

# **New Ice Climbs in SW BC Version 12.1**

**Last Updated December, 2017**

(more or less in guidebook order)

This is a listing of all new or newly reported ice and mixed routes (excluding fully alpine climbs) climbed and described since the publication of *West Coast Ice's* second edition. Every year there are some unreported new routes which get included here later on when they are described to us. 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* until such time as we get a third edition published!

To save on space the incomplete listing of routes in the Okanagan, Kamloops and Wells Gray areas listed in previous updates has been dropped. The only area with climbs not included in the *West Coast Ice* guidebook included in this update is the Princeton-Keremeos corridor. South-central BC from the US border to Wells Gray to Revelstoke has enough routes that it would be best served by its own, separate, comprehensive guidebook.

## **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 Harnng). 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 Harnng 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+/- 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. Subsequent ascents haven't found enough ice to repeat even the opening pitches,

and the ever-present threat of someone from NSR telling you the area is “closed” is also an issue if conditions are at all good.

The Crater Couloir itself is more of an alpine climb up a big avalanche gully, but in the right early season conditions can have a 40 m WI2 pitch at the base. Later in the season it is covered in avvy debris. Higher up where the gully forks, go right to gain the summit ridge.

### **SQUAMISH – MURRIN AREA (PET WALL)**

**Sorry Rolf** 15 m M7. Paul McSorley, Tim Stephens 2009. Bolts and some gear lead to a smear out to the right of the summer line Czech It Out. The name refers to Rolf Rybak, whose bolted line it is. This may be the mixed version of the obscure line detailed below, which reportedly has been climbed as a pure ice line, although the details are scanty

An unnamed route (sounds like near the summer line of Czech It Out, which is often wet) was climbed in the early 2010s to give a 15m WI4 and an old top anchor was 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.

### **Indian Canyon – Nintendo Area**

This crag has been home for years to a “wild windblown curtain hanging from the roof”. Dubbed Nintendo by Serl, it was finally climbed by Damien Kelly and Peder Ourom in 1996 to give **Nintendo 64**, 30 m WI5/5+ depending on thinness and tenuosity of the curtain.

In addition to the main route, there are a couple of other routes on the same bluff, mostly developed by Peter Watson; the ice grades are dependent on the degree of ice formation, all about 30 m long. From left to right along the cliff they are:

**Nintendo Left**, WI5 M5

**Nintendo Right-hand Finish**, M7 through roof (ice dependent), TR only

**Poop** M5+ gear

**Puke** M6 8 bolts

**Spew** M5+, 6 bolts

The latter three routes can be climbed even when there's no ice at all. They share a bolted anchor. Some more recent summer season rock climbs in the 10+ to 11- range were developed on the same bluff in 2016, making things even more confusing.

## **SHANNON CREEK to GONZALES CREEK AREA**

This covers climbs between Gonzales Creek to the south and Shannon Creek to the north. There are some old and poorly documented rock routes in the area and lots of rock. Ice is visible from the highway but only a few routes have been recorded over the years. For years the Knight brothers' route Icetime For Gonzo (WCI p.28) was the only climb known to have been done in this area.

**Unnamed Seeps** WI3+ 20 m and WI3 25m Chris Small and Sean Clayton January 2017. Approach directly up the Gonzales Creek drainage (past the Fferys Wheel rock crag) until the ice is visible on the left (north) bank. Chris and Sean Climbed a WI3+ 20 m flow and TR'ed a 25m, thinner flow of ice WI3 to its right. Both climbs reach a prominent ledge, with a couple of much steeper unclimbed flows (WI5?) continuing up off the ledge which were not attempted.

**Eagle Eye** WI5 100m 2 pitches FA Jia Condon, Tony Richardson & Paul McSorley January 2017. Eagle Eye ascends ice right of and behind the Papoose. Approach by hiking in left of the Papoose, then trending right and up, along the power lines. Look up and left to see the climb. Pitch 1 climbs 35 meters of WI4 ice. Traverse snow slopes left to the base of pitch 2, the crux 30m WI5, a free-hanging pillar to start.

**Icy Nuts** M6 50m. Tony Richardson, Ben Harnden, Paul McSorley 2012. This route is found along/near the Shannon Falls descent trail, up and right 100m or so from the right hand end of Gobsmacking Wall (Poultry in Motion et al). Thin ice and mixed, reported as "fun."

**Cambodian Cowgirl** WI4 M7 150m. Paul McSorley, Tim Stephens, Jia Condon and Conny Amelunxen, 2010.

This route is more or less under the Gondola line. Four pitches lead to the summer rock climbing area of the Overlook (see McLane guide pp. 166-167).

P1 M4 50m

P2 easy mixed 30m

P3 burly M7 3bolts quality 30m

P4 incredible WI4 M6 (a few pins) in a corner! 40m (This last pitch is the Barley/Fantini route *Curiously Old Fashioned*, summer 10a)

Rap *Reverse Cowgirl* to get down the top pitch and walk off on the Overlook trail from there.

## **BEHIND THE CHIEF- OLESEN CREEK**

**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.

Several of the Olesen Creek routes came in early and stayed around for a long time (several months) in 2016-2017. AST saw regular traffic, and went from thin early season conditions to a beat-out snow slog with a couple ice pitches up high by the time the season finished. Some climbers even avoided the bushwack approach by taking the gondola up, traversing to the top of AST, and rappelling in. The Hadrian's Wall finish out to the right of AST on the headwall saw a couple ascents too (including a possible variation finish), although it is slower to form than AST and took a couple weeks after AST came in before it was climbable.

**The Dream** came in in good shape and got a new finishing pitch (Jia Condon, Jason Kruk, Tony Richardson), located after a short traverse from the top of the route as described in WCI volume 2. This finishing pitch ("a half pitch of so, WI 3 or 4") allows for climbers to walk off via the cattle trail to the gondola rather than rap back down the route.

## **THE CHIEF:**

In addition to the listed routes, a couple of short things with thin ice (WI3/4 and mixed) have been done off various parts of the Backside trail, including in the vicinity of the tunnel-under chockstone at the base of Heliopolis, and in the vicinity of White Cliff. Climbs in the vicinity of the Shannon Ck road are described in that section.

