maximum speed is 20 km/h, please do not drive over the vegetation. Park in designated areas, keep roads clear and do not block traffic. Respect the peace and quiet of others, keep your noise to a minimum at all times. Obey designated quiet time: 11 pm to 7 am. Keep your pet quiet and under control at all times.

SILENT TRIPS

Behave as if you are on a hike. It is a responsible individual know where you are going and when you return, where they will be returning. Always contact that individual when you return, where they will be returning, and always take a map, compass, food and emergency gear. Always assume you will be staying overnight.

In case of an emergency contact the Royal Canadian Mounted Police: Kitimat (250) 632-7111

FOREST FIRES

Keep your campfire small and in the fire rings provided, do not light campfires during strong winds, wind to your campsite at all times and extinguish before leaving. Should you spot a forest fire, please call the fire department at 1-800-665-5535. This is a fire, please do not attempt to fight it yourself.

SAFETY IN BEAR COUNTRY

Bears usually avoid people, but they can be attracted to human food and garbage. For your own safety, take the following precautions: avoid all contact with bears, be camper smart and keep a clean camp; do not surprise bears; make your presence known with noise makers while hiking and make hike alone.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

Every bear encounter is unique so there are no steadfast rules which can be applied to every situation. If you meet a bear, instead of the bear without making eye contact and back away slowly. Do not run. If you are with a group, stay together and keep back of the bear's location, but again, don't challenge the bear by making eye contact. If the bear makes snoring or snoring noises and then changes and wags off at the last second this is likely defensive behavior so continue to back away. Extend your arms above your head appearing as large as you can, talk in a quiet voice, and look for a weapon such as a rock or stick. Try dropping your pack to distract the bear, but only do this if absolutely necessary because the bear could react to pursue people for their pack. Carry a tree as a last resort.

TRAVELING ON LOGGING ROADS

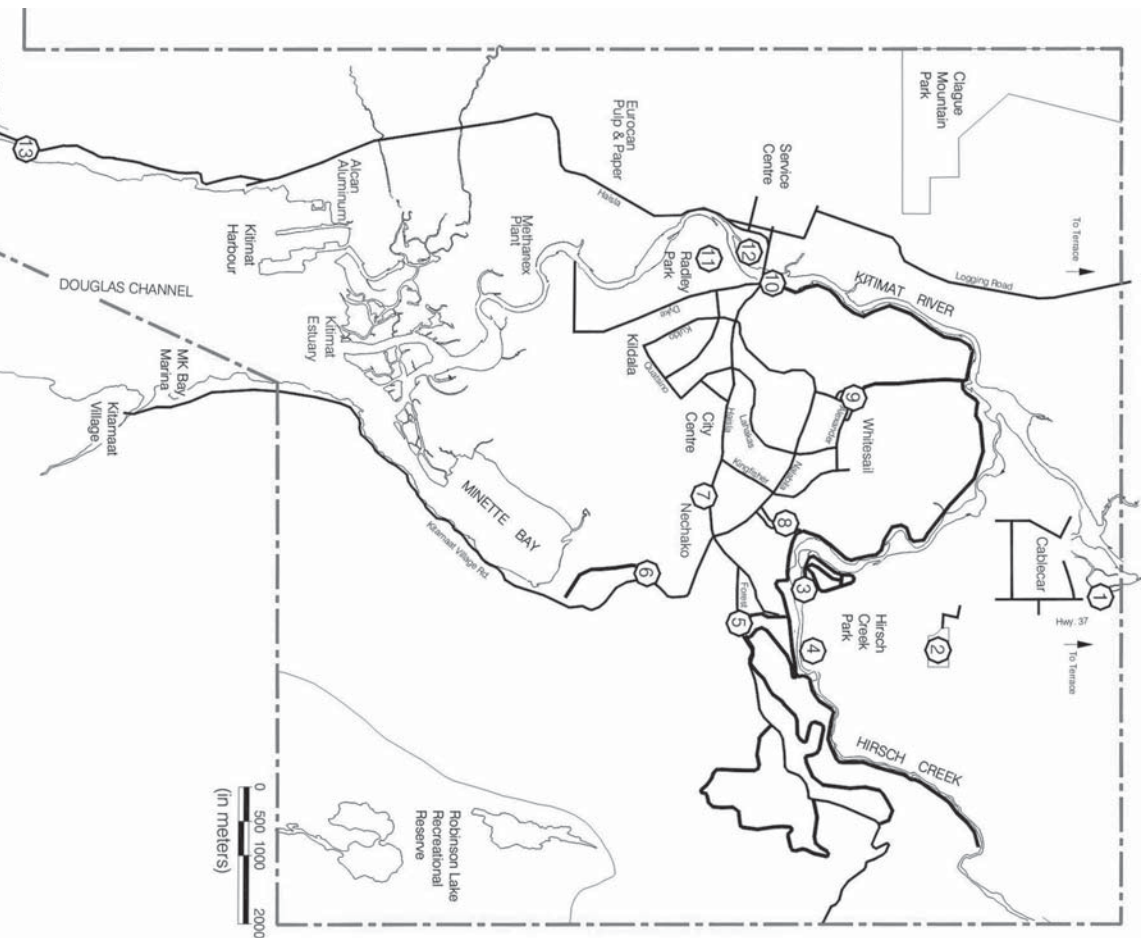
Logging roads being open to the public, many of them are narrow, winding roads. Logging trucks have the right of way at all times. Follow road control markers and other logging roads. Drive with caution and with your headlights on.

