



# Arthur's Pass National Park, Craigieburn Forest Park & Korowai/Torlesse Tussocklands Park



## ALERTS 23 April 2018 Update



**For your safety:** Every effort has been made to ensure that this information is correct. However, you should contact the local DOC visitor centre for the latest updates. Changes to weather will affect conditions in the backcountry. Always check the latest weather report ([metservice.co.nz](http://metservice.co.nz)) and be prepared to change your plans if conditions are unfavourable. Rivers and streams in this region rise rapidly during periods of heavy rain – crossing unbridged rivers and streams in these conditions is extremely hazardous. Be prepared to wait.

**Your safety is your responsibility, follow the Outdoor Safety Code:**  
1. Plan your trip 2. Tell someone 3. Be aware of the weather  
4. Know your limits 5. Take sufficient supplies  
Before you go into the outdoors, tell someone your plans and leave a date to raise the alarm if you haven't returned. To do this, use the New Zealand Outdoors Intentions process on the AdventureSmart website: [www.adventuresmart.org.nz](http://www.adventuresmart.org.nz). It is endorsed by New Zealand's search and rescue agencies.

**GET THE LATEST UPDATES BEFORE YOU GO** Be sure to contact the Arthur's National Park Visitor Centre or visit the DOC website ([www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)) prior to departure to get the latest route conditions.

**GENERAL ALERT:** Wintery conditions may exist in the Parks at present. Alpine experience and care is required on routes outside of tree-line as there may be deep snow.

### DAY WALKS & CAMPSITES:

#### PUNCHBOWL FALLS TRACK WILL BE CLOSED

- This track will be closed from Monday 30th April for up to 4 weeks whilst repairs are made to the track!

#### LAKE PEARSON CAMPSITE CLOSED

- This campsite is **CLOSED** until about the 4<sup>th</sup> May while contractors do road & earthworks in this area. Camping is **NOT** permitted during this time!

#### AVALANCHE PEAK ROUTES

- We recommend leaving before 11am to allow for adequate daylight hours.
- Fresh snow has arrived; ask about conditions!

#### CRAIGIEBURN MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS

- Most trails are now open to mountain bikes except Mistletoe & Camp Saddle. Visit [www.craigieburntrails.org.nz](http://www.craigieburntrails.org.nz) for status updates.

#### LAKE PEARSON / GREYNEYS CAMPSITES

- Both these sites appear as pay sites in the Conservation Campsites booklet. They are **NOT**, hence do not have a potable water supply available!

#### NO OPEN FIRES AT CAMPSITES

- Do not light or create open fires at campsites. Gas &

### MAJOR TRACKS AND ROUTES

#### TE ARAROA ROUTE (Harper Pass/Deception)

- The Taramakau River below Kiwi Hut has washed away most of the track - expect river crossings.
- Expect extensive tree-falls north of Harper Pass on the Hurunui River routes. Bypass on river-flats.
- The "Otira River Flood Route" to/from the Morrison foot-bridge/Taramakau may be difficult to follow when rivers are high. It has been remarked.

### MAJOR TRACKS AND ROUTES (Continued)

#### CASEY - BINSER SADDLE / MINCHIN PASS ROUTES

- Casey Hut burnt down in 2015. We advise to carry a tent. The 6-bunk Trust/Poulter Hut is a further 1hr 30 mins up the Poulter valley & requires river crossings.

#### HUT RADIOS FAILED (Park Morpeth/Edwards Hut)

- Both radios have failed. Edwards Hut radio may work in the PM when the sun is shining.

#### EDWARDS – OTEHAKE ROUTE

- Route is very difficult and slow going below Taruahuna Pass with overgrown track, washouts, and slips.

#### HARMAN PASS ROUTE

- Scotty's cableway 1.5km above Dillon's hut, has been replaced with a 3-wire bridge.
- Slow going Mid Taipo Hut to Dillon Hut. 3-4hrs.
- A slip has wiped out the steep section of track over the bluff to the Taipo 3-wire bridge on the true left. This extremely steep section is suitable for highly experienced users only.

#### THREE PASSES ROUTE

- Permanent snow / ice on Whitehorn ice-field. Good alpine experience / equipment (ice-axe/crampons) required.
- The Styx Valley Track has numerous slips. Approximately 20 minutes from the Styx car park the river has cut into a vertical cliff. Be possibly prepared to cross the river below and above this cutting. If the river is high, or if parties are not confident with river crossings, use the Arahura Valley Track instead.

**FIRE SEASON in SELWYN: RESTRICTED**



Stop the spread of didymo and other freshwater pests

**DOC HOTline**  
**0800 362 468**

Report any safety hazards or conservation emergencies  
For fire and search and rescue call 111

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Arthur's Pass National Park Visitor Centre • Hours: Winter 8.00am-5.00pm  
Phone 03 318 9211 • SH73 Arthur's Pass • [arthurspassvc@doc.govt.nz](mailto:arthurspassvc@doc.govt.nz)

[www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)

[newzealand.govt.nz](http://newzealand.govt.nz)

**Department of Conservation**  
*Te Papa Atawhai*