

BARBOUR FALLS AND NESBITT'S KNEE FALLS TRAILS

These two waterfalls are accessed via short hiking trails, and provide interesting diversions on the way to or from Kinuseo Falls and Monkman Provincial Park.

Directions to the Trailheads

To reach them, take the road from Tumbler Ridge to Kinuseo Falls – turn to the right off the Boundary Road 14 km from Tumbler Ridge. This is the start of the Murray River Forest Service Road. The end of the pavement is reached at km 3.9, as the road passes the Quintette coal mine. The road crosses the Murray River and heads up the valley. At kilometer 21.5 there is a signed turnoff to the left, near a natural gas plant. Take this road, which crosses the Murray River after 500 meters and forks after another 500 meters. The right road leads to Barbour Falls, and the left road leads to Nesbitt's Knee Falls.

BARBOUR FALLS

The trailhead for Barbour Falls is 2.3 km from this fork, where there is a parking lot on the left side of the road, soon after the road crosses the bridge over Barbour Creek. This parking lot was built for WNMS in 2006 by Hillsborough Resources, a coal mining company active in the area.

The 800 meter long trail is mostly flat, leading through forest and across a small creek until it reaches a viewpoint just downstream from the falls. A side trail along the way leads to the creek level (use caution at the shore since you are above the falls!) Here Barbour Creek plummets into a large pool after forcing its way through a gap in a resistant layer of bedrock. In spring a number of smaller falls also drop into Barbour Canyon near this point.

Caution: Drop-offs are steep and there are no barricades. It is a very steep scramble down to the creek level, and not generally recommended.

In winter it is sometimes possible to ski up the spectacular Barbour Canyon to near the base of the falls.

Harry Barbour served as a forest ranger in the area for over 25 years.

NESBITT'S KNEE FALLS

The trailhead for Nesbitt's Knee Falls is 3.6 km from the fork mentioned above. 1.5 km along this road there is a bridge across Barbour Creek (this is the start of the Barbour Falls ski trip). After 3.5 km Waterfall Creek is crossed, and the parking lot is 100 meters further on the right. It too was constructed by Hillsborough Resources in 2006.

The trail is under 1.5 km long. It climbs for the first 50 meters, gaining a ridge, then becomes mostly flat, leading along the edge of the valley through pine forest. After a few hundred meters the first views of the falls and canyon are obtained. The views are most impressive in spring, when the falls are at their most powerful and the leaves are not yet on the aspen. A bench with a full view of the falls provides a good spot to rest and take photos.

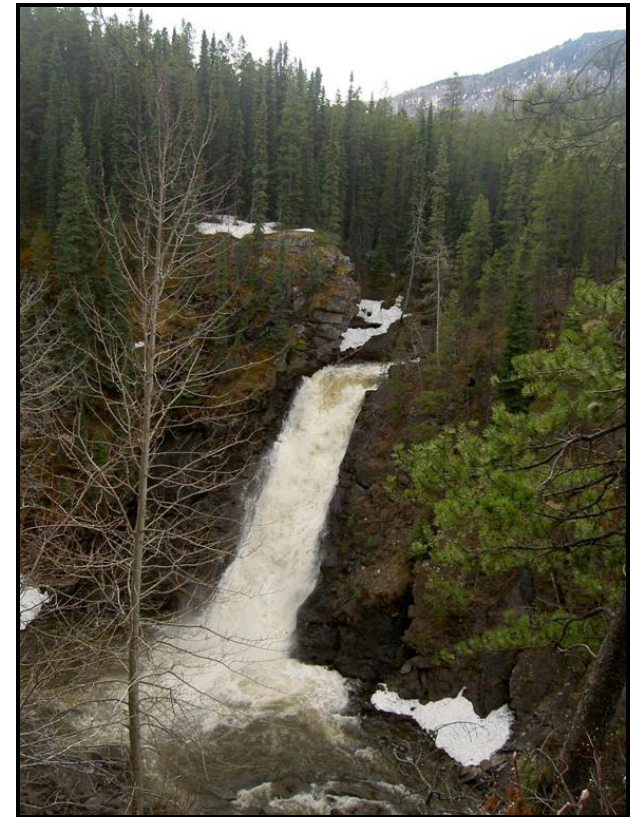
Once you reach the cliff, it is possible to scramble steeply down beside it to the base of the falls. But be aware that the rocks are slippery, the water is bracingly cold, and the pool is only waist deep. The trail continues a few hundred meters further, briefly joining an old exploration road, then ending at a pleasant spot beside the creek above the falls.

Caution: Getting carried off by the waters of the creek here will lead you into a chute and then over the falls. Views of the canyon are airy. There are no barricades above enormous drop-offs.

To ski up to the falls in winter just follow the creek from the bridge near the parking lot.

