

New Ice Climbs In SW BC Version 6.1 November 2011

Last Updated November 13, 2011

(more or less in guidebook order)

This is a listing of all new ice routes (excluding alpine climbs) climbed since the publication of *West Coast Ice's* second edition. Info on 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 climbs was compiled primarily by Don Serl and Adrian Burke from reports made on westcoastice.com and cascadeclimbers.com; information on more recent climbs has been compiled by Adrian Burke and Drew Brayshaw. You are welcome to print this info and tuck it into your copy of *West Coast Ice*; it'll be a while before the third edition!

MOUNT SEYMOUR:

Unnamed Routes 25-30m WI3-3+ and mixed.

At least two unnamed half pitch routes were climbed on the east and southeast faces of Pump Peak on Mt Seymour during a protracted spell of good weather in January 2007. One of the routes, on the SE face (Ian Bennett and Robb Priestley) had previously been climbed with rock pro (Andrei Mecl) and featured some mixed climbing, while the other one, on the east face consisted of two short ice pillars linked by a snow ramp (Jordan Peters and Steven Harg). Both routes featured ice formed from prolonged sunshine melting a deep snowpack on the summit above the cliffs, and may not form regularly. Pickets, bollards etc required for top anchors, or dig to find buried trees.

GROUSE MOUNTAIN:

Royal Flush (incomplete) 100m WI4- first two pitches Jordan Peters & Steven Harg spring 2005

This route is on the lower flanks of Crown Mountain rising out of Hanes Creek valley, left of the Crater Couloir, and is approached from the Grouse ski area on snowshoes or skis, contouring over Dam Mtn and dropping down into Crown Pass (avvy hazard) and thence down Hanes Valley to the climb. Jordan and Steve climbed two pitches at WI3 and 3+/4- up the lower gully system, to a widening bowl, before being flushed by incessant spindrift. The headwall above the bowl they reached looks to have several steep, hard pitches up to the shoulder of Crown below the Crater Rim.

SQUAMISH – MURRIN AREA (PET WALL)

An unnamed route (sounds like near the summer line of Czech It Out, which is often wet)

was climbed to give a 15m? WI4?, and the old top anchor replaced. Probably/possibly previously climbed but not reported.

MURRIN AREA (Valley of Shaddai)

Kleptomaniac 45m M6 WI4+/5 R Patrick Delany and Kai Hirvonen; January 14, 2005

A fine mixed climb in the Valley of Shaddai (east of Murrin Park), immediately right of Glenn Payan's summer rock-lines, *Cliptomaniac* and *Just Blessed*. Climbed in 2 pitches, the first 20m M4R: thin ice and chimneying in a vertical slot with no real pro (a knifeblade low down, maybe a short stubbie), to a great rock-pro cave belay behind a dagger. The 25m second pitch features drytooling and handjams in a crack with good rock pro to 2 bolts and the dagger, which is WI4+/5 to the top.

Bull in a China Shop 60m WI4+ Patrick Delany and Kai Hirvonen; January 15, 2005

Directly across the valley from *Kleptomaniac*. Climbed in 3 short pitches: P1 is 25m WI3+/4 to a ledge; P2 is 20m WI4/4+; P3 is a 15m WI3 in the forest above.

SQUAMISH – THE CHIEF:

Upper Black Dyke c.200m 5.10 M6/7 R? Jim Martinello and Damien Kelly Dec 2008

A long eyed problem finally climbed. The first two pitches were entirely rock, and climbed in rock shoes, then the final two pitches consisted of mixed climbing, verglas and thin ice with pro ranging from decent to nonexistent – summer bolts were sometimes buried under ice. Pins, cams and stubbies were all used where possible. Further bolts added to the summer route during 2009 may or may not facilitate repeat ascents.

SQUAMISH RIVER - WEST SIDE:

Great Falls Sip & Dip Lounge 95m WI2 Ken Glover Kelly Franz Dec 09

This is to the right of Echo Magic (Monmouth Creek) and between the two sets of hydro lines and is visible from the Wal-Mart area of town looking west. Canoe across the river and bushwack uphill for an hour or so to the route, which consisted of mostly "thick" ice (13-16cm+). One 70m simulclimb and then a 25m finishing pitch. Two raps down. Old rock anchors on the cliff indicate probable previous summertime activity which may help to locate this climb in the future.

SQUAMISH – SMOKE BLUFFS:

As well as the Smoke Bluffs routes recorded in the guide, there are:

A couple Grade 2/2+ routes and smears in the Bughouse Heights area on route to the stairs and *Pixie Corner*, a lovely Grade 3 just left of Crack Rock, and some climbable smears

along the trail just south of Octopus's Garden.

Frozen Zombie M8 30m Matt Maddaloni, Tim Emmett Nov 24/2010

Just to the right of the summer rock route Through The Never at Smoke Bluff Wall. Climb through two roofs (bolted) then up thin ice weeping down left of the Killer Fridge corner. Finish on the ledge below Jabberwocky.

SQUAMISH- RING CREEK

Gertrude Falls 30m WI3 (R?) FRA: Fern Webb & Adrian Bogen Dec. 2004

Hidden in the forest near the Ring Creek switchback on the Diamond Head road. Heavily mushroomed and difficult to protect (one screw) on the FA.

SQUAMISH- SHANNON CREEK AREA

Unnamed 30m WI3+ FRA Peter Watson and Patrick (*last name?*) January 2007.

Several hundred meters left (north) of A Scottish Tale, and climbed by a couple of lost climbers, is this short smear. Rappel from V-thread anchor to descend. There are also second-hand reports of some ice being climbed on east-facing bluffs along the lower trail to the Chief's third summit, possibly near the White Cliff/Cirque of the Uncrackables area, but few details have yet surfaced.

SQUAMISH – SQUAMISH VALLEY ROAD

Stumped WI3R 25m FRA Dustin Hines, Jason Wheeler Dec 2008

About 2km from the Ashlu bridge, near the end of pavement. A 25m flow of rotten ice with a rotten stump anchor underneath the power line, east of the road. Expect queues in future...

FLUFFY KITTEN WALL

Cat o' Nine Tails c.240m WI4 M6/7 FWA Bruce Kay, Jia Condon, Kai Hirvonen Feb. 07.

Follows the summer line with a variation to the left on the last pitch. Full rock rack plus stubbies and pitons. Three hour ski approach up the Stawamus-Indian FSR, four long pitches, and 14 hours car to car on the FWA. Snowmobiles allow quicker access, or quads under low-snow conditions..

WHISTLER – CAL-CHEAK:

There were a couple lines in east of the road at about 1km in from the highway, in the basalt gorge below Brandywine Falls, with lots of people on them when they formed (winter 05-06). Access by crossing the bungee bridge and rapping in. Pretty much all TR'ing, as there

is little potential for pro in the chandeliered upper sections.

WHISTLER – SOO RIVER ROAD:

Quicky 45m WI4+ Bruce Kay, Craig McGee Feb. 08

Winter plowing of the Soo River Road allowed Bruce and Craig to access this climb, on a north-facing bluff at c. 5km (across the Soo River from Soo Bluffs) . Two sections of ice with a two-bolt thin ice/mossy traverse between them; the second bolt was found *in situ* and presumed to mark the highpoint of a previous unsuccessful attempt.

