

# **Potential trail routing and campsite locations in the Gavin Lake area, Central Interior of British Columbia**

Darryl Triebner

2013

Like many rural areas of the central interior, there are endless recreational opportunities available both on public land and within parks and protected areas. In the Likely – Horsefly – Big Lake Ranch area, conditions for world-class wilderness tourism exist including large, fjord-lakes, stands of old-growth alpine and sub-alpine mountain ranges, pristine lakes and rivers and healthy populations of wild Grizzly and black bear, wolves, caribou, deer, cougar, moose and

BC Ministry of Forests sets out recreational trail construction, design and usage standards for trails and recreational activities that are contained within crown (public) lands. These standards pertain specifically to many components of trail design including aesthetics, functionality and drainage requirements. The spatial analysis within

## *Section 10.4.1 Preparation for Trail Construction*

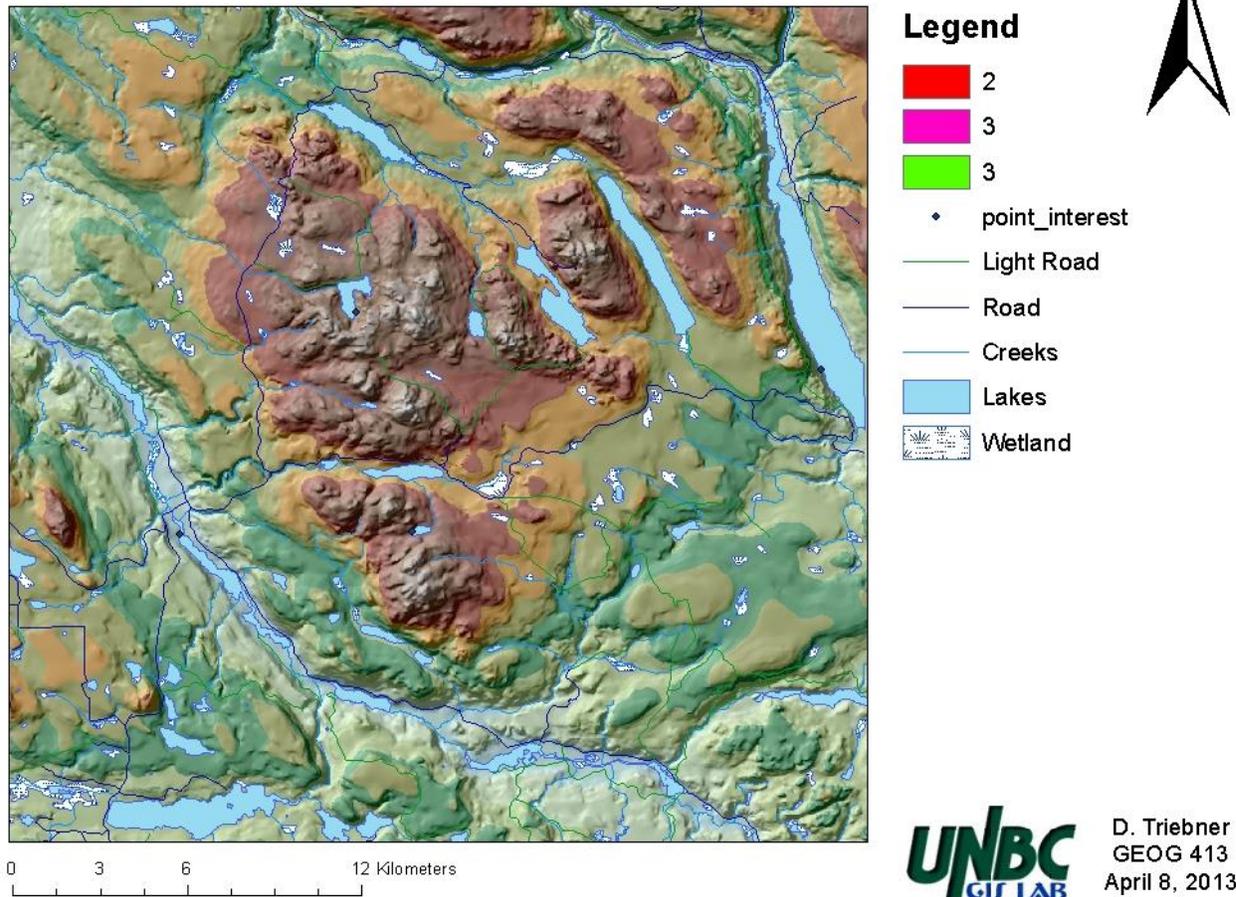
Type I and II trails will be in front country and high-use areas where aesthetics and user impacts require the use of prepared building materials, such as dimensional lumber and gravel, and the likely use of machinery.

Type III and IV trails generally have lower levels of use and attracts more experienced users in a back country setting and, therefore, they:

- have an aesthetic value associated with natural materials;
- need trail crews able to make on-site decisions about construction techniques and use of on-site materials; and
- need to blend into the natural setting, except where required for safety or structural integrity.

To select the criteria on the trail location, we can think sensibly about where a trail user would want a trail to go. The Least Cost Path tool allows us to calculate the best route between two points. From Gavin Lake to Fire Lake, from Gavin Lake to Quesnel Lake, from Quesnel Lake to Beaver Valley and from Gavin Lake to Jacobie Lake were analyzed.

### Trail Suitability near Gavin Lake, Central Interior British Columbia



Criteria: Trail standards

- 250 metres from rivers, lakes, streams and wetlands
- 250 metres from roads
- Relatively flat ( $\leq 5$  degrees)

Hydrology tools were used. Fill, flow direction and flow accumulation. Followed by slope analysis to choose a relatively flat and smooth trail route.