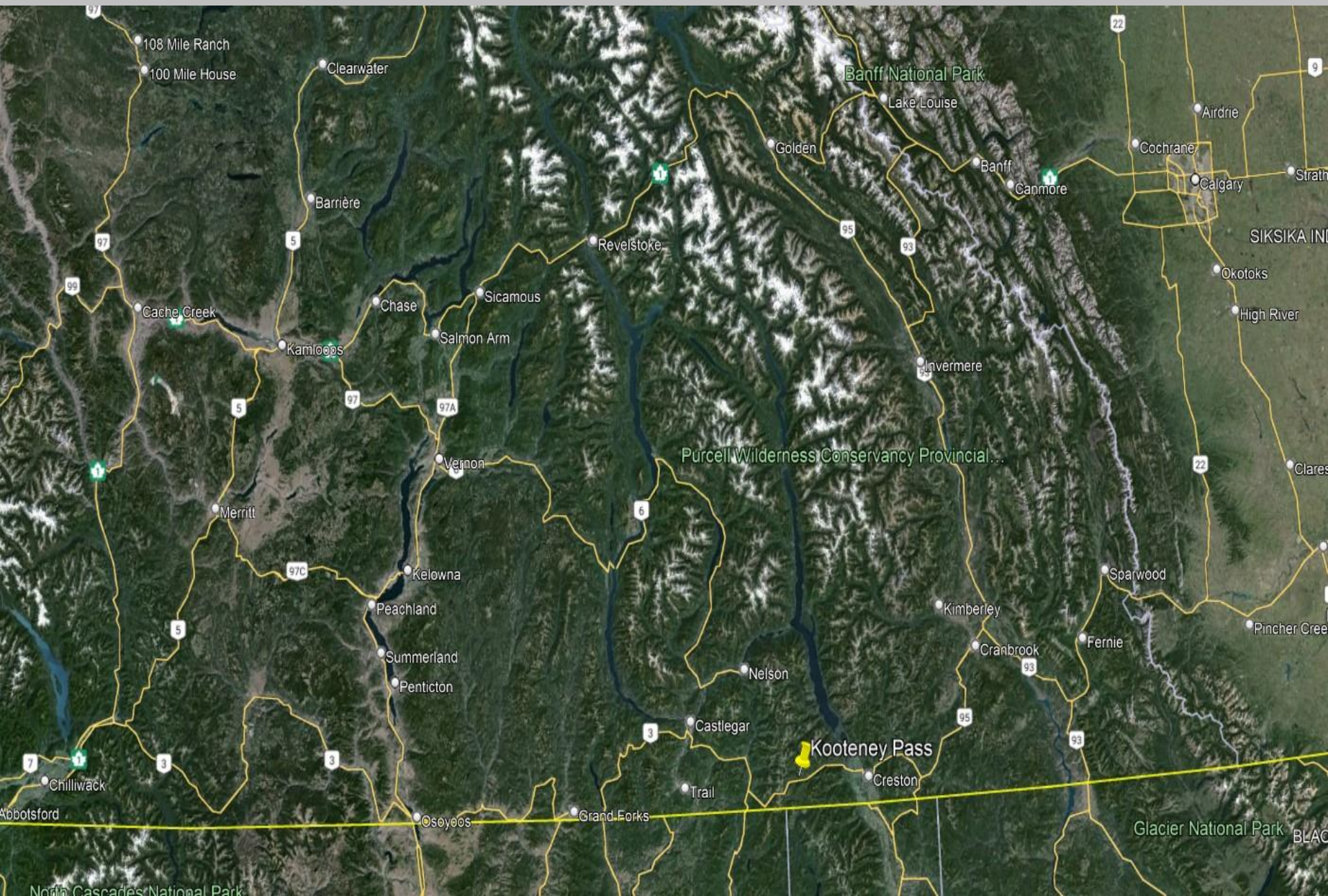


Kootenay Pass
Avalanche
Program



AVALANCHE AND WEATHER PROGRAMS

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE





Wolf 63

Carnice Ridge

Crowsnest Hwy

3

Crowsnest Hwy

Stagleap Provincial Park

3

Crowsnest Hwy

Bridal Lake Rest Area

Quick Facts



Highway elevation at summit 1775m



Highest all season pass in British Columbia



47 avalanche paths over 35 km



One of the most active avalanche control programs in the province due to the location of the highway and the nature of the terrain above the highway.



24/7 avalanche control capability

Kootenay Pass Data

Average of 400 avalanche events per season

1 in 3 events affect the Highway

Average snowfall = 10m

Staff 2 full time avalanche technicians,
4 seasonal avalanche assistants.

Closure time = 80 hours per season.
Mostly done in 2-3h closure blocks.

Northfork Avalanche area.
East side of the summit



NoName avalanche area
West side of the pass



Stagleap avalanche area
West side of the pass



Avalanche Risk Mitigation

- Preventative closures
- Maintaining defensive structures
- Snowpack structure analysis
- Avalanche control :
- GazEx
- Helicopter Bombing
- Case Charging

GazEx System

- 24 GazEx exploders
- 6 GazEx control shelters
- 3 separate avalanche areas
- Avalanche control in 1/2h
- Average avalanche deposit cleanup time 1-2h.

GazEx Shelter



GazEx Exploder



Case Charging



Helicopter Bombing



Lock Block Walls



Benches



Ski Touring Access



Knowledge of Snowpack



Road Patrols



Proactive
Control

Avalanche
Events
Small



Avalanche Removal



Questions
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