



Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail conditions as of June 2009

To access the Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail from Port Alberni, head towards the west coast on Highway 4. At Sutton Pass, turn right (north) on to a rough logging road that heads upstream in the Upper Kennedy River Valley. At about three kilometers from the highway, the road has been cut by a small stream and you will need to park your vehicle here and cross the small stream on a simple footbridge. The old logging road, though level is quite rough in places, so small cars may need to park closer to the highway. Hike north along this logging road, crossing over the Upper Kennedy at about kilometer four. Continue hiking to the end of the logging road at kilometer 7. Here the Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail begins in a clearcut logged in 1992 on the uphill side of the road and proceeds to enter the oldgrowth forest of the Upper Kennedy Valley.

The Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail was originally constructed in 1993. Last year, (2008) a team of volunteers under the guidance of the Wilderness Committee built a foot bridge over the small stream that cuts the Upper Kennedy Logging Road, decommissioned some board walk on the trail that had become unsafe, sawed through logs that blocked the trail, and cleared away the undergrowth to Solstice Lakes, which sit at the pass between the Upper Kennedy River and the Clayoquot River Valley.

From the trail head at the end of the Upper Kennedy Logging Road it takes about four hours to travel the 5 kilometres with about 280 metres elevation gain to Solstice Lakes.

This August 2009, Wilderness Committee volunteers will clear the bush away from the Clayoquot Witness Trail from Solstice Lakes to Norgar Lake.