WHISTLER – SUICIDE BLUFFS:

Sweating Fear WI4- M5 45m

Gavin Duffell & Jayson Green Jan 27, 2008.

This climb is just downstream of Sucks To Be You at Suicide Bluffs. Thin ice and frozen moss in a corner lead to a large tree, then up a WI4- flow of thicker ice that becomes slabby above.

PEMBERTON - MOUNT CURRIE – D'ARCY:

The Apparition WI4 300m

Aaron Clements and Chris Christie; January 14, 2005

This long, stepped gully lies west of *Medicine Man*, at the same elevation. When formed it can clearly be seen from the highway at the Pemberton industrial park. The approach is long, but so is the climb. Unfortunately, it faces the sun, so is extremely rarely formed.

Best access is from the Owl Ridge subdivision area, not Xit'olacw. (Despite what the guide says, this is now also probably true for *Medicine Man* too.) With permission, it is possible to park at a cul-de-sac and walk up a driveway and through a lot to access the logging road that runs along the base of the mountain; otherwise park at a yellow gate on the left shortly after turning into the Owl Ridge Road from the highway to D'Arcy [6.3km].

Trend up and to the right through the open cut block behind the Estates. Re-enter the forest on the top left of the block. Skirt around the bottom of a very big steep rock buttress, heading for the second "fold" in the mountain-side. Cross a big boulder field, still trending up and right. Re-enter woods and continue up and right until an easy dry rocky gully is reached. 1½ hours hard non-stop pounding.

300m of climbing ends at a vertical headwall. P1 60m: 20m WI2, then 40m steep snow (solo-able). P2: 60m WI4, walled in by steep rock amphitheatre walls. Belay at tree. P3: 60m WI2. Steep snow. Tree belay. P4: 60m WI3. Wide flowing blue ice in upper amphitheatre. Screw belay. P5 60m: 50m WI3, finishing with 10m WI4 ending on a blank

wall. Belay on narrow ledge with one stout tree. Rap the route from trees and one V-thread.

Dream Catcher WI4+ 165m

Craig McGee and Brent Phillips; early January 05 (date to be confirmed)

Dream Catcher is easily visible in the gully east of Xit'olacw, the highest and left-most of the three ice systems on the mountainside. It offers awesome views and great sun when it's in, rather reminiscent of Weeping Wall in the Rockies. The climbing looks thin from far away but it is not as bad as it looks.

Park at the end of the road at the east end of Xit'olacw where the old logging road continues towards the climbs. Be discrete and careful with your parking so as to avoid creating an access issue with the locals. Head up to *Paid or Laid*, then continue upward with easy going on the ridge left (west) of the gully. (The gully itself is a major thrash.) When directly across from the route rap 60m to gully.

The climb consists of three 55m pitches, first Grade 3, then 3+, then 4+, starting on the right and ending on the left. Rap from V-threads and head home down the gully. Bring one or two stubbies.

Because of lack of information, *Paid or Laid* and *Ten Stitches from Whistler* were not very specifically described in the 2005 second edition of *West Coast Ice*. This can now be remedied. *Paid or Laid* is the lowest, rightmost of the three routes east of Xit'olacw. The upper pitches lie (as noted in the guide) in the corner of a beautiful – and characteristic – rock amphitheatre, with an impressive vertical rock wall on the left and overhangs dripping with icicles on the right. *Ten Stitches...* is the middle route, lower-angled and less well defined, but easily placed by the series of unclimbed hanging daggers above.

Nocturnal Emission came in nicely for a short time, and is best approached via a logging spur above Hwy 99 at the Birkenhead bridge 9km E of Mt Currie. Walk the road about 20 minutes, then break back right through open forest and up scree. One hour.

Lots of ice formed in January 2005, enabling more exact clarification of positions and mileages of seldom-formed routes along the D'Arcy road. Mileages are from the railway crossing at the north end of Mount Currie.

Rusty: 4.5km; on east-facing slope above Owl Creek.

Roadside Attraction: In alcove on right of the road (when Northbound) 500m beyond railway crossing at 7km. Fat and busy in 08-09 with many possible lines.

Deception: on west side at about 9.5km

Candlewax: at 9.8 km; south-facing; on right side of bluff topped by power pylon

New routes in the Birken include:

Drive-by Shooting: 30m M8. Jayson Green & Gavin Duffell sometime in 2008.

100m down the tracks from Roadside Attraction. Climb 15m of WI2 to a two-bolt anchor, then up steeply overhanging rock past 5 bolts with fixed draws to a final dagger. Chain anchor, lower off.

A Journey 110m WI3 Andrew Rennie and Don Serl; January 8, 2005

A long journey (with 900m elevation gain) up the gully right of *The Plum*, passing *Rocky* and *Bullwinkle* on the way. The journey begins with a single step, 20m of Grade 2 which was soloed, followed by another 20 minutes of snow-trudging. The main flow gives beautiful 55m and 35m Grade 3 pitches. Rap from trees on climber's right.

Place Creek Falls WI4 ~200m Russell March, Miles Quesnel, and Nick Ranicar; January 9, 2005

A high-volume, rambling waterfall which may not always be frozen. Fun when it is. P1 50m: Grade 3 with a 15m Grade 4 step at the top. P2, P3, and P4: all about 40m, meandering Grade 2 with Grade 3 steps.

Park at railway crossing a kilometre west of Gates Lake [20km]. Walk the railway line about 200m east, then cut across 2 Hydro cuttings and up the hill to the falls. (Same access as Place Glacier trail.)

BIRKENHEAD LAKE

Second hand, unconfirmed info indicates the Flett brothers walked down Birkenhead Lake for a few km from the provincial park campground at the north end and climbed a multipitch ice route in a gully coming off Mt John Decker in winter 08-09. Previous attempts on this line indicate it's probably at least WI4 and can have serious avvy hazard under some snow conditions. More accurate details will be posted as they become available.

NORTH JOFFRE CREEK:

Sweet Ice Is: 2p WI3 and WI4. Derek and Dennis Flett. winter 2000. (previously unreported)

The first ice formation in North Joffre Creek valley, labelled 'A' in photo on pg 83 of WCI. Many variations of line are possible, as the iceflow is very broad.

The first ascent party would prefer that climb 176 "Big Blue" should be known as "Beek Treat".

Missing Neurons 125m WI4 Jesse Mason, Graham Rowbotham Feb 2009.

this is line E in the guidebook, right of Stem Cell, and an excellent route. Climbed in three pitches: 30m WI3-, 35m WI4 with a small traverse, then 60m WI2 to top. Two raps down.

2 km upvalley of the Sharpie area, a large granite buttress sports some impressive terrain.

Rhapsody In Floyd c.400m, 8 pitches WI4+ Bruce Kay & Chris Christie Feb. 08

Free Tibet c. 400m, 9 pitches, WI5 M6 A0 Bruce Kay & Jim Martinello April 08.

Rhapsody in Floyd takes a prominent ice-choked chimney/cleft/spindrift funnel up the centre of the buttress and is fairly sustained at the grade while Free Tibet climbs a smear and pillars to the right with four hard pitches leading to four or five somewhat easier ones. Free Tibet took several attempts, successfully climbed on the third attempt by Bruce & Jim, with Craig McGee and Brad White helping out on earlier missions and Craig power-drilling the crux bolts on lead on p2. A couple A0 moves off bolts on the WI5 M6 crux pitch during the complete ascent mean the climb still waits for a free ascent.

