

Day	Date: Friday, May 8, 2026	Site: H157	Campground: Carson-Pegasus Prov Park
#1	Weather: Sunny, some wind	Temp: 18	Nearby Town: Whitecourt AB

On Wednesday I took Seven in to Morin Auto Repair to diagnose the main slideout problem – it won't open or close. The wiring, switches and relays are all good with power to the motor so the motor is bad. The best they can do is \$900 for a new motor so I will source it myself and do the install.

We loaded up Seven on Thursday and hit the road about noon on Friday as planned. At the Seba Beach corner on Hwy 43, a dually pickup threw a rock into the right side of the windshield. By the time we got to Whitecourt, the crack was about a foot long. Grrr.

We decided on a different site this time – H157 on the top side of the peninsula beside the stairs. We've stayed her often in years gone by and it is a great site unless the wind is blowing from the north-east. We have a nice view of the ice covered lake. It looks solid enough to walk on so I hope we didn't come too early in the season.



Site H157

There are 12 RVs here all waiting for the ice to go out.

We played Scrabble; our first game in a few years. We are rusty. Tess came from behind to win a tough game 288-279.

Day	Date: Saturday, May 9, 2026	Site: H157	Campground: Carson-Pegasus Prov Park
#2	Weather: Sunny	Temp: 15	Nearby Town: Whitecourt AB

I got up at 5:45 to pee and the eastern sky was spectacular. Reds and oranges everywhere. Back to bed until about 8 like the sensible person I am. I took Spike for his morning walk and he met lots of kids and a couple of dogs. There was a young couple from Sussex, England in a rental truck and camper. They are going from here to Jasper, Banff and then back to Calgary. It is their second trip to Alberta in three years.

Since we can't fish because there is no open water, we went into Whitecourt. Tess bought flowers and I bought a ratcheting wrench with no offset to make cranking the slideout in and out easier. Paid for everything at Canadian Tire with points – yay!



Fun With Stickers!

Tonight we had our first fire of what will probably be our last season of RVing. Lots of critters around: Osprey doing their aerial dance, ravens courting, Pelicans, loons, ducks, robins, grey jay, and northern flicker plus the usual assortment of squirrels, chipmunks, and a lake otter.

Scrabble tonight saw me win 281-208 so we are tied.

Day	Date: Sunday, May 10, 2026	Site: H157	Campground: Carson-Pegasus Prov Park
#3	Weather: Cloudy	Temp: 16	Nearby Town: Whitecourt AB

Spike and I got up about 8 and the first thing to do, before my coffee even, is walkies. We met kids and dogs and Spike did his business. The lake looks to have open water on the north shore, opposite us. If the wind shifts, we couple have open water on our side of the lake in a few hours. Even so, the ice looks very thin and slushy now so it may go out tomorrow.

I am sore today. My knees make it very difficult to get back up from all fours when picking up Spike’s poop. And my back prevented me from putting my socks on this morning – the first time in years that’s happened. I may have strained it cranking out the slideout on Friday. The fan in the bedroom roof A/C unit makes enough white noise that Tess can cope with my snoring if she is wearing her earplugs. The furnace keeps things warm despite the low single digit overnight temperatures.

This afternoon Tess went to the casino while Spike and I went for a walk, visited other campers, and worked on the tackle box. Next we had a nice nap and later checked the lake. Still frozen. Tess got home about 6:00. She won a little. Since today is Mother’s Day and she deserves a treat, she had bbq’d steak and lobster for dinner.

With one Scrabble win each this trip tonight was the rubber match. The game ended u in a 288-288 tie so nothing was decided!

Day	Date: Monday, May 11, 2026	Site: H157	Campground: Carson-Pegasus Prov Park
#4	Weather: Sunny	Temp: 17	Nearby Town: Whitecourt AB

This morning the wind shifted, now blowing from the west so the ice is slowly moving away from shore. By 11:00am the ice had vanished except for a small area in a bay on the opposite shore. We got to fishing after lunch. I hooked on immediately but he threw the hook part way in. A few minutes later I hooked another. This was a big fish that I got up to the ledge on the seawall where he shook hard and broke the line. Big fish. I eventually landed a small fish. Tess had better luck with one small one and one big one landed. Still, three fish on ice out day is not too bad.



First Cast of 2026!

There is a wildfire burning out of control south of Hwy 43 just south of Whitecourt and they have evacuated three subdivisions. Hopefully, they can get it under control quickly. We are unaffected and don't even smell smoke so in spite of the fire some 40kms from here, there is no fire ban in place so we had a small campfire before dinner.

After dinner we got back to Scrabble. I won the tie breaker 309-282. Yay for me!

Day	Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026	Site: H157	Campground: Carson-Pegasus Prov Park
#5	Weather: Sunny	Temp: 20	Nearby Town: Whitecourt AB

Happy 77th birthday to Tess!

Spike and I were up at 8:00 as usual and went for our walk. There is a group of 3 RVs full of fishermen near where we camped last trip. Everyone is happy the ice is out. Spike got lots of pats.

By late morning it was time to go fishing again, Brian and Lorrie phoned and sang Tess a happy birthday duet. There were lots of Facebook greetings too. Of course, Mark and Isla called too.

We had been fishing for an hour or so when we had a rare double header with both of us hooking a fish at the same time. We safely landed them both. We wound up with 5 nice 14" fish. Tess plans to eat the two small fish from yesterday so we will still be able to catch 4 more big ones before reaching our combined limit of 10 fish.



Double Header!

We went to the casino for dinner because they give birthday people \$20 off at the restaurant plus a free birthday desert. Dinner was great, gambling not so much. There were no blackjack tables open and I never do well on slots. Even Tess lost a little. On top of that, the last Canadian team in the Stanley Cup playoffs, Montreal, lost to Buffalo so their series is now 2-2.

Home to bed by our bedtime.



Happy Birthday Tess!

Day	Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Site: H157	Campground: Carson-Pegasus Prov Park
#6	Weather: Mostly Sunny	Temp: 18	Nearby Town: Whitecourt AB

I thought we had to leave Friday but the Ranger came around to say the sign is wrong and all sites switch to reservation only on Thursday night so we'll have to leave a day earlier than we had planned. That's OK because the weather is supposed to turn crappy tomorrow with 80kph winds and rain.

After Tess ate those small fish from Monday and we caught our limit of good-sized fish today. We played Scrabble outside while drinking beer and wine beside the campfire. The rain started a little later so Spike and I went inside. Tess got her umbrella and sat by the fire cooking her kubi.



The weather forecast has changed to moderate winds and showers for tomorrow so the drive home should be uneventful.

Day	Date: Thursday, May 14, 2026	Site:	Campground: Carson-Pegasus Prov Park
Epilog	Weather: Showers and windy	Temp: 11	Nearby Town: Whitecourt AB

It rained overnight and today is cool and damp with gusty winds. The new ratcheting wrench I bought the other day made closing the main slideout a relatively painless process – if you can call lying on my back reaching straight up to use the ratchet plus another large wrench for additional leverage painless. Then there is crawling out from underneath and getting back upright. Ouch.

It was raining lightly for most of the drive home which isn't an issue, but the wind was blowing at 60+ kph. Part of the trip it was hitting us from behind. I noticed a significant reduction in our fuel consumption. Then we turned onto Hwy 44 and it was hitting us nearly broadside. I kept it to 80kph and fought the whole way. We eventually arrived home safe and sound.

Day	Date: Day, Date, 2026	Site:	Campground:
7	Weather:	Temp:	Nearby Town: