

## **NORTH VANCOUVER ISLAND INTER COMMUNITY ORV ROUTE Mar 5 2018**

As you probably know already. The CR ATV Club has been engaged in a project to enable Inter Community ORV Tourism on Northern Vancouver Island. The first step in this process has been to secure designated ORV access routes in a chain of communities from CR to Port Hardy and Holberg. Our plans are to utilize active and de-activated (where possible), FSRs to travel from community to community up and down the North Island. Because this route could be a more than 1000km trip. It is critical that we have designated ride-in access to fuel, food, and accommodation services in each community along the routes. Riders must have access to services every 100 -150km to refuel, dry wet clothes, eat and sleep. To date "ORV ride-in privileges" have been established as follows:

**Campbell River** – Access to food, and fuel, - No Operation Permit currently required - specific designated route only

**Gold River** – Access to food, fuel, and accommodation - No Operation Permit currently required - specific designated route only

**Tahsis** – Access to food, fuel, and accommodation - No Operation Permit currently required - specific designated route only

**Sayward** – Access to food, fuel and accommodation - Operation Permit currently required - specific designated route only – Permit issued in Sayward. Please email [wendy.berry@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:wendy.berry@rcmp-grc.gc.ca) your required info ( detailed below) prior to going to the detachment. It is also a good idea to phone the detachment before driving up to make sure they will have someone at the Detachment who can issue the permit.

**Permit wording:** To travel a short distance on the shoulder of Dyer Rd and Sayward Rd and to cross Hwy 19. This is to enable access to fuel at the Junction (Co-op) gas station and accommodations at Sayward Valley Resort (Fisherboy)

**Port Alice**- Access to food, fuel, and accommodation - Operation Permit currently required - specific designated route only Permit issued in Port Hardy – Please email your required info ( detailed below) prior to going to the detachment. It is also a good idea to phone the detachment before driving up to make sure they will have someone at the Detachment who can issue the permit.

**Permit wording:** To travel along the shoulder of the road between Le Jeune Landing and the Port Alice Mill on Marine Dr for access to lodging food and gasoline. Not including side streets.

**Woss**- Access to food, fuel, and accommodation - Operation Permit currently required - specific designated route only - Permit issued in Port McNeill. Please email your required info ( detailed below) prior to going to the detachment to [bonnie.barrett@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:bonnie.barrett@rcmp-grc.gc.ca) or [jodi.watkins@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:jodi.watkins@rcmp-grc.gc.ca). It is also a good idea to phone the detachment before driving up to make sure they will have someone at the Detachment who can issue the permit.

**Port McNeill, Hyde Creek, Woss one permit -Wording:**

From Hwy 19 (shop Rd Entrance) on Englewood Dr to Vernon Dr. Woss BC

From Nimpkish Heights Rd. (not permitted in residential area) across Hwy 19 to the gas station on Hyde Creek Rd.

On Mine Rd from East Main to Campbell Way across Campbell Way to Gas Station

All afore mentioned conditions are solely for the purpose of obtaining food, fuel, and accommodation

Must comply with all regulations of the BC MVA and BC MVA Regulations.

Speed is to be 15km/h or less on the shoulder of roadway where possible.

**Port McNeill**- Access to fuel, and convenience store - Operation Permit currently required - specific designated route only – Permit issued in Port McNeill. Please email your required info ( detailed below) prior to going to the detachment to [bonnie.barrett@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:bonnie.barrett@rcmp-grc.gc.ca) or [jodi.watkins@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:jodi.watkins@rcmp-grc.gc.ca) It is also a good idea to phone the detachment before driving up to make sure they will have someone at the Detachment who can issue the permit.

**Port McNeill, Hyde Creek, Woss one permit -Wording:**

From Hwy 19 (shop Rd Entrance) on Englewood Dr to Vernon Dr. Woss BC

From Nimpkish Heights Rd. (not permitted in residential area) across Hwy 19 to the as station on Hyde Creek Rd.

On Mine Rd from East Main to Campbell Way across Campbell Way to Gas Station

All afore mentioned conditions are solely for the purpose of obtaining food, fuel, and accommodation

Must comply with all regulations of the BC MVA and BC MVA Regulations.

Speed is to be 15km/h or less on the shoulder of roadway where possible.

**Port Hardy**- Access to food, fuel, and accommodation - Operation Permit currently required - specific designated route only – Permit issued in Port Hardy. Please email your required info ( detailed below) prior to going to the detachment It is also a good idea to phone the detachment before driving up to make sure they will have someone at the Detachment who can issue the permit. Or to get an email address to pre-send your info.