Both routes may be escaped right at their tops via an avalanche-prone ledge (The Traverse of the Idiots) or continued up the upper buttress above Rhapsody in Floyd until a descent is possible north down easier snowy terrain (still with avvy hazard) back down to the valley bottom).

Recent rock route development on this buttress (summer 2011) may offer the possibility of a quicker descent.

FRASER VALLEY – PITT RIVER:

The Mystic Lake climbs actually lie on the north-facing slopes above the twin lakes at the head of Fish Hatchery Creek, directly east of the logging-camp community of Alvin, not southeast of Remote Peak as reported in *WCI*. A spur branches right off the Corbold Creek mainline about 2km north out of Alvin, then the desired spurs curl back south in another 1.5km. The lower lake lies at about 850m, roughly 6km up the second spur.

FRASER VALLEY – HIGHWAY 7 - AGASSIZ TO HOPE:

AGASSIZ AREA:

Jailbait 50m WI3 Tyler Linn, Mike Warn & Marc-Andre Leclerc Dec 2008.

High on the east-facing slopes of Mount Woodside, west of Agassiz, lie double waterfalls pouring over a cliffband. Park at the quarry reached off Sutherland Road, west of the prison, and bushwack for an hour or so up the hill, diagonalling left of directly uphill, to reach the climbs. The right-hand line was climbed in a full pitch. The steeper lefthand line remains unclimbed.

OCD Pillar 37m WI4 Marc-Andre Leclerc Dec 2008.

Off Mountain Home Road, SW of downtown in Agassiz, this minor flow forms on the north face of Hopyard Hill. The climb is apparently on Crown land(?) but the approach is across a farmer's field so ask permission. Rambling seeps lead to a final 10m pillar. Hung around in climbable form for almost two weeks in 08-09 so may form again.

HARRISON HOT SPRINGS:

EpicCentre 40m WI4 Shaun Neufeld, Dwayne Barg & Wes Dyck Jan 13/07

3km past Trojan Horse, and 100m before the Sasquatch Park boat launch turnoff, there is an old alder-filled quarry on the south side of the road with plenty of thin, weepy ice during cold snaps. EpicCentre climbs thin ice on a slab to a slender column pouring over a small cave at the right side of this quarry. Rappel from a tree to descend.

AGASSIZ TO HOPE:

Tailwind Integral 360m WI3+ Shaun Neufeld and Drew Brayshaw Jan 15/07

The incomplete ascent of Tailwind as listed in WCI was climbed to a roof two pitches up. The integral ascent continued to the top. The complete route climbs as follows: 40m of WI2 to a belay, 30m of WI2 to a WI3 traverse under the roof (good crack for #2 cams in roof) and a tricky groove above to a belay. Now 120m of WI2- with a 20m WI3 step in the middle lead to a final wall with 30m of WI2 and 25m of WI3+. Walk off west through bushes, climb slightly over the ridge crest to skirt cliffs, and scramble down to the gravel pit at the highway near the Skawahlook Business Park.

Tailwind Left-Hand Start 60m WI4+ Jesse Mason & Graham Rowbotham December 2008.

About 30m left of the lower pitches of Tailwind is a weep which often looks from the road as if it is not in. However, it drips into a chimney, and the ice inside is hidden from view of the highway. Scramble up ledges to the base of the ice. Climb easy-angled ice to the base of the chimney, then squeeze in and climb a steep pillar at the back. Smooth granite walls in the chimney make rock stemming difficult so the ice must be climbed directly, more than somewhat difficult in the narrow space. From the top (tree anchor) traverse right through bushes to join Tailwind atop p2 of that route.

Tradewinds 210m WI3 Shaun Neufeld & Drew Brayshaw Dec 2008.

Two lines to the right of Tailwind. The intervening line is a huge corner with fresh rockfall high up, with ice at the top of the corner and rock slabs lower down. From the base of Tailwind, walk along the base of the bluffs until on the fresh talus from this intermediate corner, then make a rising traverse to the climb, which takes a series of flows in a less prominent corner further right. Four pitches: 50m WI2 open slab, 55m WI2+, rock corner

and chimney with ice and prominent chockstone, to rock belay; 55m WI3 up short pillars, 60m WI2 long angling diagonal ramp. A couple wired nuts and one or two thin pins were used. Rap Abalakovs to belay atop p2, then trees to climbers left, to get down (3 60m rappels plus 30m of steep bushy downclimbing).

Frost Heave 40m WI2+ Justin Brown and Drew Brayshaw; November 29, 2006

Park at the gas pipeline crossing on Highway 7 and walk east 200m down the gated road on the North side of the slough. A long low-angle flow is visible on slabs above but has not to date touched down. Starting left of that, climb a short (6-8m) steep wall of thin wet ice (WI2+). Then climb an ice and mixed slab with thin ice, turf and some bare rock (WI2R) to a belay tree on the left at the same height that the main flow dies out. Traversing right to gain the main ice flow looked difficult and Justin bent a pick, ending the attempt to climb higher. A subsequent ascent with less ice described the climb as “frozen moss on a smooth slab” and also retreated below the main ice streak. Descent: walk off to climbers' left down a ramp.

The Family Man 150m WI2+ Mike Warn and Marc-Andre Leclerc December 2008

About halfway from the gas pipeline to the Haig weigh-station, where the highway has river on one side and rock roadcut on the other. Best to park as for Frost Heave and walk east. The climb is a thin dihedral to start, then a long slab/gully leading up into the forest. A couple short steep columns, 5-8m high, were found in the forest above but family commitments did not permit their ascent, hence the name. Abalakov descent. Dinner plates etc. from above should be stopped by the highway barricade – the climb does not directly threaten the highway.

FRASER VALLEY – CHILLIWACK TO HOPE:

Elk Falls (unclimbed): Perhaps the Valley's best-known unclimbed route now has an access agreement reportedly in place and a hiking trail to the base. Watch this space for details...

Never a Bride Perhaps best climbed in 2 pitches, rather than the 3 noted in the guide.

Decent Divorce WI 4/4+ 60m

First ascent unknown (David Parker and Lane Brown FRA in January 2005)

A nice line in the drainage immediately left of *Never a Bride* (i.e., 2 gullies left of *Bridalveil Falls*). Climbed several times, with good reports, in January 2005 – there was an old sling on top. Approach as for above routes. Low-angle ice over a slab leads 25-30m to a prominent pillar/curtain. Belay in alcove on right. Climb pillar 25-30m and belay in gully below a short WI2 step in the forest. Most easily done as two or three short pitches, but possible in one pitch with 60m ropes. Rap from trees.

Unnamed (Webb-Fox) 4 pitches WI3+

FA: Fern Webb and Eric Fox, January 2005

This is about halfway between Bridalveil Falls to White Wedding (about 200m right/west of Bridalveil Falls) and is a narrow climb partially hidden in the forest. The climb can be seen from Cheam Lake or briefly from the highway if you know where to look. Two pitches of WI3 lead to two more pitches of WI3+.