**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.

**The Ultimate Ultimate Everything** WI4R 9 pitches FA January 11, **2017** Jia Condon, Paul McSorley, Jason Kruk & Tony Richardson. UUE climbs roughly the line of the rock climb Ultimate Everything, with some variations. The route was approached on the trail right of the Apron, up to Broadway. The first pitch climbed a pitch of thin ice off Broadway, climbers left of the topout of Diedre. This is a 5.9 pitch sometimes used as a Boomstick Crack bypass/alternate in the summer. Two more, easier pitches lead to the forested terraces and the trail that leads to Ultimate Everything. Once across the gully, ice started just right of the UE start at the base of the corner and merged mid pitch with the UE corners. The next two pitches went up the UE corners, with some meandering, then pitch 5 was a long ice pitch. Pitch 6 was climbed with no rope. Pitch 7 was WI4R. Pitch 8 continued on easier ground to one short final step left of the UE finish which was 4th classed. Overall, there was not really much mixed climbing to speak of on the route, with some turf but mostly ice, and as Paul said, “screws on every pitch!”. The formation of the climb was somewhat unusual, with heavy snowfall followed by reliable melt-freeze cycles and cold nights during the shortest days of the year. The combination of a large snowpack on top of Second Summit to feed the route, and melt-freeze cycles to send pulses of water down the climb, are probably both required: past winters with less snow but colder temperatures have not seen a similar ice buildup.

In a bravura display, the second ascent of UUE was a team solo (MA Leclerc and L Lindic) that descended the backside and continued up The Dream for “a very Squamonix outing”.

### **SLHANY (aka The Squaw)**

**Two Minutes for Hooking** c. 180 m M5 WI4 Andrew Boyd and Derek Flett 2008-2009

This climb is on the far left (north) side of Slhany, well left of rock routes in the Straight Outta Squampton area and even left of the prominent giant arête of The Barbarian. Look for a prominent thin ice streak visible from Valleycliffe area. Approach by thrashing straight up from near the Clean Boulders. Climb several pitches of thin ice and traditionally protected mixed climbing to the top of the wall.

**SQUAMISH RIVER - WEST SIDE:** (across from Squamish townsite, boat required)

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

This is to the right (north) of **Echo Magic** (the long WI4 in the Monmouth Creek canyon) 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.

**Dick in a Box** 25m WI3 Artem Bylinskii, Matteo Agnoloni Dec 2016. A short consolation flow on the sidewall as you approach the bottom of Box Canyon, left/south of Echo Magic.

### **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 short flow into the chimney/offwidth at the Runestone, a lovely half-pitch WI3 just left of Krack Rock, another WI3 up and right of Krack Rock near the left end of Cabin Boys Office (possibly following the very obscure rock route Gumby's Inversion) and some climbable smears along the trail just south of Octopus's Garden, in the Salal Sodomy area as well as short flows in the middle of Funarama.

**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, and well left of Alice on Ice and not that far left of Killer Fridge/The Myld Thing. Climb through two roofs (bolted) then up thin ice weeping down left of the Killer Fridge corner. Finish on the ledge below Jabberwocky.

### **STAWAMUS RIVER AND SHANNON CREEK ROAD: BEHIND SLHANY to GONDOLA**

The following climbs are accessed off the Mamquam and Shannon Creek FSRs, behind Slhany. Access is possible by vehicle if the road is plowed or snowline is high, or by snow machine or ski if not. A number of gems have been unearthed in this area over the last few years. Paul McSorley has also produced a PDF guide to this area which includes a location map and a bunch of photos, which can be found on the WCI website, and the WCI Facebook group in the "Files" section.

**Shamwow!** 30m WI5+ FA: Jason Kruk, Elise Aspa, Paul McSorley and Tlell the dog Feb. 2014. The top of this spectacular pillar can be seen from near the 6.4 km mark as a yellow flow of ice. Approach from Shannon FSR near km 6.6 (not signed) and bush crash in southeast to the climb, about a half hour approach

### **SPIRIT BEAR** area:

Spirit Bear is a broad, low granite cliff with left and right sides separated by more bluffy terrain and sporting about a dozen plus ice and mixed lines under good conditions.

Approach: Just after km 7 from where the Right Side is visible - start in a clearcut but stay in the timber as much as possible (stay left of the cliff) heading east-southeast towards the left end of visibly steeper terrain. You should emerge from the forest just below a heli pad 75 meters from the Left Side after 30 to 40 minutes of slogging (depending on snow depth and compactness).

## SPIRIT BEAR MISCELLANEOUS CLIMBS:

100m below the Right Side is a cliff band with a few ice strips, the **Preston-Stanhope** route is the most prominent: WI4 15m - FA: Hannah Preston, Will Stanhope Jan '17.

75 meters above the Right Side Crag is **Ginger Gully** 30m WI3 FA: Sebastien De la Rosa, Jason Ammerlaan, Paul McSorley Dec.2016

### **Spirit Bear Left Side (left to right)**

1. Two Strokes For Some Folks 30m WI 4+ R FA: Sebastien De La Rosa, Jason Ammerlaan Jan 2017
2. Squamish Groomjob 20m M8 4 bolts to thin ice Paul McSorley, Jia Condon, Monte Johnston Jan '17
3. The Groper 15m M5 WI 5 6 bolts (all bolted, maybe one screw for the top) Jia Condon, Paul, McSorley, Monte Johnston Jan '17
4. Golden Boy WI 4 15m Paul McSorley, Jia Condon Jan '17

### **Spirit Bear Right Side:**

5. WI 2 10m Jia Condon Solo Jan '17
6. Unnamed WI 3+ 15m Monte Johnston, J. Condon, P. McSorley Jan '17
7. WI Roofs 15m TR Tony Richardson, Kathia Voyeur, Julian Kenchenten Jan '17
8. Unnamed WI 4 15m Jason Ammerlaan, Sebastien De La Rosa, Paul McSorley Dec. 2016
9. Unnamed WI 5 15m Paul McSorley, Andrew Rennie Jan 2016. Thin curtain of bad ice
10. Husqvarna Hummer M7 15 m 10 bolts Paul McSorley, Jia Condon

Some of the Spirit Bear routes have bolted stations and/or rap stations while others have your standard Squamish tree anchor.

**ICEBOX CANYON:** this area is near the summer crag of the Longhouse, and if you've climbed at the Longhouse you probably have seen this feature and wondered if it freezes up in there in winter. Walk in from Shannon Ck FSR or grunt up the Slhany descent trail past the Pox Wall and so on. There are a dozen or so routes or variations all in the 20 m to 40 m range

### **Icebox Canyon notable routes:**

**Cherry Garcia** WI4 – P. McSorley and Chris Atkinson, Dec 2013

**Just to the Right** – WI3+ - McSorley and Atkinson, Dec 2013

**Depends-a-lot Falls**, WI4. Paul McSorley, solo Feb 2014. The main flow in the canyon.

**Guides Day Off** WI4+ R/X 18 m Sam Eastman 2016.

In general, first ascents in the Icebox have been by Chris Atkinson, Paul McSorley, Tony Richardson, Jason Kruk, Sebastien De La Rosa, Jia Condon, and Sam Eastman

Pretty much every leadable smear has been led or soloed and the most obvious mixed features have been climbed as well, although some mixed lines not leadable on gear have been TR-only ascents. Paul says “let’s not turn this beautiful canyon into another bullshit M-crag with seasonally dependent bolts and chip marks”.

