

Project Yodel



Introduction

Project Yodel is a user-friendly on-line application that shows events from the past 15+ years of the C.O.R.E. Society's existence. The application has powerful functionality, allowing users to find events by location, region, date, and coordinator. Additionally, it also shows graphs on statistics about club events and coordinators.

A Self-Paced Tour for You

If you're not there already, go to "Activities | Trip Database " menu item of CORE's web page:

http://corehike.org/?page_id=211# It's a "members-only" feature on the web page, so you might be prompted for the password given to you upon joining CORE or renewal of your membership. (You'll likely be prompted only once per browsing session.)

Click on the "Project Yodel" button. It opens up the user-interface in a separate browser tab.

You'll see the "login" screen. Don't confuse this with the "regular" login/password given to you. In fact, for most CORE users, **just click on the "Login as Guest" link.**

Login

Username (Admin Only):

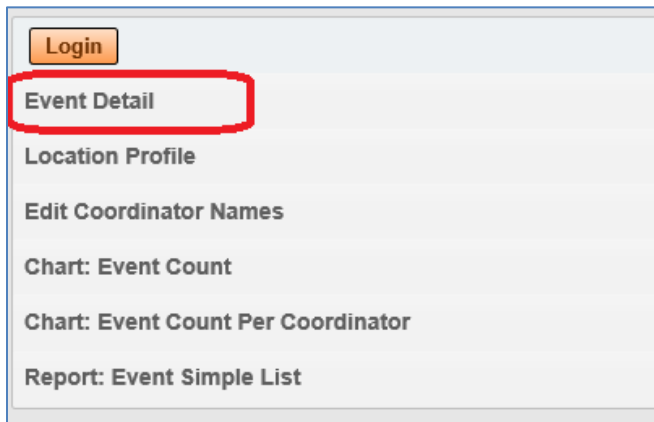
Password:

Remember Password: ☐

 *Regular users click here (Ignore entry blanks above as they're for admin only)*

[Click Here to Login as "Read-Only" User \(Normal Usage\)](#)

You'll see a vertical Main Menu. Disregard the "Login" button at the top if it appears; it just serves the same purpose as the login screen you saw just previously.



Click on "Event Detail" for this tutorial; we'll explore some of the other menu items later.

Event Detail

As the name suggests, this shows a list of all of the event details from the past – at least, events that were submitted in event reports by event coordinators (i.e. you won't see dining or theatre events in this list!). By default, events are shown in order of Start Date. See the sample below; note that the coordinator names have been substituted with fictitious ones, for the sake of privacy (although only CORE members have access to Project Yodel anyway).

You'll see tabs at the top labelled "Location Profile", "Edit Coordinator Names", etc. They might already sound familiar—because those were also the menu items in the Main Menu, discussed previously. This will allow you to hop to a different feature of Project Yodel quickly. For now, we'll first concentrate on the "Event Detail" feature.