Powerhouse Falls 200m WI2/3

Chris Simmons and Kellie McBee; January 14, 2005

Directly behind the power station 9km east of Exit 138 Bridal Falls (2km west of Exit 146 Herrling Island). Short approach up a gravel road immediately east of powerhouse. Two full 50 meter pitches of WI2 or 3, then continue up the gully system ~200m, soloing four more Grade 2 steps.

A large landslide in winter 2004/2005 began something like 1,000m above the highway on an old logging road and ran down to the highway more or less along the same drainage as Piccadilly Circus. Although this route is rarely formed (twice in the last 5 years) and rarely climbed, scoping from the highway during the times it has formed since the slide indicates it may have been changed significantly in character by the landslide, and may now be a pitch or two longer (new lower-angle terrain exposed above the old top of the falls) than indicated in the guidebook.

A more recent landslide in June 2010 did a similar clearing job on the gully with the “unclimbed pillar” immediately left of Piccadilly Circus.

Janice Ales 205m WI3 Graham Rowbotham and Drew Brayshaw Dec 11/2009.

About 500m east of Easy Intro is a prominent north-facing, red cliff with a hanging drip that has never touched down and is easily seen from the highway. This less-prominent route climbs flows at the extreme right edge of the same cliff. 60m WI2, 60m WI2, 60m WI3, and 25m WI2+ take you to the top. Scramble down ramps for a bit to climber's right, then make three double-rope raps from trees to the base. An old rappel sling was found on the last rap, above a partially-iced cliff that may fill in during longer cold spells.

The Diviner 260m WI4 Drew Brayshaw, Aaron Isbell, and Shaun Neufeld; January 9, 2005

There are 3 long northwest-facing flows on the right side of a long, prominent, slanting gully on the mountainside between Exit 146 Herrling Island and Exit 151 Peters Road. *The Diviner* takes the lowest, righthand line.

Park where the powerline slash reaches the side of the freeway about 2km east of Exit 146. Follow a drainage up and eastward about 250m in elevation, then switch left through forest

to the aforementioned slanting gully. Follow this to the route (about 2 hours).

The initial 35m WI3 and 30m WI2 steps were soloed on the first ascent. This was followed by 60m WI4, 70m WI3, and 60m WI2, some of which was simul-climbed. A finishing 25m WI3 was left unclimbed because of slushiness. Downclimb steep forest between the Diviner and the next (unclimbed) line to the east, rapping twice from trees, then traverse out to the Diviner when cliffed out below and make one V-thread rap at the bottom.

Jah Loveth the Leftists WI4 200m

Peter Hirst, Eric Fox, and Fern Webb; January 14, 2005

In the left branch of the two-pronged gully halfway between Exits 165 and 168 that also (supposedly? occasionally?) contains *Jah Loveth The Righteous* (which is in the right branch). Easy approach via trail* from Exit 165 south-side service road. Climb a 30m WI3 step. Skirt around an open pool. Climb a 30m WI2+ step that tunnels under an Indiana Jones-style chockstone. The gully opens out a little and there is ~100m stomp/scramble up to some huge chockstones. Skirt these on the left at M4(?) 5.8-5.9ish with thin ice and grovelling. Above this was a 50m wallow and chimney through waistdeep spindrift to a 25m WI3+ topped with a tricky bulging brittle curtain. The last pitch was a gorgeous solid 70m WI4 curtain up the left sidewall of the canyon (intermediate tree belay available). There were several more steps and spills over chockstones visible further up the gully. Rap the upper pitches, then hike right (facing out) through the trees and rap lower rock wall from trees.

*As of fall 2011 there is a very short new logging road leaving the dead-end paved access road here to reach a small cutblock just below JLTL and JLTR. The approach should now be less than 10 minutes to the mouth of both gullies.

SOUTH OF HOPE: SILVER-SKAGIT ROAD

Cruel Pools Extended 300m WI3

First complete ascent Jeremy Allyn and Dave Leahy; January 8, 2005

Deserves to become popular. The spectacular lower part through a narrow gorge on Grade 2 ice was climbed in 1991, but only in 2005 did climbers become aware of the multitude of short moderate steps above. Depending on what you're comfortable soloing, there could be as many as 8 pitches (or as few as zero). None of these steps (except the final one) is more than 25 meters in length. The third step is the lower crux with 15-20m of WI2+/3-. The steeper uppermost pitch is about 1/2 ropelength or a little more - maybe Grade 3 on the right, 3+ straight up, and 4- or 4 on the left side. There is a pool above this that may or may not be passable.

Big Cedar Falls 140m WI2 Anitra Acceturo and Ted Olsen; January 15, 2005

A lovely, easy-angled flow spilling into Silverhope Creek directly opposite the road at 6.0km. Note that the road is not plowed in winter, so usually is not driveable beyond the drainage at 2km. Traverse in along rock slope from bridge to left. Climb a 45m pitch, then walk a short distance to a second, 60m pitch. Rap off the big cedar.

Snow Day & Hide and Seek 60m WI2 and 3 Mike Warn and Marc Leclerc Jan 08.

15 to 20km down the unplowed Silverhope Road, a series of prominent schist bluffs on the west side of the valley are seen to advantage immediately across the river from the road. Accessing the area using tire chains on a lifted truck, Mike and Marc climbed two routes in a gullied area left of the largest cliff near 20km; the climbs were perhaps the easiest on offer in the area, with several prominent lines of greater difficulty still to do around 15km.

EAST OF HOPE: HOPE MOUNTAIN

Blue Moose 90m WI3/3+ 90m Drew Brayshaw and Tyler Linn December 2008.

This climb is located about 200m west of Thacker Creek drainage (home to Thacker Falls) on a cliffband above Highway 5. The route can be scoped from the Coquihalla Bridge area on Kawkawa Lake Road or seen briefly from the highway. Parking is nonexistent below the climb - park near the gas pipeline office in Hope and walk up to the highway and across it (5 minutes) then bushwack uphill 15 minutes to the route. The climb begins with a broad curtain offering several route choices. A 20m WI3+ line at the far left leading to a delicate chimney and thin slab was climbed on the FA with the option of a 30m WI4/4+ ish pillar in the middle (wet and chandeliered on FA so not climbed) or potential mixed variants as well. Above this the climb is a 60m long snowy ramp with a 15m WI3 step partway up leading to some more snow and WI2. Descend on foot to east (skiers' right) through steep forest then skirt back to the base in about 15 minutes.

Thacker Falls WI3+/4- 110m Don Serl and Robert Nugent; January 15, 2005

A fine two-pitch flow on the right sidewall of the narrow gully immediately above Exit 173 at the east end of Hope. Not visible from the freeway eastbound, but can be seen westbound. Best parking is halfway down the eastbound exit ramp. Walk a short side road left of the stream crossing, then bushwack up open slopes, angling right to follow the avalanche track embankments on the east side of the lower drainage. Finally enter and follow the drainage itself (1 – 1½ hours). Two 55m pitches: a bit steeper on the first pitch, some funky ice on second. Rap from a 6" diameter cedar to the right at the top, then from a V-thread.

Poker In The Rear is WI2, not the 3 given in the guidebook. Otherwise a nice route and forms very early in the year. Best accessed before the roads get snowed-in.

