

THE TRIPPER



Newsletter of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club

TRIP REPORTS

PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE

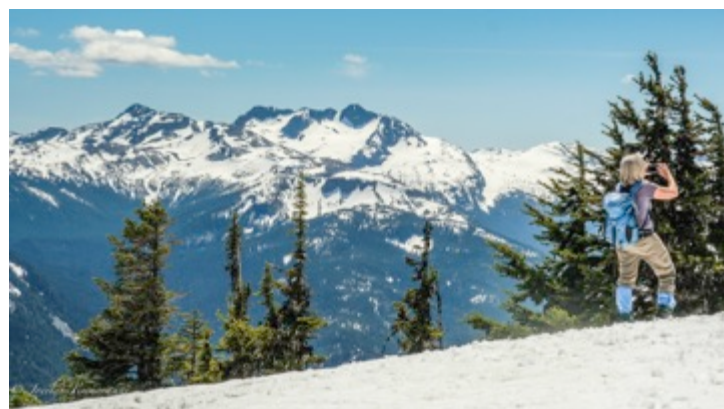
Welcome to the June edition of the Tripper. Thanks to Jocelyn for putting together a great product once again! I hope to be able to share some information with you in each edition. Even though we can't have meetings due to COVID-19 restrictions, the executive has been very active exchanging emails and meeting on May 25 and June 22 via zoom. Although we are now in Phase 3 of the BC recovery plan, it remains uncertain if we will be able to resume monthly meetings in September. We would have a 50-person limit and would need a bigger meeting room to remain distant. We'll keep you informed.

I hope you have had the opportunity to check out the new and improved website, chilliwackoutdoorclub.com. You'll need to login and create your own password to see all the member-only information. One innovative feature is the capability to join or renew memberships online. We've already had some new members take advantage of this. Under the COC Executive tab you'll see a list of the new board members so feel free to reach out to any of us on any ideas or concerns you may have. Thanks to our webmaster Darren Jensen and VP Christine Camilleri who put a lot of time and effort into creating the new site.

I hope you all have a fun and safe summer. With national and provincial park trails and campgrounds reopening, hopefully you will get out to enjoy the great outdoors. -Grant

ZOA – MAY 27

It felt so good to be out with the club again after being shut down since March 16th (due to Covid-19). And we couldn't have had a better day for doing Zoa.



We were able to park at the higher parking lot since the snow didn't start till the pipeline road. By the time we got to the top of it there was a solid snow cover. There we put on micro-spikes and turned left into the forest, following occasional orange markers in the trees. Once out on the open ridge the old hard snow donned a soft moist surface in the warm spring sun. To our north Vicuna & Guanaco Peaks came into view. And to our left were Iago, Jim Kelly & Coquihalla Mtns.



In 1:45 hours MT (moving time) we arrived at the sub-peak. This is our usual destination since the true peak involves dropping down before ascending a south-facing slope that is more susceptible to avalanches. Below us Falls Lake glimmered round the edges that were starting to thaw. And right across from us were the triplets: Thar, Nak & Yak Peaks.



We had a long leisurely lunch before heading down again. Somehow we ended up taking the summer trail down. Since it was early afternoon by the time we got back to our vehicles, Cal suggested we check out the Ladner Creek Trestle Bridge. All but 2 agreed to go.

Zoa stats: 7.2 km / 600m gain / 2:45 hours MT / 1826m high

LADNER CREEK TRESTLE BRIDGE:

We stopped first at the restrooms by exit #217 where we sat at the picnic tables, licking our icecreams that we bought from the mobile stand there. Two men approached from the Zupjok Ridge direction. One of them was one of our own: Manfred H who was with his friend, Ed Klassen. Ed asked if he could tag along with us to the bridge.



It's easy to miss the parking lot just before the Ladner Creek Bridge, because there are no signs on Highway 5. The trail starts right by the highway and immediately gains 90m. Once at railway grade (530m) it levels off. Just past a collapsed 1949 tunnel is the bridge. Its iron frame is still standing strong. But the wooden beams in-between are clearly rotting and not to be trusted.