Login

Advanced search

Event Detail

Location Profile

Edit Coordinator Names

Chart: Event Count

Chart: Event Count Per Coordinator

Report: Event Simple List

Q

H

A

Details found: 1629

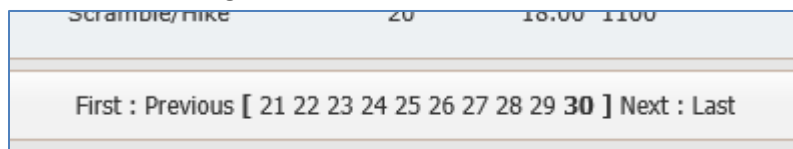
Page 30 of 33

Records Per Page: 50

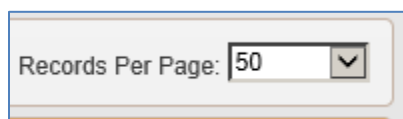
Start Date	End Date	Location ID	Coordinator ID	Sub Coordinator ID	Event Type ID	Num Participants	Actual Distance km	Actual Elevation Gain	Round Trip Foot Time	Comments	Additional Comments
(fictitious names used for anonymity)											
3/11/2012		Sandy McIabie X-C ski trails	Seinfeld	Costanza	Snowshoe	9	10.00		5.00	Long Prairie Creek - Pine Ridge. Views of city skyline from Pine Ridge. Patchy. More...	
3/14/2012		Room Lake	Kramer		Snowshoe	4	11.00	175	4.00	Route followed creek rather than trail to lake. Route is quite open, esp. the 3 More...	
3/24/2012		Penstock Loop	Costanza		Snowshoe	9	8.00	420	3.00	Cumulative elevation gain. Packed trail. 30 cm fresh snow.	
3/28/2012		James Walker Creek	Bones	Kramer	Snowshoe	4	7.00		4.00	> 1 meter snow depth. Exploratory. Off-trail from James Walker Creek trail to More...	
4/1/2012		Elkwood Loop	Newman		Snowshoe	8	10.00	100	3.00	beatful day - did 2 trails - one in morning - one in afternoon - lunch at info ce More...	
4/5/2012		Calgary - general	Ross		Urban Hike	9	5.00	0	4.00	Art walk. Great - Spoken Word event was really fun.	
4/8/2012		Goat Creek	Pitt		Snowshoe	8	14.00	50	6.00	Goat Creek to Goat Pond. An often open valley, picnic tables / firepit (probably More...	
4/15/2012		Calgary: Glenmore Reservoir Pathway (Perimeter)	Davola		Bicycling	5	30.00		3.00	West end of Fish Creek	
4/22/2012		Calgary: WACy	Costanza	Ross	Urban Hike	11	13.00		3.00	Side trip to Britannia Mall for coffee/washroom break was worthwhile.	WACy #13 - Heritage Park to Erilon
		Calgary: Bridgeland / Bow								Public walk led by a local celebrity; slow, with	

Some of the less obvious aspects about the “Event Detail” feature:

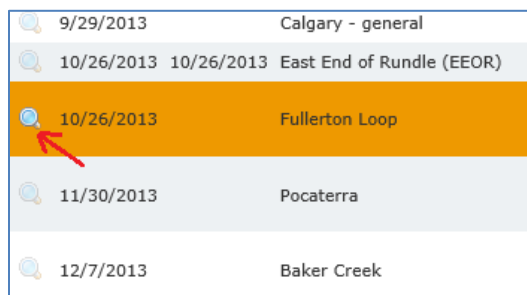
- At the bottom of your browser page is the list of page numbers, for changing pages. Click on a page number to immediately hop page. **Note!** Unlike in other user-interfaces, the “Previous” and “Next” links mean, respectively, “Previous 10 Pages” and “Next 10 Pages”. Similarly, “First” means “First 10 Pages” and “Last” means “Last 10 Pages”



- You can control the number of records shown at one time by using the “Records Per Page Setting” near the upper-right-hand corner of your browser page. e.g. For most screen sizes, setting it to 10 records makes the previously-mentioned page numbers visible “all the time” without having to scroll down to the bottom of the list.



- As you hover your mouse over a record, you’ll see a magnifying glass visible on the left-hand-side. Click on that magnifying glass icon to “View the Record”; i.e. to show the full detail of that event on one screen, including all of the comments. (If you’re on the “View Record” screen, click on the “Back to List” button to return to the Event Details list screen.)



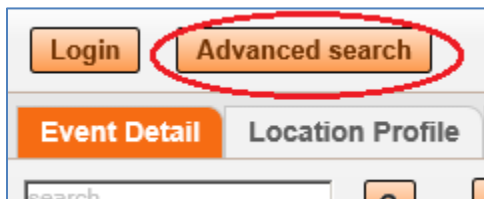
- You can sort by a particular column by clicking on the column header. In this example, clicking on “Actual Distance” sorts the list by that column (In this example, 14 km, then 15 km, etc.). Note: Blanks always appear at the top of the list, so upon first sorting, you may need to hop a few pages before seeing the first non-blank item.

nts	Actual Distance Km ↑	E
5	14.00	454
10	15.00	
8	15.00	unk
10	15.00	
7	15.00	unk

- Also: Clicking on an already-sorted column header a second time forces the opposite sort: a *descending* sort; i.e. starting from the highest, ending with the lowest.
- Although “all” events have a Start Date, an event’s *End* Date is left *blank* unless it’s a multi-day event (e.g. An overnight backpacking trip).

Advanced Search

On the Event List screen, the “Advanced Search” button enables you to show just the event detail you’re interested in. Despite the name “*Advanced* Search”, it’s actually easy to use. In fact, it usually makes the event list more manageable than having to browse through several events, page-by-page.