Stuck In A Rut 55m WI2+ Marc Leclerc and Dave Heinbach Dec 2007

This climb is up the Hope Mountain FSR, about 300m in elevation above the Poker &

Liquor climbs on a higher bluff, and is the leftmost of several potential climbs on that face. Approach as for Poker & Liquor and continue up from the top of those climbs through forest to reach the objective (easiest with snow covering the bush), with a nice belay cave at the base. One long pitch to a tree belay. Rap off; FA party got their rope stuck and left it.

HIGHWAY 3: Upper Sumallo

A very large rock avalanche came off the west side of the north face of Silvertip Peak in spring 2011. Redlining the Fun Meter may have been significantly reworked and/or destroyed by this slide. The Sumallo Sixpack area is further to the right and appears unaffected.

HIGHWAY 3: SUMALLO BLUFFS

First Time Lucky 55m WI3 Matt Kidd, Marc Leclerc, and Cam Long, Dec. 2007

This route is located roughly 1km west of the Sumallo Grove parking lot and 1.5km east of the Landmark Gully area in a previously undeveloped section of cliff. There are two gullies here close together; the route takes the left-hand, left-angling one while the right hand one is dry. Cross the river and bushwack to the base, about 45 minutes from the car. The climb is a full pitch with three steep steps separated by easier sections; quite thin on the FA. A second half-pitch step of potential WI3/4 above was very lean and was left undone.

Note: A very large landslide (yes, another one!) came down FTL in spring 2011 and completely buried the lower gully in debris. It may be a long time before ice appears here again. ☹

Landmark Gully's crux pitch came in all ice in 2008-2009 for the first time ever and received a few ascents. The consensus was WI5 in brittle cold or WI4 when soft and wet a week later during the warm snap. The third party to try the full thing found gushing water and backed off.

Note that some very good (limbed) fallen trees appear to be providing long-term access across the river to B/K, Landmark etc. Park at the pullout 24km west of Hope, descend onto the alder flats at the east end of the pullout, and beat through shrubbery directly south to the trees at the furthest point of the oxbow on the Sumallo River.

COQUIHALLA – HIGHWAY 5:

JARVIS BLUFFS area

Liquid Crystal 130m WI3 Drew Brayshaw & Wes Dyck January 13/07.

This climb is at the leftmost end of the big cliff at Jarvis Bluffs that houses Northwest Passage, and is 200m or so left of that climb and 150m right of Skunked Again. Hike up talus in the forest and traverse to the base of the route. P1: a WI2 gully angles left, then

back right to trees, avoiding a potential WI4 direct start. P2: traverse right on a ledge under steep ice (shower bath, hollow ice on FA, one screw on the pitch) and up a step of 80 degree at the right end to a tree belay. P3: 10m of easy ice to a 25m WI3 with a mixed exit. Descend to climbers' left through forest.

The Drool In The Lotus 100m WI3 D Brayshaw Feb 18/06

Coquihalla Highway, just past Jarvis Bluffs. Park at Sowaqua Creek U-turn route on West side of highway. The route is in a shaded East-facing gully just north of a prominent rock buttress. Cross Coquihalla River on highway bridge and walk north on pipeline road, then bushwack up to route (1 hour). 70m of sometimes thin WI2 (can also climb fun M3 to M4 variations to start on right) leads to a final broad headwall with lines ranging from WI2 on right, through WI3 in middle, to WI4 pillar on left.

Descent: Walk off, heading North for 100m, down a steep ramp below an overhanging wall, then cutting back to base of route.

DEWDNEY CREEK area

A newly explored drainage off Dewdney Creek gave three good moderate lines in February 2009. The climbs are all in the headwaters of a steep gully that drops to Dewdney Creek about 1 km east of its mouth, and can be seen when driving south on Highway 5 from the vicinity of the Ladner Creek bridge. For access, park at the Carolin Mines exit, then follow the Dewdney FSR east for about 2 km of snowed-up road, passing a gate. Where the main road climbs uphill and an old road drops down to the right, towards the creek, drop down to the creek and cross it on ice jams and logs. In the forest beyond, pick up the drainage from the climbs, which skirts between two heli-logged clearcuts. Hike up the drainage to the top of the cutblocks (200m), then don crampons and up a gully with minor WI2 steps and snow for another 100m (some avalanche hazard in heavy snow) to an amphitheater where the climb proper begins. All three climbs share the opening pitch, 60m of WI2+ up a curtain to another, wider amphitheater. Another 50m WI2 leads to the base of the steeper stuff. Now choose your line:

Toll Free 90m WI3 M5. Drew Brayshaw & Doug Wilm, Feb 2009. The right hand line. Ramps and a short pillar. On the FA, the top was melted out and a 10m direct finish was made through snow mushrooms and overhanging, wet juggy rock with devils club. Bailing from the last solid ice is probably a better idea.

Scottish Play 60m WI4. Shaun Neufeld & Drew Brayshaw Feb 2009. The central line. A steep curtain with a bit of a dihedral in it. Tree belay and rappel.

The Taming of the Screw 40m WI3. Drew Brayshaw & Shaun Neufeld Feb 2009. The left-hand line. Climb the right edge of steep curtain where it isn't so steep (going direct would be 4 or 4+), then up rolling ice above that gradually thins. Rappel from the last solid ice or a tree.

BOX CANYON AREA:

Thinking Outside the Box 75m WI2 M4 D. Brayshaw December 11, 2005

600m South of Box Canyon on east side of highway in a major avalanche swath. Climb only in low snow, stable conditions. Park at Box Canyon and walk highway 200m South, then follow logging road paralleling highway to ice. Climb 70m of rambling WI2, with some hollow sections over high-volume flow, to a ledge below final column. On FA final column was open and wet, so climbed 4m M4 cedar-root choked offwidth 15m right on ledge. Final column would be WI3/3+ if formed (formed in Feb 2009 but was not climbed). Potential for naturally-protected mixed climbs on right side of lower flow.

Descent: Walk off to south through recent clearcut.

YAK PEAK/FALLS LAKE

Thar She Blows 75m WI3+ January 30 2011. Don Montrichard and Werner Gzimek.

10 minutes walk west of Falls Lake (25-40 minutes from the cars) on the north face of Thar. A large snowy flow dripping out of a gully with a steeper pillar deep in the gully a little higher up. 40m of WI3 leads to 20m of snow (move belay) and a steep finish up a 12-15m high pillar. Rappel from trees.

Impatience 30m WI3 (incomplete). February 2010. Don Montrichard and Werner Gzimek.

15 minutes west of the west end of Falls Lake, on the north face of Thar. Climb 30m of flow ice with a few short vertical sections to a ledge that the ice weeps from. Thinner ice in a dihedral continues up and right to an open sheet around corner to the top (at least another 30m), but this was discontinuous on the FA so instead they set up a TR and ran a couple laps on the opening substantial pitch.

Royal Canadian Kilted Yaksmen 90m WI3+ March 2008 Drew Brayshaw, Graham Rowbotham, Jesse Mason, Don Serl.

This climb is located in the Falls Lake cirque below the north face of Yak Peak. Park at the Falls Lake pullout, and from the lake ski west up the valley to the climb, which is located where the valley bends south, about 2 hours from the cars in good conditions. The climb is 2 pitches: 60m WI3 to a sheltered belay on the right (a steep start then a right-angling ramp), then 30m WI3+ up the right side of column to a tree belay on top. There is a massive, low-angled unclimbed sheet of blue ice located about 200m further west. Serious avalanche hazard from above.