**Goldie Lox Falls** WI3/3+ 90 m. Sebastian de la Rosa and partner Dec 2013. Above the Longhouse parking on the Shannon Creek FSR, between 7 km and 8 km. Walk back 400 m and bushwack 20 minutes up to the ice. An approach WI2 pitch leads to three full pitch independent flows to finish, with a choice of grade; the central line is the steepest, but all were climbed.

**Back to the Future** 120m of ice WI 4 Tony Richardson Paul McSorley January 2015.

This route can be hard to find because it cannot be seen from the road. Park at the gate at 9 km and walk back down the road 100 m. Scramble up the road cut bluffs into the forest via a short left facing vegetated corner system and continue up the vage drainage above until you reach the first pitch of ice. There are 3 pitches: 30 m WI3, 60 m WI4 up a short steep narrow column to a easier runnel above, and 30 m WI3 on a wider flow to the top. Rap the route from trees and Abalakovs.

**McFly** 10 m WI3 Tony Richardson Paul McSorley Jan 2015. Literally roadside ice just before the 9 km gate. You can park your truck next to the climb and belay from the bumper, tailgate, or even from your heated seat with the door open if you don’t mind the threat of icefall breaking your windshield.

### **BLUEBERRY BOX CANYON**

WI 3, 5 pitches Paul McSorley, Jia Condon, Tony Richardson Jan 2016 (possibly earlier)

About 4-5 pitches up to WI 3 and several shorter steps

This nice canyon forms the far left (north) edge of the same escarpment that hosts AST et al. and is about 1 km northeast of AST. It is equipped with fixed hardware for a summer descent; 10 raps up to 35m get you down this slot. In winter it can suffer from open pools or too much snow and so a narrow range of conditions is optimal for the ice ascent. .

Approach: Either from below via Oleson Creek headwaters (similar but worse to the AST approach) or the recommended approach, from the top down (near 9.6 km opposite a prominent white cliff with large boulders) by crashing in 100m NW to a creek which is followed to the rim of the canyon. It is also possible to enter via the clearcuts (around km 8) but expect bush...

### **GONDOLA TOP STATION AREA**

Several very thin ice and mixed routes were TR’ed on Ultraviolet Cliff (aka White Cliff) behind the Gondola top station during December 2016. They face south and so get fried by winter sunshine in the afternoon, hence said to be best on cloudy days. This area was said to be “falling apart” by multiple parties, but still had several climbers visit it over three or four weeks. A WI4 half-pitch flow at the right end saw a lead (Kris Wild and Katy Holm) but several of the leaning 5.10 and 5.11 cracks were full of weepy ice and saw TR action and maybe even a lead or two (unconfirmed) before melting out.

## **SKY PILOT ROAD**

Head back towards Habrich from the gondola and up the trail to Sky Pilot. The following route is located at about 1500 m elevation as you near Sky Pilot:

**The Fuckaround** 15 m WI4. FRA Marc-Andre Leclerc, Feb 2014. A short pillar in a left facing chimney-corner. There are a few other similar things in the area with a poorly recorded history of ascents.

## **AL's HABRICH TRAIL/NEVERLAND LAKE**

Two routes have been climbed in the Neverland Lake/Neverland Falls area along Al's Habrich Ridge Trail, roughly one to two hours on foot or ski from the Gondola top station, and approximately 1.3 to 1.6 km northeast of the Gondola top station as the crow flies. Both, confusingly, were described as Neverland Falls by the first ascent parties, but comparison of the pictures indicated that they didn't climb the same feature. Apparently several ice flows form up on cliff bands in this area.

In late 2016, Nick Elson and Karina Benavides climbed a full pitch WI3 of fat ice up a flow in a right-facing corner. In November 2017, Jason Ammerlaan and partner climbed a 60 m WI3+ M4 on thin ice, also in a right-facing corner, but apparently a different feature as this latter climb was in a recess with a left-facing corner to its right. The second climb may be above the first on a higher tier, although this is unconfirmed. Finally, Jia Condon is reputed to have climbed but not previously reported a pitch or two in the same area several years earlier.

## **FLUFFY KITTEN WALL AREA:**

**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, or even driving during no-snow conditions.

**Tri-Full Tower** WI4 100 m

**Amsterdam Café** WI5 70m

These two routes were both climbed by Paul McSorley, Tarren Ortlieb and Tony Richardson in Dec 2013. They are located on a crag near the Fluffy Kitten, back up the Stawamus-Indian FSR – same parking but other side from Fluffy Kitten, once you cross the second bridge.

Both routes take the central lines on their respective sectors of the cliff – there are other potential climbs to be done. Tri-Full is to the left, and AC to the right.

## **RING CREEK (Diamond Head Access Road)**

**Gertrude Falls** 30m WI3 FRA: Fern Webb & Adrian Bogen Dec. 2004

Hidden in the forest below the cabins at the Ring Creek switchback on the Diamond Head road. Park by the cabins and walk down the summer trail. Heavily mushroomed and difficult to protect (one screw) on the FA, but since has formed several times with better ice. A log frozen into the ice can provide most of the fun.

You can also walk downstream 100 m or so from the base of Gertrude and up Ring Creek itself the same distance to **Ring Creek Falls** 10m-15m WI2 to 2+, (FRA: Webb, Brayshaw, Feb 2014) which is a small, broad curtain of ice offering good practice lines with no objective hazard.

## **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.

**Icecap Peak – East Face**, 1300m WI4 M4. Conny Amelunxen and Tennessee Trent, Feb. 2014. This route faces the Squamish River across the valley from Vulcan's Thumb and requires a canoe crossing of the river during low-snow conditions or when the road is plowed for logging. It rarely forms completely. The first ascent took place during a long cold snap with high snowline that also saw Shannon Falls briefly climbable. The climb takes a long gully through the lower part of the face and climbs steeply terrain above all the way to the summit ridge, with a total elevation gain of 1700 m. There were seven belayed pitches and another 8 simulclimbed pitches plus much unroped climbing, and the route required a bivy on the FA. Some of the mixed low on the route may have edged towards M5 ("M for moss") difficulty.

At least one other three to four pitch WI4 was done in the Ashlu area by Dale Caldwell and partner, with a second similar climb (possibly unclimbed) reported nearby. From context, this might be the lower Madden Falls area, or Sigurd Falls, but further details are lacking at this point.