Clicking on the “Advanced Search” button gives you a screen like the image below. Here’s where you can specify your criteria, to narrow down the Event List to show what you actually need. For example, suppose you just want to view only the events for event location “Ribbon Creek / Falls”. Just select that location name from the drop-down box (hint: Press “R” on your keyboard to hop immediately to the locations starting with “R”), to get the following search criteria:

Event Detail - Advanced search

Criteria: ☒ All conditions ☐ Any condition

NOT

Start Date ☐ Equals

End Date ☐ Equals

Location ID ☐ Equals

Coordinator ID ☐ Equals

Sub Coordinator ID ☐ Equals

Event Type ID ☐ Equals

Num Participants ☐ Contains

Actual Distance Km ☐ Contains

Actual Elevation Gain ☐ Contains

Round Trip Foot Time ☐ Contains

Comments ☐ Contains

Additional Comments ☐ Contains

Search **Reset** **Back to list**

(By the way, about the hint mentioned above about pressing “R” in the drop-down list to immediately show those locations starting with “R”: That demonstrates a standard “shortcut” for all drop-down lists like these (not just Project Yodel, but other web-based applications as well!))

Then click the “Search” button (*not* on “Back to List”, which merely behaves like a “Cancel” button). Clicking on “Search” returns to the “Event Details” screen, but the detail is now limited only to “Ribbon Creek/Falls” for a location ID.

	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>	<u>Location ID</u>	<u>Coordinator ID</u>	<u>Sub Coordinator ID</u>	<u>Event Type ID</u>	<u>Num Participants</u>
	5/15/2005		Ribbon Creek / Falls	Dick Tracy		Hike	
	11/12/2006		Ribbon Creek / Falls	Snoopy	Woodstock	Hike	11
	10/31/2007		Ribbon Creek / Falls	Calvin	Hobbes	Unknown	9
	2/10/2002		Ribbon Creek / Falls	L'il Abner	Daisy Mae	XC-Ski	5
	1/4/2009		Ribbon Creek / Falls	Zonker		XC-Ski	9
	2/12/2011		Ribbon Creek / Falls	Blondie	Dagwood	XC-Ski	5
	7/7/2000		Ribbon Creek / Falls	Garfield		Hike	5
			Ribbon				

Click on the “Advanced Search” button again to further refine your criteria.

Let’s make our search more interesting and practical. Suppose that you’re looking for hike coordination ideas, and want to view:

- Only the hiking events.
- The hikes that took place between May 1, 2012 and April 30, 2013.
- Hikes having distance less than 10 km.
- Hikes that were *not* at Smuts Pass. (Only because you didn’t want to hike in something with a name like “Smuts Pass”!)

Thus you would change the Advanced Search screen to appear like this:

Event Detail - Advanced search

Criteria: ☒ All conditions ☐ Any condition

NOT

Start Date ☐ **Between** May 1 2012 April 30 2013

End Date ☒ ~~Isn't part of "between" clause!~~ Equals

Location ID ☒ **Equals** Smuts Pass

Coordinator ID ☐ Equals Please select

Sub Coordinator ID ☐ Equals Please select

Event Type ID ☐ Equals Hike

Num Participants ☐ Contains

Actual Distance Km ☐ **Less than** 10

Actual Elevation Gain ☐ Contains

Round Trip Foot Time ☐ Contains

Comments ☐ Contains

Additional Comments ☐ Contains

Search Reset Back to list

Notice that for Start Date, the “Between” setting changes the Advanced Search screen to include another date: The “thru” date for your criteria. So that part of your criteria shows “Start Dates between May 1, 2012, and April 30, 2012.

Note!! *Don’t assume the “End Date” label on this screen means the “end date of your ‘between’ criteria”. That “End Date” label instead corresponds to the “End Date” column in the Event Details list – and is mostly blank (except for actual muti-day events). Actually, chances are that you’ll rarely use “End Date” as a criteria (thus it’s crossed out in the illustration); but you’ll likely use “Start Date” with a “Between” clause often.*

The rest of the criteria reads “Location is not ‘Smuts Pass’; Event Type is ‘Hike’; and Actual Distance is less than 10 km”. Most of this is intuitive, although note how the “Not” checkbox negates the “Equals” criteria type for location.

Click on “Search”. The Event Detail screen re-appears, but showing only the events that match the criteria you’ve set.

Location Profile

Let’s go to the second part of Project Yodel now... click on the “Location Profile” tab. As the name implies, this shows all the different locations that are tracked in the trip database, and includes the locations’ zones, distance from Calgary, approximate elevation gain, etc. The interface is mostly similar to the “Event Detail” list, including the page numbers at the bottom, the “Advanced search” button, etc.