MOUNT MARKHOR (The Thimble)

There is a plethora of ice in a north-facing bowl on Mount Markhor, directly across the highway south of Yak Peak. While the available lines are all either short, low angle, or

both, the area is high and tucked away from the sun, so the season is long.

There is a turnout on either side of the highway for parking at Zopkios, 1km east of the Yak Peak rest area [40km northeast of Exit 177; 3km south of the toll plaza]. About 2 hours up to the ice on snowshoes. All three routes climbed by Bob Koen and Graham Rowbotham; January 19, 2005

Bar-room Brawl WI4 8m A short detached pillar on the left up a gully.

Don't Mess With Me WI3 20m In the middle of the gully; climbed via the steepest line.

Stitch That Jimmy WI2 50m Up a narrow gully just right of *Don't Mess With Me*. Has an interesting start...

KEREMEOS TO HEDLEY – HIGHWAY 3:

This area was not included in WCI, but is of comparable driving distance and driving time to Lillooet when in Hope. Princeton itself is a bit of an icebox, often with colder temperatures than Lillooet through the winter months due to inversion layers that trap cold in the valley bottom. However, Princeton itself is also somewhat dry, with few waterfalls; in addition to the two listed here, two short half-pitch lines north of town, 7km up a logging road off Highway 5A 8km north of Princeton (Scream 30m WI3 and Sting Of The Whip 8m WI3+) were recorded in the 1997 CAJ. East of Princeton things are somewhat more promising and the following two lines were unearthed:

The Hitching Post 60m WI4. Steven Harn, Jesse Mason, Drew Brayshaw Dec 2007.

This climb is located low on the hillside northeast of Hedley, below the old aerial tramway leading to the Giant Mascot Mine. Drive into the town and hang a right at the 3rd cross street, then cross bridge. Then first left past the bridge. Follow this dirt road past a sports field to a fork. Take the left fork and drive 2min to parking area at next fork. Walk the right fork to a junction, and head left to the old mine tramway building. From this ruin, traverse uphill veering right on talus for about 30 minutes to reach the climb. An obvious pillar well visible from the highway when in. A narrow 30m column, partially free-standing and cracked through on the FA but with decent rest on ledgy ice to the left at half-height, leads to 30m of low-angle thin ice in a creekbed above until a thicker bulge arrives that can be used to build belay and drill Abalakov. One 60m rappel.

Private Reserve 45m WI3+

Jesse Mason, Jordan Peters, Steven Harn and Drew Brayshaw; Dec 9, 2006

This climb is located on the West bank of the Similkameen River across from Highway 3 in the drainage of Larcan Creek, where the creek pours over a limestone cliff. Drive up the Ashnola River road from near Keremeos, then follow a dirt road Northwest on the West bank of the Similkameen to the drainage. Access is through Lower Similkameen Band

reserve lands (the road is on reserve land and reserve land must be crossed to reach the climb, which is on Crown land) so permission for access should be obtained in advance by contacting the band office. The climb cannot be seen from the West side of the river so scoping beforehand from the highway is helpful in finding the right drainage.

The direct route up the drainage to the climb is choked with prickly bushes. Approach up open slopes on the north side of Larcan Creek until level with the climb (300m elevation gain), then traverse game trails across steep slopes into the drainage to gain the base of the ice (45 minutes to 1 hour approach).

The climb consists of 35 meters of rambling 60 to 70 degree ice to a step and then a steep curtain finish which varies in height from 5m and WI3/3+ on the left to 9m and WI4 on the right.

Rappel from a tree to get down.

OKANAGAN ROUTES: See CAJ 1985 for details of older routes not mentioned here.

VERNON AREA:

HWY 97: ENDERBY

Mythologic WI6 140m (4p) Lyle Knight & Marc Piche January 2011

Four pitches up the middle of the Enderby Cliffs. Forms many years but doesn't last long: a much-coveted tick for years before the final FA. Four pitches: WI4, WI6, WI5+, WI5+. Skinny brown ice, but good protection.

Approach: Park at Enderby Cliffs Provincial Park Trailhead five minutes east of Enderby, and follow the main trail to the first lookout (45 minutes). Hike another 300'ish metres on the summit trail to the second fence and head left (north) and approximately follow the edge of the bench through some unique, bouldery. About a half hour to a boulderfield where you can see the route. Pretty much bee-line to the route in about an hour, snowshoes are helpful.

Rick Cox and Lyle, with various partners, have reportedly climbed several shorter (not full length) WI2 to WI4 routes at the Enderby Cliffs over the years as well.

HWY 6 (OKANAGAN)/ LUMBY

Deninson Falls WI5 60m (2 pitches) January 8, 2006 Lyle Knight and Ted Lange

30m of WI3 to bolt anchor, then steep 30m WI5 with bulges to top. Rap descent, two single rope rappels. The first half to the mid-point anchors is a moderate WI3, so the station will provide a good place to bring beginners. There is no "easy" way on the upper-half and is a sustained WI5 with some chandelier and cauliflower ice, but gets gradually more consolidated as you get higher. The hanging pillar on the right will be amazing once it

touches down.

Approach Details:

Driving (2wd with good snow tires):

- 1) From Vernon, BC, drive East on Hwy 6 to Lumby (24km).
- 2) About 1km past Lumby take the second right onto Creighton Valley road.
- 3) Follow this for about 23km (approximate) to the Bonneau Creek Forest Service Road, turn right.
- 4) Follow the Bonneau for 5km and park on the right on the plowed spur road that leads into the block. The ice climb is visible looking directly down the road.

Hiking (snow shoes or skis):

- 1) Follow the spur road for 1.1km to a landing at the start of the second block. The timber is about 100m behind the block, enter here at the pink ribbons. (30 minutes).
- 2) Follow ribbons in trees down through the creek and up to another cutblock on the other side of the creek (30 minutes).
- 3) Head up left side of block to another road (5 minutes), then turn left on this road. Take the first left, then the next right to the end of the road. (30 minutes).
- 4) Head straight up through the trees to the opening beneath the falls (15 minutes). It's another 15 minutes to the base of the falls from here.

Lyle can provide a map if anyone wants more access beta, llknight@shaw.ca.

KELOWNA WEST SIDE: Christie Falls

This area saw a load of activity in winter 2010-2011, with some spectacular routes.

Approach is as follows: Leave Kelowna, cross lake on bridge. Turn right (north) onto Westside road follow that to Bear Creek FSR and turn left. Follow Bear Creek FSR for 13 km and turn right onto Esperon FSR. Follow Esperon to the 24 km marker and turn right onto Christie Main FSR. Follow that road for 3.5 km and turn left on the spur road and follow that to the end and park. Follow the trail marked with yellow ribbon to the top the cliff then drop in from top down steep trail.

Let's Get Ready To Rumble 20m WI4 Aaron Culver, Adam Tutte Feb 2011.

Seepage ice to bolt anchor on the right of the Amphitheatre, with enough space to climb three mostly-independent variations (left, centre and right) to the same anchor.

Rumble In The Bronx 70m M10? open project

Adam's project didn't quite get finished last winter. From anchor on top of LGRTR, climb up overhanging rock to left-traversing line weeping icicles; finish to top of the Phenom.