## **WHISTLER – CAL-CHEAK/BRANDYWINE FALLS:**

In addition to Moaning Tree Wall, there is a short (10m) unnamed wall in the trees about halfway from Moaning Tree to the bungee bridge that has WI2, 3 and 4 lines on it which can be climbed when Moaning Tree is busy. FAs unknown, probably early 2000s.

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, and again in 2014 and 2016). 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, except for:

**Pick Your Poison** WI5/6 40m ish. Matt Maddaloni, Nathan Kuthakas 2014. Two steep pillars with a ledge/smear of thin ice in the middle and "pro just OK and possibly capable of stopping a ground fall", hence the split grade.

**100% Proof** M10 Tim Emmett and Jamie Finlayson Dec 2013. Pro: lots of bolts. This mixed climb in the Brandywine lava cave amphitheatre runs to the right of Brandywine Falls through icicle-fringed basalt roofs and is said to be a great warmup for Helmcken Falls if you aspire to upside-down frozen basalt and spray ice. It's also now the finishing pitch of the following:

**Brandywine Falls** WI5 or WI 6 M10 Tim Emmett and Jamie Finlayson Dec 2016. 80 m, three pitches. P1: climb 30 m or so of vertical spray-ice to a cave belay, right of the falls (given WI6; possibly WI5, but vertical with minimal ability to take screws). P2: climb bolted M9 through roofs, trending left to a cave belay close to the falls. P3: finish up 100% Proof to top out at big tree right of and above the top of the waterfall. Best to rap in and climb out.

### **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 – WEDGE WOODS**

The popular single pitch **Mystery Roach Hotel** 30m WI4 was off limits for construction at the Wedge Woods estate in winter 2013-2014. The construction is over, but the access is now gated. Walking in from the new Wedgemount Lake trail parking is probably the best bet access-wise. Mixed lines (at least two) have been done to both sides of the main MRH ice flow, with the left-hand one more often being mostly ice and varying from WI4 when icy to M6ish when rocky, while the right-hand line is more often mostly rock, and reportedly harder than its neighbours.

### **WEDGE POWERHOUSE IPP ROAD**

The following info is verbatim from Jason Kruk and will be expanded with individual route names, grades and lengths as it becomes available. Until then, it sounds like a very good area to explore if you have a sled, like to ski or high snowlines permit walking access

*“Folks keen on ice but not on driving could consider the routes myself and friends have climbed over the season above the new Wedge IPP road. We've climbed most of the obvious lines above the power station, about half a dozen spread across half a km of forest. Some good pitches up to WI4+. Climbs are north facing at ~1300m elevation. 1-2 hrs skinning approach or 10 mins with a machine. Two of the lines are two pitches but most are quality single pitches. Been up there with Seb de la Rosa and his friend Sean, Skylar Flavelle, Elise Aspa, and Tlell the dog. Climbs are visible driving southbound and worth a visit.”*

### **WEDGEMOUNT LAKE HUT AREA:**

In addition to Keener (WCI p.58), the following new routes have been done:

**Global Warming** WI4 70m Bill Ferguson, Guy Wigham March 2015. An ice-choked chimney on a bluff directly above the lake, near the hut. 50m and 20m pitches with the crux a 10m vertical pillar. Bring rock gear for both the climb and the intermediate belay. One rap off on double 70s, or walk off around the bluffs and down (much longer). Climbed at the end of a long snowless snap, in higher-snow years the top out may be impossible due to snow.

**No Cupcakes** WI4+ & mixed 140m  
**Intolerant Tearin'** M5+ 140m

Both of the latter lines are on the Rethel Mountain headwall, north facing, to the right (west) of the lake outlet. They were done in early March 2015 by Jason Kruk, Tony Richardson and Kye Peterson. NC is the left hand of two snow, rock and ice chimney/gash features, and IT is the right-hand line. Both climbed at the very tail end of a long snow-free spell in spring 2015. NC saw a quick repeat before the season ended which confirmed that the climbs are best done as two 70m pitches. If you bring 60m or shorter ropes, prepare for simulclimbing.

**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 than was presented in WCI. 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. Recent (2014-2015) logging and powerline clearing has eased the access to this climb somewhat. Cross the tracks at 7 km and go past the gravel road signed YEX'WLOA to the left just beyond. 400m past that, pull over at a pullout on the right side of the road. You can see the ice from here if you cross the road and look uphill. Hike up a new logging road for 10 minutes until under the powerlines, then follow a spur south until right below the ice. 3 minutes of steep bushwacking leads to the climb.

**Deception:** on west side at about 9.5km. Visible from the road heading south, not so easy heading north. Requires wading across the river or crossing on fallen logs.

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

Other new routes in the Birken-D'arcy corridor 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. As of 2012-2013 the fixed draws are reported to be in poor shape so plan on bringing your own and doing some maintenance.

**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.

**Unknown WI4 120 m FA?**

**Breakfast Ice WI3 30m** Priti Wright and Jeff Wright Feb 20/2017

About 1 km north of PC Valentine, and roughly the same distance south of Place Creek Falls, Priti and Jeff were the first to report climbing a 3-pitch WI4 (first pitch 35 mWI3+, second pitch 45 m WI2 rambling, third pitch 30 m headwall with variations WI4- to 4+). Park as for Plum/PCV and follow the powerlines north past a swamp until the climb is visible on the right, or walk in directly from the D'arcy road across a field. The climb had been around since January, and Prit and Jeff found an old sling at the top of the first pitch, indicating an earlier ascent. **Breakfast Ice** is an independent half-pitch flow on the right, which they found no anchor in place on and hence named, as it may have been a first ascent.

**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 cutlines 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, called **Big Blue** in the guidebook, should instead 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.

**Red Man's Goulash** WI3 5.9 3 pitches. Troy Jungen, Jia Condon Nov. 2014 Near Line L in the guide, right hand end of the Runout Zone. A chimney left of **Beeker's Chimney**. Two pitches of WI3 lead to an iceless 5.9 chimney. Bring some small cams and at least one 4 inch cam. Gets covered in snow later in the season, best in a cold snap in early season.

**The Golden Ticket** WI5 70m Tim Emmett Jia Condon Jimmy Martinello January 2015. Line Q in the guidebook, a big pitch of steep ice.

**Roadside Redneckery** 2 pitches WI4/4+ Paul McSorley, Jia Condon Dec 2011. The "R" line in the guide.

**Hidden Agenda** M6 WI4+, Tim Emmett Kris Wild, Jia Condon January 2015. Climb the first pitch of **Roadside Redneckery** than veer right (2 bolts) into a long squeeze chimney with ice in the back (maybe take your helmet off to fit in, as was done on the FA), and a couple more pure rock moves on jugs to exit the chimney and top out.