For more information regarding recreational opportunities in the Kitimat Valley, contact:
Kitimat Recreation Society
4200-2520 Keith Avenue, Terrace, BC V8C 9G3 111
Kitimat Recreation Society
250-638-5100 Fax: 250-638-5176
or visit our website at:
www.kitimatrec.ca

DISTRICT OF KITMAT TRAILS AND OUTDOOR POINTS OF INTEREST

The District of Kitmat within the municipal boundaries offers a number of hiking trails and outdoor opportunities. The hiking trails are easy family hikes through old growth forest, however prior to taking young children one should hike the trails to assess the difficulty and time required to complete the outing. Trails are flagged with orange markers on trees by the Snow Valley Nordic Ski Club. Look for markers \pm 8 feet above ground on larger trees. There are no garbage facilities available along any of the trails. All are user maintained sites. Thank you for your assistance.

- Snowflake Park Fairgrounds and Horse Trails**
 Access: North on Highway 37 about 500m past Cable Car entrance.
 Site Description: Fairground facility with riding rings and day horse stable.
 Trail Description: Horse trails leading in and around Fairgrounds. Cable Car, Hirsch Creek Park, across highway to Fire Mountain Bike Range. Fitness joggers are encouraged to use trail. For more information call Debbie at 632-6740.
 Funding: Snowflake Fairgrounds Society
- Community Bike Range**
 Access: Off Highway 37, turn from barn, watch for signs.
 Site Description: Vehicle parking 500m in range with shed and shoeing posts - this is a federal government inspected facility and users are required to follow regulations posted.
- Hirsch Creek Park**
 Access: Hirsch Creek Park, off Highway 37, go to interior parking lot to south (right at fork).
 Site Description: A rustic setting with minimum amenities, 10 campsites, access to Hirsch Creek Park. Day picnic sites, large covered area for gatherings and cooking, sports field and pit toilets. Used for community picnics - for booking call Mamiki, Jubilee Sports Complex at 632-8955.
 Trail Description: Short walk through old growth. Watch for cedars with bark stripped on one side by natives - bark used for clothing.
- Hirsch Creek Canyon**
 Trail to this starts on south side of Highway 37 Hirsch Creek bridge. Sign at right hand side. Trail is interrupted by logging road, watch for sign. The trail extends for about 7km (1 hour's hiking time). It leads to a few beautiful spots along the creek. You will come to logging access road and should see a tall hemlock with two prominent scars in front of you. Enter bush and see swamp lake through the trees. Circling the lake on the bench to your left you will find the trail. Hike on trail towards big gully. Trail branches shortly before the viewpoint. (NOTE: The viewpoint is very dangerous for small children). If you are looking for a picnic place, follow the trail downhill for a short distance to creek to the big gully.
- Forest Avenue Mountain Bike Trails**
 Access: Turrono Forest Avenue at Chamber of Commerce. Go to trail head sign for large blue building on right (c. 5 km). On left you will see Pacific Natural Gas right-of-way.
 Trail Description:
Advanced Riders: At trail head sign turn left and go to bottom of hill until you meet Hirsch Creek trail, turn right, advance to logging road, turn right and up hill until you come to South Hirsch Creek Main (extension of Forest Avenue), again turn right and ride approximately .5km to the starting point.
Other Riders: At trail head sign continue approx. 1km along South Hirsch Creek Main road (extension of Forest Avenue) until you come to second trailhead sign, take the road to your left. The road is blocked to motor vehicles, go around gate, continue and you will come to a broken bridge. Continue, keeping to your right, until you have looped around and immediately before the bridge make a sharp turn to your left, ride for 6km staying to your right and you will meet up with South Hirsch Creek Main again, turn left, ride for approx. 1.5km and you will return to your starting point. Total kilometers from starting point to return are approximately 12.