The Phenom 60m WI6. Adam Tutte Feb 2011 A full pitch free-standing pillar of vertical ice albeit with a bit of a cone at the bottom. Could easily be in the Recital Hall (Ghost) or Vail (Colorado) areas. Jaw-dropping line.

NARAMATA CREEK (Penticton)

Slurpee, Hope and Wet Feet 25m WI2+, 25m WI2+ and 60m WI3. Jeremy Thom and Tom Zajac, January 2008.

These three climbs are located in a narrow canyon on Naramata Creek, NE of Penticton, and only form after several days of extremely cold weather – a likely season of a week or so, once a year. Slurpee and Hope are two parallel 25m WI2+ lines in the lower canyon that were thin and wet and TR'ed only on the first ascents. Wet Feet is a very thin WI3 in the upper canyon that was led, but very difficult to protect (hollow ice over running water).

HIGHWAY 1 - FRASER CANYON:

The Chuck Norris Roundhouse Smash 40m M6R Marc-Andre Leclerc, Matt Kidd Dec 13/09.

A mixed variant to the crux pitch of *Where is Ultrawoman?* at Sailor Bar. Climb the intro ice pitches to the base of the crux pillar, then veer out right up thin slab ice to gain a mossy chimney. Scratch up the chimney to an overhanging chockstone, and pull left around it (sketchy with poor feet and some loose rock). Then make easier traverse back left on ledge into Ultrawoman and climb that to the top. Small-med cams and a couple pins would likely be helpful.

Welcome to Spuzzum and Come Again Soon 70-75m WI3 to 3+ D Brayshaw, M-A Leclerc, S Harnig, G Rowbotham Dec 12/2009.

Spuzzum Nation 60m WI3 5.8 D Brayshaw J Bonn Feb 2011

On the east side of Fraser River across from Spuzzum. Cross the Fraser River on Alexandra Bridge just north of Spuzzum and turn right onto the Anderson River FSR as if going to Steinbok. Drive for 4.5 km and park where the road passes above a small lake and private property, at a yellow gate on the west side of the road marked "No Trespassing." The ice is steeply upslope here to the east, and hard to see from the road, although it can be seen briefly from Highway 1 in the immediate vicinity of Alexandra Bridge. Hike up forested mossy scree for about 100m to gain the base of the climbs, which are in a recessed bay somewhat left of the fall line upslope from the gate. The routes here are a wide curtain of good stepped ice, with about 4 potential lines on offer. All go at WI3 to WI3+, and give 60-75m of climbing – either climb a 20-25m pitch and then punch it to the top, or climb a long opening pitch and then a shorter finishing pitch. Spuzzum Nation climbs the left side of the ice and has some overhanging, loose rock moves to gain the belay/rappel tree (largest rocks were trundled during the FA so it should be more solid now). Descent for all climbs – scramble down to a massive Doug Fir on a nose dividing the upper ice, and make a 60m

rappel back to the base.

Hells Gate Area:

Hell-O Kitty 100m WI3+ Drew Brayshaw and Fern Webb; January 8, 2005

The route is in the central gully on the west side of the Fraser Canyon opposite the Hell's Gate tourist trap. Park at the view pull-off 400m south of the tram and walk down an access road (1.5km, 200m elevation loss) to a bridge – there is a barbed wire fence to climb at its west end. Walk the railway tracks south about 100m, then pound up talus and the brushy gully about 100m.

Climb a 45m WI2 step, then hike another 100m up the narrow canyon to an amphitheatre. Climb the narrow WI3+ flow on the left (not visible from the highway); the WI4 column on the right was a slush-fest. Traverse to the top of the WI4 step to rappel.

Cerberus WI4 160m Adrian Bogen, Drew Brayshaw, and Steve Harn; January 15, 2005

Cerberus is in the next gully north of *Hell-O Kitty* at Hells Gate. There is 160m of ice in this 600m long gully. Approach as for *Hell-O Kitty*, but walk upstream along the tracks about 200m. Climb 30m WI2 and 35m WI3 steps low in the snow-filled gully, then posthole uphill for about 300m height gain (nasty terrain on FA: open water in creekbed, downed trees, prickly bushes, waist deep snow; expect several hours unless the snowpack is consolidated). The final excellent 95m flow of fat green ice goes at 60m WI3, then 35m WI4. Abalakov and tree rappels.

Styx 105m WI3. Drew Brayshaw and Sarah Weatherbee January 2008.

150m north of Cerberus and 100m up the hillside from the train tracks, with the shortest approach of all three routes here and lots of friendly terrain. Three pitches, steppy wet ice, 45m WI3, 20m WI2, 40m WI3 (the last pitch might be a 2 under fatter conditions than on the FA). Two rappels from trees to get down, 50 and 55m.

NORTH OF BOSTON BAR: Boston Bar to Cache Creek

Tijuana Donkey Show 30m WI4+ Graham Rowbotham, Jesse Mason, Drew Brayshaw Feb 2008.

This is the “unclimbed WI4” left of Jackass in a narrow gully. A 22m pillar, funky mushrooms at the bottom lead to a thin hollow tube at the top, delicate and scary. From the top of the ice continue up creekbed with occasional ice blobs for 8m to find a rappel tree.

Happy Boy Curtain 15m WI4. Chris Stolz and Fern Webb, December 2006. This is the hanging curtain over the cave at the top of Happy Boy, listed as unclimbed in WCI. Prone to breaking off and collapsing in warm spells. Happy Boy itself is WI2, not WI3 as given in the guide.

The Retort 30m WI3 Graham Rowbotham, Jesse Mason, Drew Brayshaw (all solo) Feb 2008.

In the approach canyon to the Crucible, this smear is found on the left hand wall (north side) about halfway from the thinly iced plunge-pool to the Crucible itself. The climb is thin steps with awkward footing at the bottom, easing off to a lower-angled flow above. Walk and scramble down to climber's right across some rotten aretes to get off.

STEIN VALLEY:

Cross the Fraser River at Lytton on the reaction ferry and drive north a few km to the Stein Valley turnoff. Park at the trailhead and hike into the valley. The following incomplete route is about 2 hours hiking from the cars and stays cold much longer than the main Fraser Canyon climbs.

Christine Falls (incomplete) 150m WI4

This climb begins almost right off the hiking trail just west (up-valley) from the Devils Staircase, a steep set of switchbacks. The ice consists of a 12m vertical step (WI3+/4-) followed by 100m of rambling ice and snow with a 30m WI2 step in the middle. The upper pitch, a 20-25m curtain of variable ice, had too many holes in it in February 2011 to climb.

HIGHWAY 99 NORTH - MARBLE CANYON:

Left of Dale's Route

There was a report in January 2005 of short, fun, leadable blobs of plastic looking ice, with some flow at top, just left of Dale's Route up the arching right-facing wide crack. It's not clear if the line was led or just TR'ed. Now bolted as **Shake Rattle and Roll WI3 M5** 20m 5 bolts courtesy Garry Brace.

A much harder new mixed variant climbs the slabby terrain right of Waite For Spring, 5m right of Waite. **Comfortably Numb**, also from Brace et al, varies from WI4 if fully iced to M7 if thin or bare and comes well-equipped with 14 bolts.