**Chamber Maid** 2 pitches WI4 Chris Geisler, Jia Condon January 2012. The "U" line in the guidebook

All three of these routes (R.R., H.A. and C.M.) are granite chimneys with some thin ice and interesting climbing. They are also located in *severe* avalanche terrain so heads up and only climb when the snowpack is known to be settled and stable.

2 km upvalley of the **Sharpie** area, a large granite buttress (The Mouse's Tooth) sports some impressive faux-Alaskan 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 (starting in summers 2011 and 2012) may offer the possibility of a quicker descent.

### **CERISE CREEK – KEITH’S HUT AREA**

Back in November 2006, Peter Watson and partner found two ice climbs on the toe of the buttress at the base of the east ridge of Joffre, about 1 km west of the hut. Best accessed from the summer trail just after the creek crossing, as for alpine routes like Twisting Couloir or Central Couloir. Hike up the east side of the glacier drainage on moraines to reach the buttress. Under the right early season conditions it forms up a wide array of ice lines. The two routes climbed were the steepest on offer and were both about two pitches, WI3 and WI3+ respectively. This is probably a “sunny-days-with-cold-nights-in-late-fall” climbing area only, similar to ice climbs in the Cheam Range. There is a lot more room for 1-2 pitch WI2-3 climbing here. Later on in the year or in snowier autumns, the whole cliffs gets buried under snow and the climbs vanish under the white pillows.

### **STEEP CREEK- DARKSIDE LAKE**

This popular skiing area is actually at Duffy Lake, halfway from Mt Currie to Lillooet and only about 15km west of Isodorth and Belmore (Lillooet area – Duffy Lk chapter). Approach from Beeker’s memorial hut across Darkside Lake to the granite headwall below Darkside Peak where there are reportedly two ice lines on gaps in the headwall.

**Zeppelin on the Darkside** 25m WI3+. Craig Beaumier and Sean Draper February 2012.

This is the lefthand of the two ice lines. A wide curtain, starting as a snowslope and steepening to blue ice, with a variety of possible lines – the FA line was just right of centre. Descend on rappel. This is a very long approach to a very short climb for a single day of cragging, but possibly a nice diversion if already skiing at the hut.

## **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 - MISSION TO HOPE:**

### **MISSION AREA:**

**Lost Creek Wall** WI 3 20 m January 2017 Russ Shepherd et al (TR only)

There is a lot of ice potential during cold weather up the forested backroads between Golden Ears Park and Agassiz but only a few routes have been reported to date. The Lost Creek Wall is 3 km from pavement on the Lost Creek Forest Service Road, north of Cascade Falls in the Mission-Hatzic area, on the flanks of Mt St Benedict. It can be reached via a half hour walk from where plowed roads end or by a suitably equipped vehicle if snowpack permits. Three separate 20 m thin ice lines were top roped on a roadside bluff with thin ice, good access to the top, and plenty of tree anchors in January 2017. Under the right conditions this might be the closest local ice for much of the Abbotsford and Mission area and deserves to see more traffic. Additional potential lines can be found along the Mt St Benedict trail, particularly on the Murdo Lake headwall, about 2 hrs hike from pavement.

### **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: RUBY CREEK BLUFFS**

**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.

**Spitting Cobra** 220m WI4 Shaun Neufeld, Graham Rowbotham, Drew Brayshaw (roped) and Marc-Andre Leclerc (solo), January 2017.

This route takes the huge left-facing corner about 500 m right of and upslope of Tailwind. The upper ice forms regularly, but the lower slabs do not always form up and might present challenging mixed climbing without ice. An attempt on this line in December 2016 found thin ice and unconsolidated avalanche debris on the first two pitches. During the first ascent, they were fat and easy: 100 m WI2 to a good ledge in the corner. The next pitch continues up the slabs and overcomes some steeper bulges to enter the chimney, 55 m WI3. The crux pitch climbs a short steep pillar (may be significantly wet depending on how much water is being spit out by the cobra) and then skirts around the flaring "cobra hood" ice roof on the left via thin ice to reach a good ledge above, 65 m WI4. A final WI2 and snow ramp leads to the top (40m). Rappel the route, or downclimb to climbers left from the top belay and then rap the slab to climbers' left via trees, some small. About 4 raps down (maybe 3 with 70 m ropes and good choice of anchors) plus downclimbing. The second ascent party rappelled the route and had problems with ropes

freezing into the ice. A few finger sized nuts or Tricams can supplement ice screw belays with rock gear on this climb, especially if the opening pitches are thin.

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

This route is about 100 m right (east) of Spitting Cobra. 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).

### **AGASSIZ TO HOPE: Orange Pipeline**

**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.

A similar but unclimbed line often forms to the left.

**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:**

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

**Decent Divorce** WI 4/4+ 60m FRA: David Parker and Lane Brown Jan. 2005, but definitely climbed earlier.

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+ 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+. A big landslide came off the ridgeline just right of these falls in Nov 2014; the climb should be unaffected.

**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**. This has improved the climb, if possible. 70 m of WI2 leads to a 50 m WI3 pillar, then more rambling WI2 for another 80 m through a narrow notch to an obvious top out point with frozen log. Rap from here on v-threads. The forest to the right is full of prickly bushes and cliffs and best avoided. It's also possible to continue up the drainage for hours more on low-angle WI2 with the odd 10m WI3 step to reach the old logging road that the slide started from, 1000 m above the highway. The descent from way up there is reportedly quite unpleasant though.

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 Gizzardgulper** 70 m M8 WI4+. Marc-Andre Leclerc with Matt Skenazy (on p1 only) Dec 18/2016

This is the “hanging drip” referenced under Janice Ales. Climb a pitch of WI3 up the apron below the drip and belay. Climb ice seeping from a diagonal fault left of the dagger, gain a second higher fault, traverse behind the dagger, and gain it from the right, continuing to the top. Four bolts and three fixed pins.

**The Diviner** 260m WI3+ 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 pipeline slash reaches the side of the freeway about 2km east of Exit 146, 0.75 km past the Gizzardgulper cliff. 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). Recent logging in fall 2017 may have improved the approach. Follow the new logging road as close to the gully as you can.

The initial 35m WI3 and 30m WI2 steps were soloed on the first ascent. This was followed by 60m WI3+, 70m WI3, and 60m WI2, some of which was simul-climbed. A finishing 25m pitch of WI2 or easy 3 was left unclimbed because of slushiness. To descend 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.

