

## THE TRIPPER



Newsletter of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club

C/O 381 Cedar St., Cultus Lake B.C. V2R 4Z1

## TRIP REPORT

DEAS ISLAND REGIONAL PARK AND  
BRUNSWICK POINT - MARCH 25

Our two location hike began at Deas Island Regional Park. In a bygone era this was a major salmon canning site. Now it is a pleasant level hike the dyke and inland trails. We passed three historic buildings: Burrville, a stately house built in 1906; Inverholme, one-room schoolhouse (1909), and Delta Agricultural Hall (1894). Located in the Fraser River estuary Deas has benches to sit and savor the Vancouver skyline and north Shore Mountains. We walked over the south entrance to the Deas Tunnel. Weather wise a pleasant day to loop around the 71-hectare island on a number of trails.



After a couple of hours of relaxed walking and taking in the views of city and island we drove 18 minutes to Brunswick

Point. Situated on the mouth of the Fraser south of the Alaksen National Wildlife Area on Westham Island. Like Deas this was a pleasant walk with more numerous and varied waterfowl. I'm no birder so won't try to list names. Except I believe the white birds are snow geese and those on the posts are cormorants. Am I right?



To Ladner and the Stir Coffee House we headed afterward. Certainly not a challenging hike. Still we did enjoy about four hours of a pleasant spring day's walk. Thanks Monica, Margaret, Irene, Bev and Bill for your fellowship.

-Dave Ortis

## SIMILKAMEEN RIVER SNOWSHOE – MARCH 29

For most of us it had been years since we'd done this snowshoe. It brought back fond memories for Judy, Deb & John who had camped there once with a large group led by Don Hayes.

We started out at 9:45am at the Cambie Loop / Fat Dog trailhead in Manning Park. At the first bridge, having stayed right at the first junction, we left the trail and turned north, following the river for over 6 km. The rounded pebbles in the riverbed stood out crystal clear in the running water. Snow took on many formations: hats for stumps, craggy trims by the water sometimes with hanging icicles, rounded humps,



little snowballs leaving a trail on avalanche slopes and suspended snow bridges over the river. Stuart, being in the lead, broke through a few of them but other than getting wet, suffered no injury.



On we went, with very minimal elevation gain. When we got to the open broad valley at 12:30pm where half our group had camped, we parked for lunch. Having left Chilliwack in pouring rain, it was so nice to be under dry skies with a soft sun glowing down on us. We could see distant peaks to the north and east with the Kelly Mt. ridge closer to the west. The familiar Fat Dog trail was in the next valley to the east.



By 2:45pm we were back at our vehicles. The snow layer had turned mushy and our VW golf was not liking it. So out hopped the hikers and gave a hefty push, back and then

front and then free. Yay! Now we could go fill up on goodies at the Blue Moose.

Stats: 12.7 km / 208m gain / 1435m high

Thanks to **John Mc** for leading and the rest for joining: Terry B, Deborah H, Judy P, Stuart W + Case & **Joce T**

## WATERSHED AND MUD BAY PARKS - APRIL 1



Our day's hike began at the Highway 10 entrance to the Lower Trail in Watershed Park in Delta. Trail's end was on 64<sup>th</sup> Ave. at the northern end of the park. Our return to our vehicles was on the Upper Trail. We turned onto the Meadow Trail for scenic view of Mud Bay, lunch and the group shot. Thanks for the pictures Manfred.

Afterward we hiked as I recall, on the Gravity Bowl Trail. Soon we were back where we began. F.Y.I. Watershed has some 28 km of trails, some mainly for bikers. It is pleasant hiking through Watershed because it has a park like feel to its second growth forest.



But our hike wasn't just in Watershed. Leaving our vehicles behind at the highway 10 parking area we walked toward Mud Bay Park a distance of 3.8 km. We passed through swampland and blueberry fields. A third of this walking portion was on Colbrook Road a very quiet country road.