Location Name	Location Description	Est. Distance According to Guidebooks	Zone No	Est. Elevation Gain	CORP-dist City Trailhead	Dist From City by Estm	Location Notes
Event Detail (5) Hamilton Lake			Yoho Nat'l Park B.C.				
Event Detail (1) Hawk Creek / Ball Pass			Kootenay Nat'l Park				
Event Detail Hawkridge Centre	South of Calgary near Spruce Meadows		Calgary (and local area)				
Event Detail (4) Headwall Lakes	Headwall Lakes hike (X-country)	14.00	Kinaka: Peter Lougheed Prov. Pk.	450			
Event Detail (4) Healy Pass	Sunshine area near Banff		Banff Nat'l Park			135	
Event Detail (1) Healy Pass / Egypt Lake	Sunshine area near Banff		Banff Nat'l Park			135	
Event Detail (3) Healy Pass / Simpson Pass / Sunshine	Sunshine area near Banff		Banff Nat'l Park			128	
Event Detail (2) Heart Creek	Hwy 1 near Deadman Flats		Bow Valley Prov. Pk / Exshaw area			75	
Event Detail (9) Heart Mountain Loop	Hwy 1 near Deadman Flats	11.00	Bow Valley Prov. Pk / Exshaw area	930		85	
Event Detail (5) Helen Lake / Cirque Peak / Dolomite Pass	Icefields Parkway, near Bow Lake		Banff Nat'l Park				

What’s different about this screen is in the leftmost column: Special “drill-down” Event Detail links (this is how the data is “tied” to the Event Detail screen, so to speak). Clicking on one of those “Event Detail” links shows you all the event details on record, for that particular location:

Start Date	End Date	Location ID	Coordinator ID	Sub Coordinator ID	Event Type ID	Num Participants	Actual Distance Km	Actual Elevation Gain	Round Trip Foot Time	Comments
8/18/2001		Healy Pass	Lennon	Ono	Hike	6	18.00		0.00	
7/30/2005		Healy Pass	McCartney		Hike					
8/4/2008		Healy Pass	Starr		Hike	8	19.00	655	7.00	It was still too early for wildflowers this year (normally late July is best) Mo More ...
10/9/2010		Healy Pass	Harrison		Hike	10	19.00	655	7.00	

The data shown is a miniature “Event Detail” screen, but just for that location you chose, and “embedded” within the location profile screen. There’s even an additional link to “Proceed to Event Detail”, which just shows the already-covered Event Detail screen but just for the chosen location. Or, to close off the embedded list, just click on the Event Detail (...) link again.

From the above, we see another way of using Project Yodel: Obviously, if you're interested in data for a particular location, you can choose the "Location Profile" screen first, find the location(s) you're interested in, then "drill down" for more details using the location's "Event Detail" hyperlink.

By the way, the "Advanced Search" button for the Location Profile screen works the same way as it did for Event Detail—but with the "Location Profile" columns instead. For example, you can view all the locations within the "Kananaskis – Peter Lougheed Provincial Park":

Location Profile - Advanced search

Criteria: ☒ All conditions ☐ Any condition

NOT

Zone Name	☐	Contains	
Zone No	☐	Equals	Knnks: Peter Lougheed Prov Pk
Location Name	☐	Contains	
Locale Description	☐	Contains	
Est Distance According Guidebooks	☐	Contains	
Est Elevation Gain	☐	Contains	
COREdist City Trailhead	☐	Contains	
Dist From City Is Estim	☐	Contains	
Location Notes	☐	Contains	

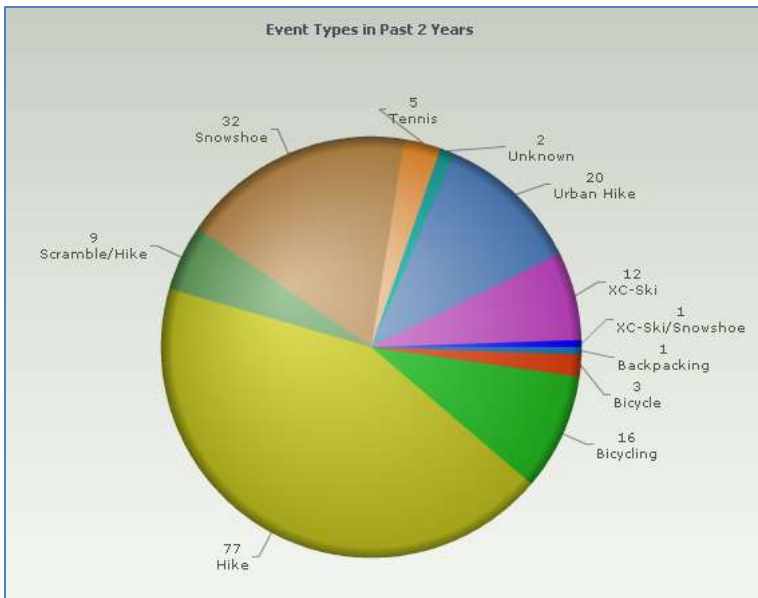
Search **Reset** **Back to list**

Remember again to click on the "Search" button when you've specified your criteria -- the "Back to list" button acts like a "Cancel" button.