- Pipe Creek Trail**
 Access: From Highway 37 follow Kitamat Village Road. At bottom of first hill turn right onto gravel road. The trail head is 700 meters from Village Road, bridge is out - park at creek cross creek by foot until you see trail head sign.
 Trail Description: A great hike for all ages, big cedars, bubbling brook, teeming with small fry, spawning salmon, and beaver activity. The hike is 30 minutes one way. Trail built in 1997 provides a wonderful hike and an opportunity to witness the salmon enhancement project of the Science class of Gary Mouldland from Mount Elizabeth Senior Secondary.
 A conserved area by covenant between DFO, Haisla, and Alcan
- Coglin Point**
 Access: Haisla Boulevard. At entrance to community watch for signs and parking. Site Description: View of Douglas Channel in park setting with picnic table. Don't forget your camera.
- High School Trail**
 Access: Off Smith Street.
 Trail Description: A short but difficult 250m from the top of Smith Street with the trail connecting with Hirsch Creek Trail, left to Cobo Flats or right to Highway 37 at Hirsch Creek bridge.
- Cobo Flats Trail**
 Access: Located off Baxter Street.
 Trail Description: An easy 1.75km through old growth forest leading to the Kitmat River. At the river the trail goes left along Fisherman's Trail to the Rod and Gun Club or right along the Kitmat River to Hirsch Creek.
- Fisherman's Trail (Rod & Gun Trail)**
 Access: Through community, turn right just before bridge over Kitmat River. Park in lot at bottom of small hill, look for signs for trail entrance.
 Trail Description: Trail, flagged, but quickly overgrown with Deer's Club. Recommend hike by adult prior to taking children.
- Giant Spruce**
 Access: Highway 37 to Haisla Boulevard to 3rd stop light. Turn left on Kullo Boulevard, right on Columbia Street, end of dirt road turn right, first left, short distance turn left, watch for signs.
 Site Description: Old growth Sitka spruce. Over 400 years old - considered oldest Sitka spruce in world. Picnic table and information about tree size and age.
- Radley Park Campground**
 Access: Follow Highway 37 through community and over Kitmat River bridge to Service Centre. Follow highway to left, watch for signs, take first left turn over dike.
 Site Description: Over 50 campsites, 15 with electricity, indoor tables, pay showers, pay phone, day picnic area, dirt bait reception area. Setting is old growth forest. Original development by Kitmat Gyro Club. Covered area barbecue pit available for community group picnics and large family gatherings at no fee. Contact the District of Kitmat Recreation Department at 632-8955. Annual projects by Kitmat Gyro Club.
- North Dove Trail - 4 wd recommended to access**
 Access: 10 km past Alcan Smelters and Hospital Beach via gravel road to Moon Bay Marina.
 Trail Description: Easy access, steep hill, scenic marine setting within 15 - 20 minutes hiking distance from parking lot. One of the few larger sized protected coves along the coastline between Kitmat and Bish Creek. Supports an impressive stand of mature timber (with little undergrowth). Ideal picnic site with 3 picnic tables, fire pits and latrine. The site will offer swimming, beach, fishing and canoe/kayak launch etc. Trail was completed in 1999.
 Funding: Ministry of Forest via Forest Renewal BC and Steena Swaminis



For information regarding community outdoor opportunities in Kitmat contact:

District of Kitmat Recreation Department 270 City Centre, Kitmat, B.C. V0C 2H7 Phone: 632-8900 Fax: 632-4995

The Recreation Department's intent is to annually produce this trail guide in the spring leisure brochure. To assist in ensuring that the guide meets the community needs and is accurate in content your comments are appreciated.