Three further routes were bolted and climbed by Brace et al in late 2008: **Jolly Rancher (Unformed) WI3 M6** just right of CN, one bolt plus ice. **Jolly Rancher Direct, M5** right again, 6 bolts lead to the upper Rancher ice. Finally, **Little Bit of Pain M8** 32m is much stiffer and goes through the overhang left of Pink Cadillac to the steep vertical arete left of that route. Stick clip the first of many bolts, pull thru the overhangs and up onto the arete then climb vertical rock to the finish of Jolly Rancher.

With reliably bolted mixed routes from M5 to M8 and easy access, this half of the Lower Tier is probably now the most accessible mixed crag in SW BC and proved very popular in early 2009.

HIGHWAY 99 SOUTH - DUFFEY LAKE ROAD:

Yellow Submarine 45m WI3. First ascent unknown. On the Downton Creek FSR about halfway to Sergeant Pepper. Drive and park as for Carl's Berg or drive 1km past the Berg up the Downton FSR if snow conditions permit. Continue hiking up the Downton FSR towards Sgt Pepper. The climb is on the north side of the creek just above and downstream of the second bridge. Scramble up the road cutslope to a short curtain of ice, which kicks back to a gentler flow for a while, then finishes with a steep 8m curtain. Old sling found on top in Dec 09.

Shenanigans 900m WI3 M4 Gary Shorthouse & Adrian B. (not Burke or Bogen) Feb. 10/07

Park at the Seton Ridge FSR turnoff and walk 300m south towards the Rambles. The climb is a long gully with much romping up enjoyable easy terrain and minimal roped climbing, but cruxes to WI3 and moves of M4. The 900m refers to total elevation gain. Supposed to be a good day out. Bring headlamp for the descent.

Burly'esque 10m WI4+ Graham Rowbotham & Bob Koen January 2007. In the gully 100m right of the Tre's Burly approach. Rambly WI2 approach ice leads to a 10m high freestanding narrow pillar.

I Am The Liquor 140m WI3

G. Shorthouse/J. Peters Dec 20/05

This climb is an early former off the Duffey Lake road, apparently often in before anything else on the Duffy but hard to reach and dangerous once the snowpack builds. Take Boulder Creek FSR (1km West of the Rambles, 27.7 km West of Lillooet) and drive 6 km if road is passable. Route is in a west-facing gully with major avalanche hazard if snowy. 4 pitches: Climb 20m of WI2, then 50m WI3. Ramble up a further 60m of WI2 to a 10m WI3 finish. Rap the route (?)

The Gong and the Short of It WI2+ 80m

Andrew Rennie & Kirk Becker; January 13, 2005

A worthwhile easy climb with great views. The climb is visible a short distance above the road on the lefthand side of a large avalanche chute coming down off Mt. Rohr 1.9km east of the salt shed on the Duffey Lake road [29km eastbound; 60km westbound], about 2km west of the Cerise Creek parking area. 20 minutes approach, 2 pitches (soloed on first ascent). Far enough to the side to be mostly free of avvy hazard.

SOUTH OF LILLOOET: TEXAS CREEK

WCI contained erroneous directions for Texas Two-Step. Rather than being located near the 2 km bridge, the climb is actually at the 1.2 km mark, on the south side. The two-stepped flow at the 2km bridge, which has been mistaken for Texas Two-Step in the past, and which seems to form more frequently, is therefore **Alamo'de** 70m WI3 FRA Drew Brayshaw & Fern Webb 2002. The first step is 40m WI3 and can be quite thin; the second step is 30m WI2 and is usually fat. Rap from trees to climbers' right.

All Hat No Cattle 40m WI3+ Drew Brayshaw & Merran Fahlman February 2007

This climb is at about the 0.9km mark on the south wall, and rarely forms. 15m of steep pillar (a shallow muddy chimney marks the line when not formed) leads to 25m of more rambly ice and a bush ledge below a steep rock wall. Rappel down from the deepest Abalakov you can drill, possibly only a 13cm one...

Longhorn 400m WI3. Drew Brayshaw & Merran Fahlman February 2007.

This climb is at the 1.2km mark, across from Texas Two-Step on the north side of the canyon, in the westernmost of two major side gullies (the eastern gully also contains intriguing ice high up but has much talus lower down). Cross the creek on ice jams and hike up 100m of frozen scree to the base of the route. 150m of WI2- soloing leads to 4 full-length (60m) pitches of WI2 and WI3. There is a 20m freestanding, unclimbed pillar to right of the final curtain in a fork of the gully that looks as if it will go at WI4+ at minimum. 5 rappels down from a mix of Abalakovs and trees, mostly to climbers left of the route, plus considerable downclimbing.

In addition to the 5 listed climbs, there is a hanging valley about 300m left (south) of Longhorn with a narrow bedrock canyon dropping down to join Texas Creek that looks from the road like it might contain ice. Unfortunately, exploration has proven disappointing with at most a 10m step of low-angle and rambly WI2 and much unfrozen creekbed.

SETON LAKE

Piss n' Vinegar 420m WI4+ /5 Bruce Kay & Jesse Mason March 2009.

Probably jointly the biggest non-alpine route in the guidebook area with WWS. Climbs the right-hand side of the Winter Water Sports flow all the way to the top, gradually increasing in difficulty with height from WI2/3 to WI5. Bruce's second attempt on the line, stolen just before a warm front ended the season – a previous climb with Jim Martinello ended on p7. Long days help with this one but increase chances of warm temps and rockfall. Descent is initially down the rock wall to climbers right (tree raps) to avoid rock and icefall, then from ice (Abalakovs) lower down.

HIGHWAY 40: BRIDGE RIVER CANYON

Bonsai Pillar 15m WI4 FRA Don Serl, Graham Rowbotham January 08. The slender pillar (telephone pole sized) in a narrow gully 25m left of Jade Falls. Rap sling found on tree at top, but details of earlier ascent unknown. The hanging drip 30m right of Jade Falls is so far unclimbed?

The next two routes are just past (west of) the Carpenter Lake dam on the north side. Crack of Noon involves slabby ice to a very thin pillar; Kakaah features technical blobs to a cruxy roof. Kakaah is directly above the 50.8 avalanche marker; CoN is 100m east.

Crack of Noon Club 65m WI4+ Craig McGee and Brad White January 08

Kakaah 30m WI5 Craig McGee and Brad White January 08

Another 800m west is one more route:

The Walrus 85m WI2+ Drew Brayshaw, Steven Harnng and Jesse Mason. December 07. 800m west of Kakaah, at the 51.6 avalanche marker. 10m of WI2 and 20m of snow lead to an excellent narrow 55m flow of WI2+. Belay where the ice kicks back to rambling creekbed; abalakov descent. The route avalanched twice on a party attempting the second ascent – beware in heavy snow.

WELLS GRAY:

It's really outside the extent of the guidebook but a couple of older routes in “the Waterfall Park” were mentioned in the 1988 CAJ. The big news from 2011 is that Will Gadd and Tim Emmett finished “Spray On”, 5 pitches of WI10 bolted hoar-ice on the backside of the Helmcken Falls Amphitheatre. There are also a half pitch WI3 and WI4 on the left side of the cave and a 25m WI4+ pillar which is the exit route to get back to the cars (rappelled on the way in) with reportedly lots more to do. Beware of 30m long hanging icicles falling off during warm weather though. Bring metal detector and blowtorch if looking for the bolts on Spray On as they reportedly get covered over pretty well with spray ice as the stuff forms.