At the BNSF railroad tracks where they join the Canadian tracks is the entrance to Mud Bay Park. In the park we did the loop along the shoreline enjoying the Georgia Strait views. In no rush we, Ian and Elizabeth P, Sharon R, Manfred H, Kathy T, Robert J and I sauntered back to our vehicles ending a relaxed four hour hike. **-Dave Ortis**

**LYNN PEAK TRAIL – APRIL 4**

This trail does not lead to the peak, which is closed in with trees, but to a nearby viewpoint looking south to Vancouver Island and the city and the ocean in-between. Due to a few glitches, we had a rather late start: There was a bad accident on Hwy.1, which majorly backed up traffic, and then when we got to Lynn Valley Road, the road to Lynn Headwaters parking lot was closed. So we backtracked and parked at Lynn Canyon. This added kilometers and elevation to our hike.



11:00am we were finally ready to go. There were some amazing views to be had from the Lynn Canyon suspension bridge. Then the trail wound through some pretty forest following the river, which led to a 30' deep gorge where the water was emerald green. From there a high set of stairs led upwards and eventually to the broad gravel walkway, which led to the trailhead.



From the junction to Lynn Peak its 9km round trip, 720m-elevation gain. Massive ancient tree trunks surrounded us.

The first hour or so of the trail was steep, rocky and mixed with tree roots. At 650m the trail led through old growth towering giant Douglas Firs. There were slices of log in the bog and some massive round boulders decorating the forest. At 720m the trail became covered in compacted icy snow. Most of the group brought micro-spikes, which came in very handy at that point. By 1:00pm we were at the viewpoint, having lunch. The high cloud cover gave us clear views.



The rain held off till just before we got to our vehicles around 4:00pm. We went back to the cozy historic store where the road was blocked and where we had asked for parking info earlier. We were tired and hungry and not too eager to get into the rush hour traffic so we leisurely indulged in our guilt-free goodies.



Stats: 17 km / 872m elevation gain / 927m high

Thanks to all who came along and made this a great day: Terry B, Vic E, Cal Francis, Reg Schultz, Margaret T, Harry W, Robbin Y + Case & **Joce T**

**VEDDER MT. CROSSOVER – APRIL 12**

Hmmm. Wonder why so many showed up on a rainy day. Possibly the prospect of homemade apple tart and chocolate cake at my house afterwards? This part of Vedder Mt. is practically in our backyard so that's exactly where we headed...

9:15am we parked at the far west end of Columbia Valley where there is a plot of land used by the military and there are many cameras set up due to the US border being very close by. Most of this hike was on an FSR, with the exception of the last few km. Case has graded this dirt road several times so he can keep driving up to visit his friend Helgi. There's a bit of a battle going on between some residents and drivers. The residents keep putting logs up to block access (on the Majubah Hill side as well) and the drivers keep trying to find ways to have access.



We bypassed a lesser side road to the left and kept trudging upwards till we got to a more obvious junction below some power lines. There we turned right and were soon at the first viewpoint overlooking Columbia Valley. The end of Cultus Lake could be seen to the left.



Back we went, passed the junction and soon were at the fish ponds. Could they get on the makeshift raft (former sign) and sit on the chair without tipping? While a few others were poking and prodding, Case (who's up there every Sunday) promptly passed them and stood on the wobbly board. Joe soon followed and then Judy. Brave souls and good entertainment. On we went, past the little creek decorated

with rubber duckies and then a quick "hello" to our dear friend Helgi.



Just past Helgi's place, before the yellow gate, we turned left at the junction and stayed on this FSR for several km till we got to the end of it on a rocky bluff overlooking Sumas Prairie. The little town of Arnold lay below us. There was a significant drop in the ridge and then a lower hump. On one side was America and the other Canada.

We parked ourselves a bit farther back in the bush for lunch where there was shelter from the wind. After continuous rain all morning, the sun began to peek out and the sky stayed dry.

