



- [Join Our Newsletter](#)

[Sign in or register for your free account](#)

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
 - [Local News](#)
 - [B.C.](#)
 - [National](#)
 - [World](#)
 - [Business Wire](#)
 - [National Business](#)
 - [Real Estate](#)
 - [TC Open](#)
 - [Local Sports](#)
 - [National Sports](#)
 - [World Cup 2026](#)
 - [Animal Stories](#)
- [Opinion](#)
 - [Opinion](#)
 - [Letters](#)
 - [Submit a Letter](#)
 - [Blogs](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Life & Arts](#)
 - [Life](#)
 - [Entertainment](#)
 - [Food and Drink](#)
 - [The Mix](#)
 - [Driving](#)
- [Features](#)
 - [Islander](#)
 - [Travel](#)
 - [Homes](#)
 - [Sponsored](#)
 - [Go Vancouver Island](#)
 - [Charities](#)
 - [Contests](#)
 - [Crossword](#)
 - [Local Events](#)
 - [Special Sections](#)
 - [GuidedBy](#)
 - [Spotlights](#)
 - [Gas Prices](#)
- [Properties](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
 - [Classifieds](#)
 - [Place an Ad](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Connect](#)
 - [Contact Us](#)
 - [Daily Headlines Email](#)
 - [Subscribe](#)
- [E-Edition](#)

Search Type

☒ Site ☐ Listings

Search

search site

[Join our Newsletter](#)

1. [Home](#)
2. [Local News](#)

Juan de Fuca trail third busiest in B.C. for search-and-rescue calls

The top reasons for initiating a call for help.



[Roxanne Egan-Elliott](#)

May 20, 2023 4:30 AM

- [Share by Email](#)
- [Share on Facebook](#)
- [Share on X](#)
- [Share on LinkedIn](#)
- [Print](#)
- [Share via Text Message](#)



[Previous](#) [Next](#)

1 / 1 A tent platform at Mystic Beach on the Juan de Fuca Marine Trail. MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT / B.C. PARKS Advertisement

[Expand](#)

[Listen to this article](#)

00:03:02

Hikers on the Juan de Fuca trail made 13 calls to search and rescue last year, making it the third busiest trail in the province.

The Cape Scott trail took the 10th spot on the B.C. Search and Rescue Association's list, with five calls.

With warm summer weather coming early this year, the association is highlighting the need to be prepared as hikers hit the trails.

The top three reasons for initiating a call last year were because hikers were lost with no map or navigation device, poor footwear or footing leading to a slip, and being unaware of a trail's difficulty, said Sandra Riches, executive director of B.C. AdventureSmart, a program aimed at reducing the number and severity of search and rescue calls.

Of 504 hiking-related calls last year, 271 could have been prevented by wearing appropriate hiking boots, learning how to read a map and researching a trail to be mindful of its difficulty, she said.

A video created by the B.C. Search and Rescue Association calls the Juan de Fuca trail an "advanced" 47-kilometre trail that takes about three to five days and is most popular in May to October when the weather and trail conditions are best.

Hikers will "almost certainly" encounter fog, rain and mud year round, but the trail is hit with "particularly severe weather" during winter and shoulder seasons, the video says.

It stresses the need for dry bags to keep clothes and sleeping bags dry in wet weather.

For years, the trail didn't have cellphone coverage, but the installation of seven new cell towers this spring between Sooke and Port Renfrew brought a signal to the trail, making calls for help easier.

B.C. AdventureSmart is hosting a series of summer safety [webinars](#) running until Aug. 3. Topics include risk mitigation in outdoor adventures presented by an emergency physician, canine safety and first aid in the backcountry, and preparation for outdoor adventures.

Paul Berry, search manager at Comox Valley Search and Rescue, said crews have been busier as the weather warms.

While the high temperatures are melting the snow pack, snow shoes are still required for travel in the alpine, as the snow pack remains substantial, he said.

At midday and later in the day, travel through the soft snow is very difficult, Berry said.

Lower elevations are relatively snow free for hiking, he said.

Normally, as it warms, the snow pack stabilizes and avalanche risk decreases, but hikers still need to be cautious about travelling in areas that could be avalanche terrain, Berry said.

- You can learn more about how to get outdoors safely at [adventuresmart.ca](#).

regan-elliott@timescolonist.com

>>> To comment on this article, write a letter to the editor: [letters@timescolonist.com](#)

-
- [See a typo/mistake?](#)
 - [Have a story/tip?](#)
-

This has been shared 0 times

- 0 Shares
 - [Share by Email](#)
 - [Share on Facebook](#)
 - [Share on X](#)
 - [Share on LinkedIn](#)
 - [Print](#)
 - [Share via Text Message](#)
-

Get your daily Victoria news briefing

Email 

More Local News

[Point Ellice House historic site in Victoria to close](#)
[Aug 5, 2026 4:45 AM](#)

[VicPD release image of man after 'possible hate-motivated' graffiti](#)
[Aug 4, 2026 2:42 PM](#)

[‘Devastation’: About 230 homes destroyed by wildfire tearing through Okanagan](#)
[Aug 4, 2026 2:25 PM](#)

- [News](#)
 - [Local News](#)
 - [B.C.](#)
 - [National](#)
 - [World](#)
 - [Business Wire](#)
 - [National Business](#)
 - [Real Estate](#)
 - [TC Open](#)
 - [Local Sports](#)
 - [National Sports](#)
 - [World Cup 2026](#)
 - [Animal Stories](#)
- [Opinion](#)
 - [Opinion](#)
 - [Letters](#)
 - [Submit a Letter](#)
 - [Blogs](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Life & Arts](#)
 - [Life](#)
 - [Entertainment](#)
 - [Food and Drink](#)
 - [The Mix](#)
 - [Driving](#)
- Features
 - [Islander](#)
 - [Travel](#)
 - [Homes](#)
 - [Sponsored](#)
 - [Go Vancouver Island](#)
 - [Charities](#)
 - [Contests](#)
 - [Crossword](#)
 - [Local Events](#)
 - [Special Sections](#)
 - [GuidedBy](#)

- [Spotlights](#)
- [Gas Prices](#)
- [Properties](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
 - [Classifieds](#)
 - [Place an Ad](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Connect](#)
 - [Contact Us](#)
 - [Daily Headlines Email](#)
 - [Subscribe](#)
- [E-Edition](#)

About

- [Contact](#)
- [Subscribe](#)
- [About](#)
- [Advertise](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Terms and Conditions](#)
- [Daily Colonist 1858-1980](#)
- [Victoria Daily Times 1884-1940](#)
- [Political Ads Registry](#)
- [Sponsorships](#)

Visit our network of sites:

- [Bowen Island Undercurrent](#)
- [Business in Vancouver](#)
- [Castanet](#)
- [Coast Reporter](#)
- [Delta Optimist](#)
- [North Shore News](#)
- [Pique Newsmagazine](#)
- [REW.ca](#)
- [Richmond News](#)
- [Squamish Chief](#)
- [Times Colonist](#)
- [Vancouver is Awesome](#)
- [Western Investor](#)
- [Airdrie City View/Rocky View Weekly](#)
- [Cochrane Eagle](#)
- [Lakeland Today](#)
- [Rocky Mountain Outlook](#)
- [St. Albert Gazette](#)
- [The Albertan](#)
- [Town and Country Today](#)
- [Western Wheel](#)