## **CHILLIWACK TO HOPE: HUNTER CREEK TO MOUSETRAP**

**Waxed Gash** WI3+ 55m Shaun Neufeld, Maxim de Jong January 2017. This route is the left-hand of two potential lines found in a chimney directly uphill of the start of the Hunter Creek FSR. Turn off onto the Hunter Creek FSR (between Hunter Creek rest area and the weigh station, on the parallel road south of Highway 1) and park wherever feasible. Hike talus and bush 15 minutes up from the road into a wide granite chimney/gully. The left hand line starts fat and gradually thins above a small roof to a runout finish on thin ice. The unclimbed right line is probably WI5 but was soaking wet on the day WG was climbed.

**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 decommissioned logging road from east end of Exit 165 south-side service road, then 10 minute hike to the gullies. 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.

## **SOUTH OF HOPE: SILVER-SKAGIT ROAD**

**Cruel Pools Extended** 300m WI3 First complete ascent Jeremy Allyn and Dave Leahy; January 8, 2005

A super popular climb when it's in. 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 hanging discontinuous curtain offering several possible 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.

**Four Mile Falls** WI2 130 m Graham Rowbotham and Drew Brayshaw Dec 17/2016

This route is on Four Mile Creek, which drains the hanging valley reached by the Mount Hope FSR, south of the Hwy 3/Hwy 5 junction. It is high volume and seldom freezes completely. Park on the FSR near the end of pavement and bushwack up to the waterfall following the east side of the drainage, about an hour to the base. Two long pitches of WI2 with a short step and walk between, with cauliflowered and severely hollow ice; somewhat more serious than the grade suggests. Make two rappels back down from trees to climber's right.

**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-Andre 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 Cirque**

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.

The **north face of Silvertip Peak** was originally climbed on the last day of calendar winter by Bruce Fairley and Harold Redekop in March 1981. A long gully full of avalanche debris led to the upper non-technical snowfields. In November 2014, Matt Kidd and Nickolas Grabovac climbed what seems to be the same lower gully, finding many pitches of mostly easy thin early-season ice with some steeper sections, in the absence of avalanche debris:

P1-2 Steppy Grade 2 ish, (120m best soloed by capable parties)

P3 45m Grade 3/3+

P4 Grade 2 ramble to base of pillar

P5 30m Grade 3 pillar

P6 60m Steppy Grade 3- (First potential to turn right here, was not touching. If down looked like would

be a short, steep grade 4)  
P7 60m Grade 2  
P8 60m Grade 2 with maybe some easy grade 3.

Like other similar alpine-ish routes, this is probably only viable as a water ice climb before significant snowfall.

### **HIGHWAY 3: SUMALLO BLUFFS**

**First Time Lucky** 55m WI3 Matt Kidd, Marc-Andre 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. Ice was still forming in the scoured gully in winter 2011-2012, though.

**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. If you do fall off a tree, the river's only about chest deep.

### **COQUIHALLA – HIGHWAY 5:**

#### **JARVIS BLUFFS area**

**Arctic Ocean** 120 m WI3 Shaun Neufeld and Drew Brayshaw, November 2014.

The wall right of Northwest Passage. A huge shield of ice the size and width of the Lower Weeping Wall formed up all the way to the ground in a freak cold snap 2 days after 100 mm+ of rain fell in 24 hours; it usually only forms half way down the cliff if it forms at all. Two pitches of WI3 (30m, 60m) on thin ice lead to another 30M WI2 to reach the lowest tree on the wall left of centre. Rap the route on Abalakovs. WI4 possibilities to the right were threatened by falling ice.

**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.

There is a strong possibility that the route listed as "**Black and White**" left of the *As Seen On TV* curtain, may be the same as the earlier climb **Skunked Again**, whose position has never been certain.

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

This route is located along the Coquihalla Highway, just past Jarvis Bluffs. Park at Sowaqua Creek U-turn route on the west side of the highway. The route is in a shaded east-facing gully just north of a prominent rock buttress. Cross Coquihalla River on the highway bridge and walk north on the pipeline road (old KVR), 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:**

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. 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 runs between two cutblocks. Hike up the drainage to the top of the cutblocks (200m el. gain), 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 of rolling easy 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 (Two Bears). 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 if formed (has formed several times thereafter). Potential for naturally-protected mixed climbs on right side of lower flow. Descent: Walk off to south through recent clearcut.

**Janus** 30m WI3. FA unknown, Nov. 2014. 500 m north of Box Canyon on the east side of the highway, in the Janus avalanche path. Bushwack to the ice through forest on the right, then cut over into the avalanche swath as high as possible. A 30 m step of WI3 leads to an endlessly long rambling WI2- flow above under low-snow conditions. You can follow this almost to the Flatiron ridge crest if you are truly motivated, but don't expect anything else that's steep for more than a bodylength once past the first pitch.

Near the mouth of Box Canyon, the granite crag on the right now sports two mixed routes which can and were climbed in totally ice-free conditions, both courtesy of Pete Watson in January 2014 (and which go in the 11b to 11d range if climbed in summer):

**Welcome to the Box** M8+ 7 bolts 15 m; just left of an obvious chimney

**Under Promise, Over Deliver** M8 20 m; 5 m left of Welcome to the Box – arête to roof to easy finishing slab.

Climbers were reported & photographed on **Ms. Natural** (the ice left of Mr. Natural) in January 2017, but no other details of a successful ascent have yet surfaced. Watch this space...

In the *Scotch on the Rocks* area in the upper reaches of Box Canyon, there are two new variants to SotR:

**Truth** WI4 15m Dan Canton and Brad Winter Jan/Feb 2009 Immediately to the right of SotR. It's a quarter of a pitch (if that) pillar that ends in a bushy thrash. It's also possible under some ice conditions to move left from the top of Truth to get on SoTR itself and follow that climb to the top.

**Single Malt** WI5 60m Dan Canton, Steve Vanhulstentop and Michael Down Jan/Feb 2009. A steep alternative on SotR. It only forms in really fat ice years. It's best described as the steep/direct pillar starting at the base (slightly left of center) of SoTR. Everything else about this climb is identical to Scotch – one 55/60m pitch with a station/rappel on the climber's right.

It is also possible to thrash up the gully right of SotR and rappel from fixed stations at the top of the wall down to a fixed anchor at the top of SotR and variants if you aren't up to leading it from the base.

At the back of Box Canyon, just before the Emerald Wall, a full pitch of WI2 that forms somewhere 50m to 100m left of Engage! was climbed at least twice during the winter of 2012-2013. Full details and route name unknown.

