

Churn Creek Gateway Low Mobility Trail

The Churn Creek Gateway Low Mobility Trail is located within the Churn Creek Protected Area at the confluence of the Fraser River and Churn Creek. The trail opened in September 2014 and was built in partnership between the Cariboo Regional District, the Friends of Churn Creek Protected Area Society, Northern Development Initiative Trust, Cariboo Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition and the provincial government through the BC Community Recreation Program.

Approximately 450 m long and featuring a packed, crushed gravel surface, this accessible interpretive wilderness trail loop offers unique geographical features and connections to the human history of the area. Sagebrush and prickly pear cacti surround the trail, while the meeting of Churn Creek with the Fraser River provides spectacular views. A particular highlight of the trail is a sacred petroglyph boulder created by ancestors of the modern Secwepem'c (Shuswap) people and repatriated to the area in 2012 by the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem and High Bar First Nations.



The trail has a very gentle grade as well as an accessible outhouse, an accessible picnic table, two benches and a kiosk at the trailhead with information about the trail and the local area. The kiosk design reflects a Secwepem'c pithouse, complete with entrance ladder through the roof. There is ample parking available for visitors.



The Churn Creek Gateway Low Mobility Trail is located approximately 60 km southeast of Williams Lake and the drive takes about 2 hours. From Williams Lake, visitors should travel on Highway 20 approximately 3 km and then turn left onto Dog Creek Road. Continue on this road until Dog Creek Valley and then follow signs for Gang Ranch, which will take visitors across the Fraser River Bridge. At the next intersection, take the left turn onto Empire Valley Road.

Ongoing management of the site is provided by the Friends of Churn Creek Protected Area Society. For more information, visit www.friendsofchurn.ca.

