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VARDA Conditions Update Issued January 22, 2019

The week ahead is quite the mix bag when looking at the forecast. First it was a blend of snow and sun and now, dry blue bird weather seems to be on the way for a few days beginning around Thursday. We have not received any fresh snow worth talking about for some time. The common areas have been well used, and I'm sure the term "tracked out" may get thrown around, but the goods are still out there for those who venture off the beaten path and if that's not your thing, who doesn't love being up in the mountains on blue bird days? Use the beautiful weather ahead to try something different, cover some new country, turn left where you usually turn right, and you never know what is waiting for you around the corner. We are still down a groomer, but we are moving the machines between areas as needed and the trails have been buttery lately with the perfect grooming weather.

Allan and Chappell Creek are surrounded by wildlife closures. Be aware of your location at all times and be sure to remain within the legal area. Please help others with education and self policing while out in the field.

Trail Grooming

Allan Creek, Chappell Creek, Clemina Creek – Grooming is ongoing and trail passes are required daily.

Crystal Ridge – The little groomer set a track in but was not able to make the top. Please use the donation box in the staging area if you would like to see this groomed more regularly.

Westridge – IMPORTANT INFO - The FSR is now plowed to 7km so this takes away the use of the upper family loop. BC Hydro is also active on the main route to Crystal Ridge so access has changed. To access Crystal Ridge and Upper Westridge, please park in the main staging area and cross to the south side of the access road from the staging area. Follow the sled trail on the side of the road back towards the highway and take the next unplowed road on your right. This will eventually lead you to where the regular access joins the road and you will soon recognize the route. Access to the family loop is still available via the Valley bottom access although a loop is no longer possible with the logging at 7km.

Horse Creek – Logging will be ongoing in the area and there is little to no parking available.

Oasis – Logging is ongoing at the 6km marker. There is no parking available at the trailhead to Oasis.

Keep your wits about you and check www.avalanche.ca before your ride. There is a lot of new load out there. If you do venture out, please report any of your findings to the Mountain Information Network through Avalanche Canada. This can be as simple as uploading a few pictures to the app.

Please report any maintenance needs to the VARDA office via email to info@ridevalemount.com

Please report any Caribou and other Wildlife sightings to the VARDA office. We need location, number of animals, animals actions (at rest, at travel etc). This information is important to our riding areas.

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