There is finally a report at least one route on Emerald Wall – the huge sheet of ice at the very back of the canyon, a long slog or ski from the road (best late in season on a thick snowpack):

**Lawyers, Guns and Money** 180 m WI4 Dan Canton and Steve Vanhulstentop Jan/Feb 2009. Three pitches of WI4 ice separated by snow ledges. The first starts with a 20m pillar, the second is a broad sheet of steep ice, and the third is more moderate with a shorter steep section. Snow ledges separate the pitches. Three full length raps from tree anchors get you down.

High in the gully to the right of Emerald Wall is:

**Innocent Bystander** WI4 100m or so. Dan Canton and Steve Vanhulstentop Jan/Feb 2009. This is a two pitch WI4. The first pitch is the business, with thin and delicate climbing when it does touch down, which is seldom. Expect few, if any, reasonable screw placements even when this pitch is "in", and stop and belay when you get to thicker ice that will take screws. The second pitch is thicker and includes a short WI4 pillar that can be bypassed on the right side at WI3. This pitch ends at a tree anchor. When rappelling, recall the thin state of the lower pitch and stop at the lowest spot above it you can find ice thick enough to take an Abalakov, as it's possible to rap past the fat ice and then be left dangling on the ends of the rope with nothing available for an anchor. A somewhat alpine climb that gives you views above the canyon rim from the top.

## **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. 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 (the left-hand of two bowls) 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. *Stitch that Jimmy* was repeated under fatter conditions in January 2014.

**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.

**Shaft** 30 m to 60m WI 3 to 4. Stan Sabourin and partner 2006.

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 take the 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. The route is an obvious half pitch pillar which is well visible from the highway when formed. The first ascent in 2006 found fat ice and

climbed the route as 30 m of WI3. The second ascent in 2007 found a much thinner flow and a column with a full-width 2 inch crack at the top, 30 m of WI4, followed by another 30 m of hiking up an ice-free gully to a little step of solid blue ice above that was just thick enough to set an Abalakov.

**Private Reserve** 45m WI3+ Jesse Mason, Jordan Peters, Steven Harg 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 Larcen 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 in theory 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 the 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.

**Hidden Dragon** WI3 125 m Kurt Werby and partners, 2003. Three ice flows sometimes form up, spaced several hundred meters apart, on the south facing bluffs across the Similkameen from Ashnola River, 9.5 km west of Keremeos. All are directly above Highway 3 and require slogs up scree slopes to reach. The left-hand flow is low gradient and probably a pitch or two of WI2; the right-hand flow features a seep of very thin ice that usually doesn't touch down, in an alcove, with a rambling flow above. Both are probably still unclimbed. The middle line, *Hidden Dragon*, is the most reliable line, and was climbed by Kurt Werby and partners in 2003. It gives 3 pitches to WI3, with the first being the crux, easing with height. Descend by rappel; a few pieces of rock pro may be useful, as there isn't much vegetation to rely on and the ice is often thin.

## **HIGHWAY 1 - FRASER CANYON:**

**Lake of the Woods:** recent (2012) road construction here has widened and moved the highway, creating a new road cut that forms a lot of seepage ice. Mike and Elizabeth Warn climbed two 20-25m WI3 lines on this road cut (**Monday Morning Mood Swing** and **Semi-Frozen Mud Pie**) in January 2013, but the aesthetics of belaying in the ditch, even with a concrete barricade between you and the traffic, make these routes not especially recommended for repeat ascents. Other lines on the same bluff freeze up but usually not all the way to the top, ending in vertical loose blasted rock several meters below the top of the bluff.

**Puckat Creek Falls** 60 m WI2-3 Drew Brayshaw, Adam Palmer, Todd Arsenau & Richard Garside, January 2017. Puckat Creek is the next drainage north of the signed American Creek and is not signed or marked at the highway. If you get to Klahater Lake, Texas Creek or Dogwood Valley you've gone too far north. Park at an obscure railway access pullout off the northbound lanes, across the highway from the climb. Cross highway and follow old road on the south side of the creek; 15-20 minute hike to the base. The first pitch is a 25 m curtain of thin ice with multiple possible lines and with steep icicle-draped cave features to the left. After this pitch, hike up the drainage for 20 minutes over a couple short steps, then take the left (south) fork to find two more steps of WI 2-3. Easy climbing but fun canyon exploring; a high volume route best done in extreme cold to avoid open water pools. There may be more falls further up the main drainage.

### **SUPERHEROES CIRQUE (Sailor Bar Tunnel):**

**Antifreeze** M6- 30 m Marc-Andre Leclerc and Tim Nielsen Dec 2016.

**Dr. Octopus** WI7 and/or M7 35 m Marc-Andre Leclerc Dec 2016

**Venom** WI6+ 35 m Marc-Andre Leclerc and Tim Nielsen Dec 2016.

These three routes are to the right of Mr. Freeze. Antifreeze climbs right of Mr Freeze, beginning up a thin flow of ice before climbing rock features leftward to step onto Mr Freeze at the lip of the roof. Venom climbs blobs and drips up the lower wall to gain a separate, thin, yellow pillar of ice about 40 m right of Mr Freeze. Dr. Octopus climbs left partway up Venom before moving left to gain two small icicles hanging from the rock lip between Venom and Mr Freeze. Dr. Octopus is mostly climbing on ice (only two rock moves) but has one bolt plus a fixed knifeblade, and a couple of cams to 1" are also useful.

In addition to these routes, Marc-Andre and Luka Lindic climbed the first known ascent of the direct finish to **The Riddler** in January 2017, up a steep chandeliered WI5+ pillar hidden in the forest, left of the normal ramp finish.

**The Chuck Norris Roundhouse Smash** 40m M5R 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. A fist sized cam, a couple finger sized cams, and a couple pins may be helpful but even then you'll probably find R rated climbing. The second ascent found little pro and suggested a long sling is useful (for the chockstone).

### **Spuzzum – Alexandra Bridge/Anderson River Road**

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

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

These three routes are 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 climb: 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:**

There are three separate drainages, and four routes, above the tourist trap, on the other side of the river from the highway. 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 which can sometimes be avoided if the gate is not locked, or by climbing on the outside of the fence above the river. From the bridge, walk up to the train tracks.

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

**Fighting Hellcat** 40m WI4 Graham Rowbotham and Drew Brayshaw; January 2016.

The left-hand gully on the west side of the Fraser Canyon opposite the Hell's Gate tourist trap. From the tracks, walk north 50m, 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. From here Hello Kitty climbs the narrow WI3+ flow in the gully on the left (not visible from the highway). Fighting Hellcat takes the direct pillar on the right of the amphitheater: climb up the right edge on easy ice to a belay cave, then take the steep pillar directly on its left side, avoiding water-spraying holes. For both routes, make one 50m+ rap down from a tree anchor on top of FH, then walk down to the top of the WI2 step. A tree ledge on skier's right of the gully gives anchors for an overhanging 50 m rap back to the base of the first pitch.

