

Whistler Recreation Trail Approval Process

For trails proposed on municipally controlled land

Trail Proponent

- Individual, club/association, organization (including RMOW)
- Wishes to develop new trail(s)



Prepare and submit information for RMOW pre-screening

- Proponent completes and submits the Trail Planning Pre-screening Form*
- RMOW pre-screening conducted by Parks Planning, Resort Operations, Climate and Environment, and other relevant departments in relation to existing policies, plans and strategies (e.g., the Recreation Trails Strategy Environmentally Responsible Trail Planning (ERTP) Guidelines,* Priority Habitat Framework*)
- RMOW pre-screening results in feedback to the proponent; indication of support or opposition not provided



Prepare and submit referral information to First Nations

- Proponent prepares and submits referral information to Lílwat Nation and Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation)
- This step will result in a response from each Nation indicating receipt of referral, initial feedback and next steps.



Conduct community engagement

- Proponent is solely responsible for engagement design, execution, and summary
- Scope of engagement will depend on the project parameters (e.g., scale, habitat, proximity to neighbourhoods, etc.)



Prepare and submit application to the RMOW

- Proponent prepares and submits the Trail Planning Application Form*
- Submit and supplemental information arising from First Nations referrals and community engagement



RMOW review and decision

- Review by Parks Planning, Resort Operations, Climate and Environment, and other departments as necessary
- Includes further analysis using the ERTTP Guidelines, Priority Habitat Framework, other plans & strategies



Denied

Recommendation
to modify and
resubmit application

Approved



Trail Proponent

Receive RMOW decision and decide how to proceed

Whistler Recreation Trail Approval Process

For trails proposed on unceded territories (currently managed by the Province)*

Pre-Application Steps

These steps are recommended by the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) and the Province.

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- Proponent prepares and submits referral information to Lílwat Nation and Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation)
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Conduct community engagement

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Provincial Application Steps

These steps are required by provincial legislation.

Prepare application to the Province

- Proponent prepares and submits information according to the Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC) Applicant Information Guide**



Provincial review and referral process

- Administered by RSTBC
- Reviews application and conducts multi agency referral process



First Nations

- Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw
- Lílwat Nation

Ministry of Environment & Parks

- Conservation Officer
- BC Parks

Ministry of Forests

- District and regional ecosystem biologists
- Regional water quality biologist
- Also considers Species at Risk Act

Local Government

- RMOW
- Squamish Lillooet Regional District

Other Land and Water Managers

- Cheakamus Community Forest
- Industry (e.g., BC Hydro, Whistler Blackcomb)
- Tenure holders as required
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans



RSTBC referral feedback review and decision

Denied

Recommendation to modify and resubmit application

Approved section 57 authorization

Approved section 56 established



Trail Proponent

Receive RSTBC decision and decide how to proceed

**Available at whistler.ca/RTS

*In British Columbia most land is unceded. This means Indigenous Peoples never legally signed their lands away to the Crown. Moving forward, the use of "Crown land" will be replaced with "unceded territories (currently managed by the Province)" since the Crown does not own the land outright, as the term "Crown land" suggests.