Graphs

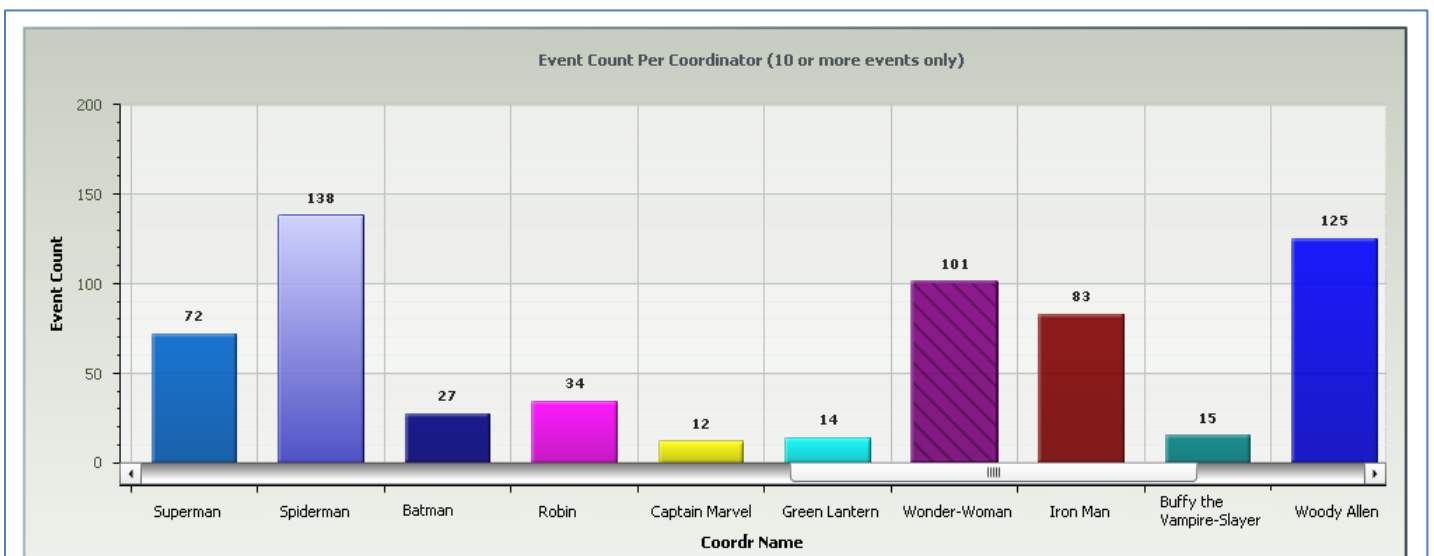
Project Yodel also shows graphical views for a better birds-eye-view of events.

For example, the "Chart: Event Count" shows a pie-chart of the event distribution for the most recent two years.



Here we obviously see that hikes comprise almost half of our events, with snowshoe events making up almost a quarter. The numbers shown are the counts of events for the past 2 years (e.g. 77 Hikes). Less obvious is the mouse-hovering ability: Hover a mouse over a slice shows additional detail (e.g. “XC-Ski”, Cross-Country skiing, makes up 7% according to the mouse-pointer as you hover over the event).

Also, the bar-graph “Chart: Event Count per Coordinator” shows, for each event coordinator, the number of events (s)he has coordinated. Only those who have coordinated over 10 events are shown, to avoid being overwhelmed.



Now: Your Turn to Improve Project Yodel

Now that you've had a tour of Project Yodel's main features, and how versatile it can be for planning CORE events, you, as the user, can help improve Project Yodel by offering us suggestions for new features and/or improvements to existing features. Or if you're puzzled about particular aspects of the application, feel free to ask us questions as well. It helps to explore all of Project Yodel before offering suggestions, so please explore at least most of the features of the application before making suggestions.

For such questions and suggestions, please drop a line to mpiche@calgaryparrothead.com.

In the meantime, enjoy the wealth of information available to you in Project Yodel! Happy trails...