Our return journey took 2 hours, heading back to the intersection but then turning left on a more used road, then left at another junction and then just past a large culvert and small waterfall, we entered the forest on a very familiar trail to Case & I. It's named the Lucky Trail but there's no markers at this point so it's easy to miss. It's steep in sections. We passed a white trillium, stinging nettle, fiddle heads and 3 creeks. The very last section involved getting off of the main trail, crossing the railway tracks and then opening a fence and then we were there.



On our walk through our nursery we let Joachim know we were going to have coffee so he joined us. Also our daughter with our 2 grandchildren and her friend joined us. So our sundeck was full of hikers and family. It was a lovely day. Thanks to all who came out to enjoy it with us: Terry B, Don

F, Cal F, Joe K, Rose Mc, Judy P, Margaret T, Harry W, Robbin Y + Case & **Joce T**

## SERPENTINE LAKE – APRIL 19



A large group of 15 came out this day for a hike that was new to 13 of us. The faint trail has been well flagged and leads to a beautiful lake with a view of Mt. MacLeod and Mt. Hatfield in the distance.

A few km past the Sowaqua Creek exit #192 we parked at a truck pullout and then at 9:45am walked east on the Coquihalla Hwy a bit till we got to a sign for the Carolin Mine Rd. There we jumped the creek, crossed a downed chain link fence and headed into the forest. There was no trail there but we angled left, away from the creek, until we got to a FSR. There we turned right, walked over a bridge and then at the 4 km mark turned back into the forest. There are plenty of pink flagging tapes there + a post with a miner's claim on it.



Now there was a faint steeper trail that followed Sowaqua Creek all the way up to first a small tarn and then the iced over Serpentine Lake so named for the green rocks that lay beneath it's surface. It took us 3 hours to get there. The solid snow layer had started at 830m. But most of us didn't take the time to put on our snowshoes. Those in front and those

who were heavier did the most post-holing. There were also many logs to climb over. So it was a full body workout.



As the lake came into view it was a wow moment. With forest on both sides and a backdrop of white peaks it was a sight to behold. After lunch we all put on our snowshoes and in two hours we were back at the vehicles. It was 3:45pm. 11 of us ended the outing at the Blue Moose. With such a large group the teamwork was superb. We helped each other stay together, find the way, get pulled over logs and dug out feet caught deep in the snow behind branches.



Thanks Judy for hosting this hike. And thanks to the other 14 who came out for this fun adventure.

Stats: 11.9 km / 670m gain / 1067m high

Dave B, Jerzy B, Heather B, Vic D, Cal F, Debby H, Wayne H, Joe K, Liz L, **Judy P**, Margaret T, John U, Robbin Y + Case & **Joce T**

## 2017 MULTI DAY TRIPS

**TRIP: HIKE SOUTHERN SUNSHINE COAST TRAIL**  
**ORGA: RON DART AT RDART@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: MAY 15-18**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: HIKING IN THE SOOKE AREA, VAN ISLAND**  
**ORGA: IRENE HOFLE AT IHOFLE@TELUS.NET**  
**DATE: MAY 19-25**  
**PART: 8-12**

**TRIP: 3-4 DAYS HIKING OUT OF THE NAHATLATCH LOOKOUT TOWER**  
**ORGA: JUDY PASEMKO AT JUDYPASEMKO@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: MAY 26-29**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: BACKPACK THE NORTH COAST TRAIL, VAN ISLAND**  
**ORGA: JOHN MCLELLAN AT JHMCLELLAN@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: JUNE 10-18**  
**PART: 10**

**TRIP: HIKING IN THE LAKE LOUISE AREA**  
**ORGA: RON DART AT RDART@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: JULY 17-23**  
**PART: OPEN**

**TRIP: BACKPACK THE 1849 TRAIL**  
**ORGA: TERRY BERGEN AT TERRYBERGEN@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: JULY 22-30**  
**PART: 10**

**TRIP: ASSINIBOINE AND THE BUGABOOS PROV PARK**  
**ORGA: JOCE TIMMERMANS AT JOCELYNTIMMERMANS@HOTMAIL.COM**  
**DATE: AUG 01-09**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: HIKING IN THE JASPER NP AREA, FRYATT VALLEY, MALIGNE LAKE, SKYLINE**  
**ORGA: RON DART AT RDART@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: AUG 12-20**  
**PART: 10**

