



INFORMATION UPDATE

Sunday, April 21

On Saturday, April 20th, at approximately 1:00pm, an avalanche occurred involving a party of three on Des Poilus Glacier on the Wapta Icefield in Yoho National Park. Parks Canada immediately responded with assistance from multiple agencies.

One male patient was transferred by STARS Air Ambulance and passed away on Sunday, April 20, 2019. Parks Canada extends our deepest condolences to his family and friends. The other two individuals in the party were not injured.

We would like to express our gratitude to the first responders and all assisting agencies for their swift response, including Alpine Helicopters, Banff EMS, Visitor Safety Specialists, Lake Louise Fire, BC Ambulance and STARS Air Ambulance.

This incident is not related to the avalanche on Howse Peak in Banff National Park.

The avalanche danger rating for Saturday, April 20 was variable. Spring avalanche conditions can range from high to low and are dependent on aspect, weather and location. Based on current conditions, Parks Canada encourages visitors to consult the Avalanche Forecast diligently: <http://avalanche.pc.gc.ca>

Visitor safety is a top priority for Parks Canada and we work closely with other organizations to ensure that backcountry users receive the most up-to-date information on avalanche conditions so that they can make informed decisions.

For further information please contact the RCMP.