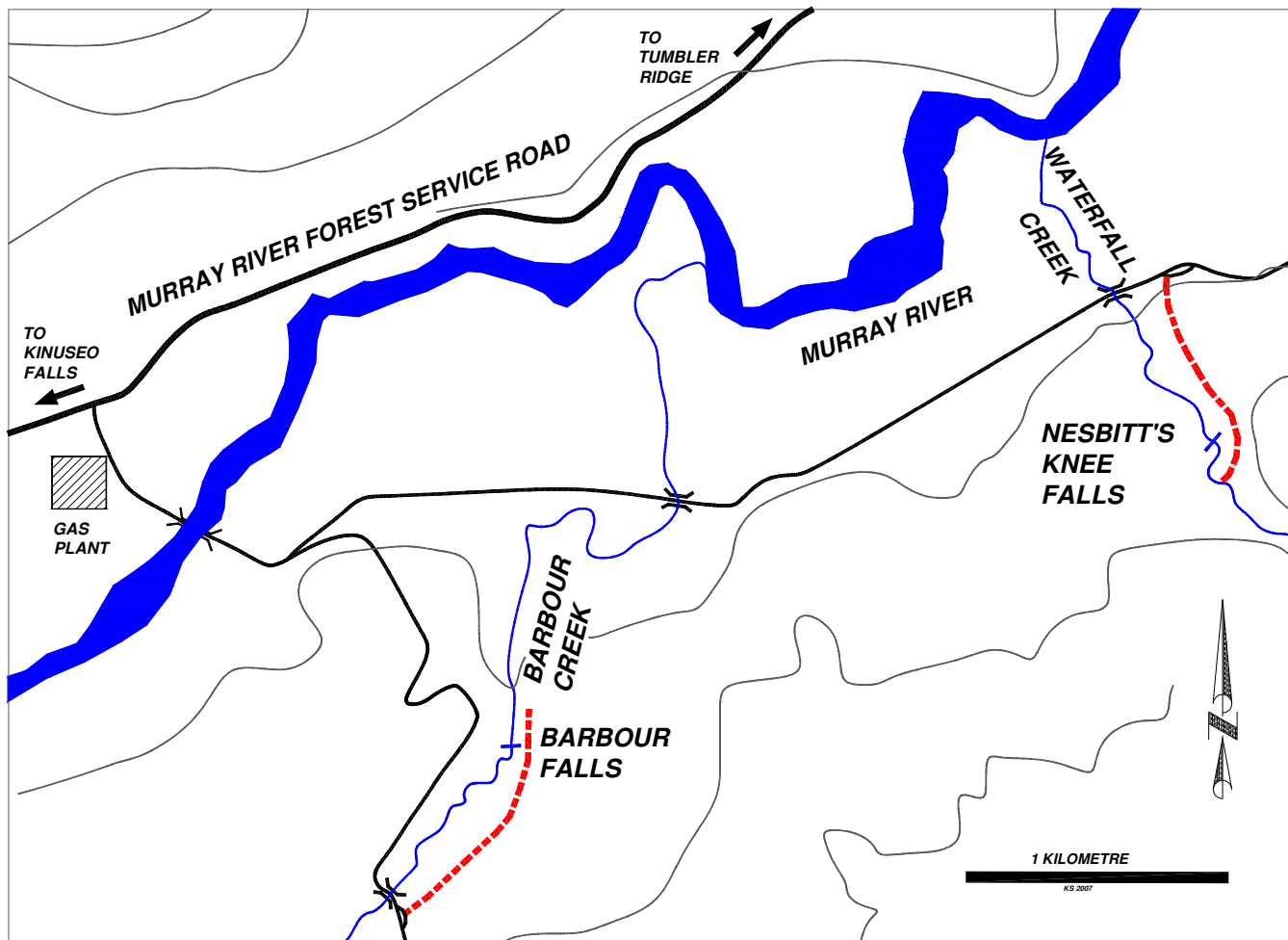
Don Nesbitt is a legendary local resident.

Barbour Falls and Nesbitt's Knee Falls Trails



*TUMBLER RIDGE... ACCESSIBLE
ADVENTURE*





BARBOUR FALLS AND NESBITT'S KNEE FALLS

- **THESE ROUTES ARE IN BEAR COUNTRY; TRAVEL IN GROUPS AND MAKE NOISE**
- **PLEASE PACK OUT WHAT YOU PACKED IN**

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Photo Gallery website:
www.pris.bc.ca/wnms

Tumbler Ridge Visitor Centre

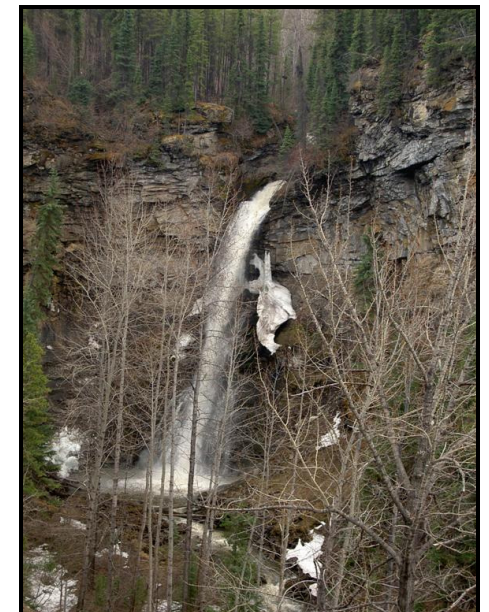
(250) 242-3123

Tourism website:
www.visittumbleridge.ca

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Nesbitt's Knee Falls