**Permit wording:** To travel along Trustee Rd to Hwy 19. Hwy 19 north to Granville Str. Then from Hwy 19 east along Granville Str. ending at Pier Side Landing Hotel. To allow access to lodging food and gasoline. Not including side streets

**Holberg** - Access to food, fuel, and accommodation - Operation Permit requirement undetermined at this time - specific designated route only – If required Permit will be issued in Port Hardy

**Email Info ahead of time--**

For convenience - You may email your info to specified RCMP Detachments such that your permits may be pre-filled for you and ready for you to verify the info and be issued. Do not attempt to send as attachments. The RCMP servers will not allow attachments in emails. You need to send the following information:

**Your Name** as it is on your Drivers License

Your complete **current address**

Your **ORV Vehicle Make** EG: Polaris ATV

**ORV vehicle model** EG: RZR

**ORV Vehicle Year** EG: 2015

**ORV Vehicle Identification Number** EG: 4XAVHXXXXXXXXXX

**ORV Vehicle Type** EG: White

**Make sure you bring all of the supporting documentation with you when you go to pick up your permits. Registration, proof of Liability and Hwy crossing insurances, your drivers license**

I also suggest that you print this note and take it with you for reference.

As detailed in the list above - Port McNeill, Port Hardy, and Gold River have jurisdiction over multiple Communities. You will have to let those Detachments know which Communities you wish to get Operation Permits for. Most riders will want access to every community.

We understand that we have Community support and are waiting for the final RCMP approval and Operation Permits for Ride-in access in the community of Zeballos.

At this time. We only have access to Convenience Store/Fuel services in Port McNeill. We are discussing and awaiting approval for appropriate designated ORV access to food and accommodation services in Port McNeill. The Access into Zeballos and Port McNeill is not critical to riding the Route. Holberg access will be necessary to ride to Cape Scott Park, and San Joseef Bay parks. We are not permitted to ride in the parks.

As set out in the BC ORV act. All ORVs operating on crownland or FSRs. Must be registered, carry liability insurance, and be driven by a Driver licensed operator. Riders must have a driver's license and carry appropriate ICBC insurance to cross roadways at stop sign controlled intersections. You must obtain an Operation Permit from a local RCMP Detachment member to ride into a community. You may only ride on a specific, designated roadway route. We are restricted to 15km on designated roadways in communities. We are asked to stay as much to the side roadways in communities as we can.

As we get things firmed up. We will post unofficial maps of the inter community route and designated access routes into the communities on our forum. [www.cratvclub.com](http://www.cratvclub.com) . I will be trying to get North Island Tourism to post the routes and access maps on their website.

<http://www.vancouverislandnorth.ca>

We are also beginning to get the Forest Companies involved in our efforts:

I recently met with Western Forest Products NI managers and had a good discussion regarding our plan to use forest service roads to access Communities on North Vancouver Island. They are co-operating with us to encourage ORV riders and other backcountry travellers to keep safety in mind as a number 1 priority. If and when you stop on a road or trail. Always pull over clear of the travelled portion of the road or trail.

Drive at appropriate speeds. 60km max on Forest Service Roads. Industrial equipment has the right of way.

WFP has set up a website. [www.wfproadinfo.com](http://www.wfproadinfo.com) To educate and inform backcountry users. Please check this site for FSR updates before travelling the routes. As demand increases WFP may set up a phone line for rider groups to let them know when groups are travelling on active roads.

This amazing Inter Community ORV Route we have been granted the privilege to ride. Will serve as a model for many other areas of BC in the future. Please keep in mind that Our ride-in privileges can be revoked at any time. If these privileges were to be revoked. It would be very difficult to ever get these privileges established again. Have fun but Please ride responsibly and respectfully. We will be monitored closely.

I have presented to most of the NI Community leaders. This has resulted in ORV Riders being granted community access and now being issued Operation Permits for ride-in access to food, fuel, and accommodation services in almost all NI Communities.

We are confident that this incredible Inter-Community ORV Tourism route from Campbell River to Cape Scott Park. Which we have been working to enable. Will be rideable this year. Depending on your choice of routes. You can decide to ride for one day or you can combine the inter community routes into whatever number of days you may wish your ORV adventure to be. The entire Inter-Community route return trip can be as much as a 10 day, approx. 1000+km, ORV adventure. The main inter community routes will be on Forest Service Roads (FSRs) but there are hundreds of User Maintained unofficial Routes. Providing thousands of kms of riding. Accessible from the main FSR routes.

Along the way. You may want to take in a whale watching tour, fishing charter, go bear watching, beachcombing or caving. You might want to visit historical sites, or take in many of the other activities available on North Vancouver Island. Your adventure has no limits and could be as long as you wish.

As per the BC ORV Act and the Motor Vehicle Act. ORV Riders must acquire an operation permit to allow them to ride on a roadway. The Operation Permit must be issued by a Local Police (RCMP) Officer. This requirement creates a number of logistical problems on a route as large as this and involving this many Communities and Detachments.

You have to get an Operation Permit for each individual community before you can ride into the community. So at present - You have to go to each RCMP Detachment responsible for each community and acquire the appropriate Operation Permit. This must be done prior to being able to ride into that community. Do not ride into a community unless you have an Operation Permit and know the designated roadway route. We are working on various ideas to streamline this dilemma. But – for now we must conform to these requirements.

I will be posting updates on our facebook page and on our forum site as developments progress. Watch for the updates.

Thank You

Happy Trails To You -- Mike Coulter CR ATV CLUB