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

Cerberus is in the next gully north (right) 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” mentioned in the West Coast Ice guide 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.

**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.

**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.

#### **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 route stays cold much longer than the main Fraser Canyon climbs, as it is north facing and the Stein Valley funnels cold air downhill.

**Christina Falls** 150 m WI4 Drew Brayshaw and Graham Rowbotham, January 2017

This line is found just past the Devils Staircase, as the trail descends back to the river, and is 1 to 2 hours’ hike from the parking lot. Approach uphill from the trail on climbers’ left to avoid bushes in the drainage below the first pitch. A 15 m near-vertical curtain (WI4) leads to a long ramble up low-angle ice with a 30 m WI2 step in the middle. The upper column pours over a granite cave and is 25 m WI4. Another rambling section of WI2 is found above. Rap the upper column from a good tree, downclimb to the 30 m WI2 step, then descend forest to skiers’ right to the base of the route.

There are several other unclimbed waterfalls in the Stein Valley area, including at least one above the cabin in the forks of Stryen Creek, and others further up-valley in the main Stein drainage past Christina.

## **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.

Another new route from Brace in December 2013/January 2014, **The Showdown** 45m M7 takes terrain between Icy BC and No Deductible and requires good ice on the main wall for progression. 13 bolts and three screws on the FA.

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 has proved very popular in every early-season from 2009 on.

There are two more bolted mixed pitches to either side of the second pitch of Icy BC:

**Double Agent** M7 20 m. Scott Payne and Garry Brace Jan 2016. 8 m right of the ice. Stick clip the first bolt.

**Klingon** M8 20m Garry Brace January 2016. Stem off the ice to start and then go left up the rock. Again, a stick clip for the first bolt is recommended.

## **HIGHWAY 99 –HIGHWAY 97 JUNCTION**

A km or two north of the highway junction where the Marble Canyon road meets the Cariboo Highway heading north from Bonaparte towards Clinton, there are some tuff cliffs with gullies on the east side of the highway behind private property in the Mickey Siding area. Two

prominent gullies sometimes form ice pillars during cold snaps. The one behind the automotive repair yard is:

**Ivanhole** WI4 “a half pitch or so” Dave Dunaway and Don Stanchfield circa 2009.

Access to the other climb has been rejected by the homeowner and it remains unclimbed to date.

### **HIGHWAY 99 SOUTH - DUFFEY LAKE ROAD:**

**Duplicity** 5 p. M6+ WI4 Marc-Andre Leclerc and Chris Geisler Jan. 30 2013 This route climbs a prominent hanging dagger to a narrow ice pillar about 300m left of Synchronicity. Approach along the river from the Synchronicity Gully, then thrash up frozen scree through the forest to the base of the cliff. The first three pitches climb WI3 steps interspersed with snow slopes. The fourth pitch attacks steeper rock: start about 15m right of the prominent hanging dagger, and climb to a ledge with a bush. Move left again and climb to a roof with a hand-drilled bolt; clip this and make a tricky traverse left to gain the hanging dagger, and climb to where screws can be safely placed. The fifth and last pitch climbs a narrow WI4 pillar of good ice on a corner. Rappel from trees and Abalakovs.

**Dunkin’ Donuts** 60 m WI3+/4- Eric Hughes, Sarah Hart, Ian Bennett January 2016. This climb is in the Red Wall Wanderers area, and is on the canyon wall about 75 m down and left of RWW and about 25 m left of Playing Hooky. It is a narrow stepped flow of ice with three vertical sections separated by shelves.

**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 (i.e. towards the Rambles), then turn up a small drainage not easily seen while driving by. The climb is a long gully/drainage with much romping up enjoyable easy terrain and minimal roped climbing, but has cruxes to WI3 and moves of M4. The 900m refers to total elevation gain, not pitched length. Supposed to be a good day out. Bring headlamp for the descent. Several people have spent all day looking for this climb and not found it. Be warned...

**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 0.9 km 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 1.2 km 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 Winter Water Sports. Climbs the right-hand side of the WWS 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?

**Millar's Other Pillar** 25 m WI5 FRA Eric Hughes, Sarah Hart, January 2017. The winter of 2016-2017 saw very fat ice form up in the cirque below Capricorn. There was an unclimbed drip present immediately left of Like a Rocket, and Millar's Pillar also formed as two double columns. The right-hand column was the normal Millar's Pillar and was in WI5+/6 shape, while the left column formed where there is normally only a short hanging dagger, and was more stepped, giving a solid WI5 pitch. Later in the season, it was possible to climb by chimneying between the two pillars (WI4+/5-), with the crux then involving pulling out from the top of the ice chimney onto the face of the pillar to clear the final rock roof.

**Young Pups New Tricks** 80 m WI4

**Old Bones New Pricks** 50 m WI3+ M5; both Sam Eastman & Paul McSorley January 2016.

These two lines are found on the roadcut left of Old Dogs New Picks & Steristrip. Young Pups is 200 m left of Old Dogs; Old Bones is another 40 m left, directly above the 36.0 avalanche marker. Both climbs are somewhat threatened by rock- and debris- fall due to the 2014 Hell Creek Fire burn upslope; the highways crew clears fallen rocks and trees off the road here daily, but the two climbs are partly sheltered from the worst of the upslope debris by roofs. Park by Hell Creek and walk over to the climbs. Don't park underneath them or across the road from them!

Young Pups begins as a pair of short pillars, left and right, leading to a ledge; climb either. It is possible to belay from this ledge or higher. From here, climb thin ice in a right-facing corner past several steps, then up an open flow to rappel trees. It's too long for even double 70 m ropes to make it down from the tree in one shot, so you need one Abalakov midway. This proved to be pretty popular in 2016/2017, with at least as many ascents as Old Dogs, if not more – it's slightly easier and definitely less committing than Old Dogs.

Old Bones climbs thin ice to a loose ledge, then past the right edge of a large perched block to pull over a roof via icicles and up a 25 m WI3+ ice pillar above. Some rock gear is desirable for the mixed moves, particularly behind the block where a hand to fist sized cam is useful.

The next two routes are just past (west of) the Carpenter Lake dam on the north side

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

**Kakaah** 30m WI5 Craig McGee and Brad White January 08

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 towards the dam from Kakaah.

Another 800m west is one more route:

**The Walrus** 85m WI2+ Drew Brayshaw, Steven Harnig and Jesse Mason. December 07.

Above 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. Since 2007 this route has mostly formed super thin, 1 to 2 inches thick. A couple nuts and tricams can be useful gear supplements in such conditions (WI3 R)