

Central BC Nature Viewing Region

Chilcotin Area

Farwell Canyon, Riske Creek

A deep canyon carved by the Chilcotin River, with views at top and bottom.

[Williams Lake Field Naturalists](#)

Photo Gallery

Geographical Description

Chilcotin Plateau

Area/ Trail Length

Seasons to Visit

Birding and botanising between April and September.

Habitat

Lodgepole pine/Douglas-fir forests, riparian, grassland, dunes

Viewing Highlights

A steep trail leads through grassland at the top of the canyon down to the river; good for grassland birds and plants.

Farwell Canyon Road descends spectacular switchbacks to the river then back up the other side.

Good place to see geological, glacial and erosional landforms, especially hoodoos and the largest sand dunes in BC.

First Nations pictographs are present .

Bighorn sheep are commonly seen here.

Other Features

Main Access

From the hamlet of Riske Creek on Highway 20, top of canyon is 20 km south on Farwell Canyon-Gang Ranch Road (2000 Road); bottom of canyon is 1 km further.

Secondary Accesses

Cautions	Be aware of bears and cougars, especially in late summer and autumn. Cactus is common; sandals or open footwear not recommended. This location can reach 40 degrees in summer; be prepared for extreme heat. Gravel roads may be very slippery in wet weather. Watch for logging trucks and give way to them. This is a remote area with few services. No mobile phone service in this area. Please respect all private land and property.
Jurisdiction	Crown and private land.
Regulations	No camping or fires .
Facilities	None. Basic services in Hanceville, 43 km west of Riske Creek. All services in Williams Lake, 48 km east of Riske Creek.
Other Recreational Activities	Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing.
Other Connections	Junction Sheep Range Provincial Park is located several km to the southeast but access is only by a rough 4x4 road through private property and there are no visitor facilities there. Historic Gang Ranch is 52 km further south from the canyon on good gravel roads (slippery when wet). From there a further 55 km to 100 Mile House or 105 km to Clinton.

History

FMI Links

[BC Parks](#)
[Wildlife Viewing in Cariboo Region](#)