**TRIP: HIKING CATEDRAL LAKES PROV PARK**  
**ORGA: CHRISTINE FAULCONBRIDGE AT CHRISFAULCONBRIDGE@GMAIL.COM**  
**DATE: AUGUST 19-27**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: HIKING IN THE BELLA COOLA AREA, GRIZZLEY BEAR VIEWING**  
**ORGA: AMRG TRANAH AT MARGARET\_TRANAH@HOTMAIL.COM**  
**DATE: SEPT 02-17**  
**PART: 6-10**

**TRIP: CAPE SCOTT PROV PARK**  
**ORGA: LORI BODKIN AT FIRECHICK@TELUS.NET**  
**DATE: SEPT 07-11**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: BACKPACK GLACIER PEAK, WASHINGTON STATE**  
**ORGA SUE LAWRENCE AT GWELU@TELUS.NET**  
**DATE: SEPT 12-17**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: GREEN LAKE, CHILCOTIN, CANOE OR KAYAK**  
**ORGA: JUDY PASEMKO AT JUDYPASEMKO@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: SEPT 23-30**  
**PART: 6-8**

**TRIP: HIKE THE LAKES DISTRICT OF NORTH WEST ENGLAND**  
**ORGA: STUART WOOD AT STUART\_WOOD@SHAW.CA**  
**DATE: OCT 01-08**  
**PART: 8-10**



Old growth forest by Lynn Peak.

## CLUB INFORMATION

### Notice to Trip Participants

It is understood that risk is inherent to some degree in all outdoor activities. Please ensure that you understand the risks involved and are prepared to accept them. As a participant, you are responsible for your own safety and equipment at all times. Trip organizers are not professional guides—they are simply club members who have volunteered their time for your enjoyment.

Inform the trip organizer of any medical conditions that he or she should be aware of in an emergency, for example: diabetes, asthma, and bee sting reactions. Ensure that your previous experience, ability and fitness level are adequate for the trip. Be sure that your equipment and clothing are adequate for the trip. Stay with the group. Wait for other group members frequently and at all route junctions. Tell the trip organizer if you must turn back. **Be safe and enjoy!**

### Required Equipment

Trip organizers will be pleased to answer any questions regarding the required equipment for any outing. For more information, it is recommended that you visit one of the many websites that provide such information. Some recommended sites are: [www.valhallapure.com](http://www.valhallapure.com) (club sponsor), [www.backpacker.com](http://www.backpacker.com) and [www.mec.ca](http://www.mec.ca).

**Safety first, last, and always!** It is the responsibility of trip participants to be equipped appropriately. Plan for the **worst!**

### The Ten Essentials

Before you hit any trail, no matter how easy, no matter how short, no matter how close to home, make sure your backpack is loaded with the ten essentials. When in the backcountry you are responsible for your own safety, and any one of these ten items may help to save your life. Carry them all and know how to use them.

1. Map
2. Compass
3. Extra clothing
4. Sunglasses and sunscreen
5. Headlamp/flashlight
6. First-aid supplies
7. Fire starter
8. Matches
9. Knife
10. Extra food and water

### Equipment for Club Members' Use

2	canoes with accessories	1	stove
2	backpacks	1	water filter
1	two-person tent	1	pruning saw
1	three-person tent	1	dehydrator
1	projector and screen	13	ice axes
3	9 mm climbing ropes	4	pairs of crampons
4	climbing harnesses	8	assorted carabiners
2	avalanche transceivers	?	avalanche probes

**Note:** All equipment must be returned in the same condition as borrowed or repaired appropriately.

## Hike Grading System

Duration (hrs.)		Elevation Gain (m)		Difficulty	
A	0-4	1	10-500	a	Easy
B	4-7	2	500-1000	b	Moderate
C	7-10	3	1000-1500	c	Difficult
D	10+	4	1500+	d	Advanced

## CLUB CONTACTS

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