Mapping the mysteriously undeveloped hiker's destination

The Trails of Northwest British Columbia's Bulkley Valley
Seymour Ridge Trailhead
1 hr 45 min or 4 km
Trails to Timberline
in West Central British Columbia
THIRD EDITION
Einar Blix · Andrew Blix

A new edition of Trails to Timberline: A comprehensive guide, with route maps, to 72 hikes in West Central British Columbia
SILVERN LAKES TRAIL [HB5]

Part of Map 93L/14

1cm = 2/3km, 100ft. (30m) contour interval
Northword

Music festivals when to play
Hostels where to stay
Eggs how to keep
Recycled cabin what to keep
Blue Lakes where to hike

plus: regional events calendar & community resource directory
The Blue Lakes Trail
Hiking to the Blue Jewel

by Morgan Rite

This trail was originally constructed in the 1920s as a pack trail to the Black Prince and Blue Lake claims near the upper Blue Lake. At that time the trail would have begun down on the flats near the highway, but that section was obliterated by clear-cut logging. The present trail starts at a higher point and ascends through the remaining intact fir forest.

Note that Mudflat Creek has no identifying sign where Highway 16 crosses it, and there is no sign for Mudflat Creek Road. It is about 2 km north of the Suzukiwa River Rd turnoff (itself no longer signed). This is about 6 km north of Smithers.

Once on the narrow deactivated road there are very few places to turn around and occasional rocks require you to drive slowly. The pull-out for 2WD vehicles can be recognized by the presence of a yellow Deactivation sign, but it is well worth bringing a vehicle that can get to the final parking lot, since it cuts 2 km and 300 m of ascent off the hike. This part of the road is uneven; passengers and possessions are thrown about inside the vehicle. You may be able to offer a ride to hikers you find walking.

The trail ascends gradually for 2 km through rich forest, then in the next 2 km it crosses a series of five avalanche tracks thick with salmonberry in the late summer. At this point you leave the conventional rock of the Bulkley Valley and enter the “Bulkley Plutonic Suite,” a delightful white, granite-like, igneous rock that forms the core of the Roche Debrule Range. After crossing a short boulder-field, note a side-trail on the left to the waterfall camping complete with two picnic tables and a badly pothole-chewed privy.

At the upper lake the trail continues around its north side to an improved campsite nestled in krumholtz (again with massive picnic table; however there are many other attractive places to pitch a tent. From here the way is clear to access higher portions of the range.

Directions
Turn onto the Mudflat Creek Road, 8 km south of Hazelton on Highway 16. In less than one kilometer, turn left onto a deactivated road at a brown BC Rec Site sign on left for “Blue Lakes.” Most 2WD vehicles can proceed slowly for about 2 km to a small pull-out on the left beside the creek (elevation 700m).
High-clearance 4WD vehicles can proceed another 2 km to a larger parking area at the trailhead (elevation 1000m).

From here the trail ascends 400m over 4.25 km to the upper Blue Lake and tree-line. Allow 2.25 hours up, 2 hours down. Add an hour each way if using the lower parking spot.
## Data Distribution Service

### Find / Add Products

![Search and Find interface](vertical)

- **Find**
- **Search**

**Search**

- **Save Order**

**Saved Orders**

**Clear search and return to Browse**

**Your Order id:** 1403691

**Show Help**

### Search Results

**All Categories**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Info</th>
<th>Add</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coastal BC Marine and Freshwater Kayaking Routes</td>
<td>The location of coastal British Columbia marine and freshwater kayaking routes</td>
<td><img src="vertical" alt="Info icon" /></td>
<td><img src="vertical" alt="Add icon" /></td>
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<td>Freshwater Atlas 20K-50K Stream cross reference table</td>
<td>Contains all primary and secondary matches between 1:20K and 1:50K stream edges. This attribute table links the new Freshwater Atlas watershed codes with the existing 1:50K Watershed Atlas watershed codes for cross reference purposes</td>
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<td>Freshwater Atlas Assessment Watersheds</td>
<td>Assessment Watersheds are mesoscale aquatic units designed to replace the 3rd order 1:50K watersheds. Assessment Watersheds are based on groupings of fundamental watersheds using FWA watershed code and local code, with a target size of between 2,000ha... more</td>
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<td>Freshwater Atlas Bayys and Channels</td>
<td>Bay and Channel (FWA) features and associated names</td>
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Connect

DataBC offers a number of connection services that can be leveraged either directly through geospatial software or through custom application development.

Web Map Services

DataBC now provides public access to the Province’s geographic warehouse through connection links such as Google Earth’s popular KML and industry standard WMS (Web Map Service). This provides unprecedented access to provincial geographic information through a single Internet gateway.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Google Earth</th>
<th>WMS</th>
<th>REST</th>
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<td>This wms offers base geographic features at 1:20 000 scale optimized for drawing speed.</td>
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<td>BC Web Map Library</td>
<td>This service includes the entire layer library of Web Map Services, available as individual services below.</td>
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