This bridge is part of the old Kettle Valley Railway. We spent an hour on this historic post-hike excursion (half of that being hiking time).



Out on this gorgeous day were: Gary A, Sue A, Claudine & Scott A, Dave B, Herb C, Cal F, Janice H, Tammy W, Lori Y + Case & **Joce T**

MT HOPE LOOKOUT TRAIL - JUNE 1

Kicking off June we made a foray to the Hope Grind for a hike that was short, steep and sweet. Happy to be out again we climbed up an ascent that was 20% average grade so it was a real workout for the Post-Covid Couch Potatoes! Lunch and/or snacks, laughs (usual) and checking out the "Lookout Loo" at the top. We had a bird's eye view of Hope, the Fraser River and Canyon, Coquihalla River and





Kawkawa Lake plus mountain peaks on a beautiful clear day.



Thanks to Glen R, Liz L, Mark W, Johnny G and sons, Ingrid F, Irene H, Tracy G, Sue A, Grant A, Gary A for joining me.

Leader: **Christine Camilleri**

THE NEEDLE – JUNE 4

The weather did not cooperate with us this day. The predicted partial sunshine in the afternoon did not happen. Instead it actually snowed lightly on the saddle and low hanging clouds kept the peaks out of sight. Our large group of 18 ended up splitting into three during the day.

We parked by the restrooms by exit #217 on Hwy. 5. Then we walked through the tunnel and met Annette in the parking lot just below the maintenance sheds. By 9:50am we were on the trail, promptly putting on our micro-spikes. The first 311m gain to the viewpoint is the steepest, taking about one hour. There was a bit of post-holing especially by the creeks

plus high body-hoisting steps following older footholds kicked into the old snow. After a wait-up break we continued onto the ridge where the views really opened up. Unfortunately there were no far-reaching views but the smooth vertical black granite slopes of the Needle and it's neighbor, Mt. Markhor stood out starkly from beneath the cloud.



We took a second wait-up break nearing the end of the long narrow stretch of long large rock that ran parallel to the cornices along the ridge to our left. The rock provided more protection from the wind. There were two people not too far ahead of us. It was a pleasant surprise when we recognized them: Claudine & Scott! That's why there are 20 people in the group shot. They stuck with our group on the way down. Six hikers opted to turn back at this point since there wasn't much of a view anyways and the wind was picking up.

From there it was another half hour to the saddle. That's where our group split up a second time, 5 die-hards carrying on to summit the Needle. That left 7 of us who had a hasty lunch in the cold. By then it had started to snow lightly and there were almost white out conditions, barely being able to decipher where the horizon was.



A few of us decided that the wet butt was a worthwhile trade-off for the slippery slides down. Our second group met up with the first one just before arriving at the parking lot. We got a phone call from Bote while we were having coffee on the picnic tables by the restrooms. He stated they'd made it to the summit. So we left for home, knowing it'd be at least



another hour before they got down.

All in all, even though we didn't have the best weather, it was still a great day for friendship, fresh air & fitness.

Participants: Gary A, Terry B, Jacqueline C, Cal F, Don F, Ingrid F, Brian F, Janice H, Wayne H, Irene H, Annette L, Bote M, Anne O'L, Len S, Don T, Lori Y + Case & **Joce T**

SKAGIT RIVER TRAIL – JUNE 10

I was waiting to catch a fair-weather window amidst a week of rain & drizzles. Despite the late posting, 6 hikers still showed up. It was the best time to do this trail because the rhodos were blooming. For the most part, the trail followed alongside the river-right, going very gradually upstream. I'd done this crossover 2 years ago but noticed some stark differences now, after the August 2018 fire.



It was a slow 42 km drive on the Silver-Skagit Road that had sections riddled with potholes. Just past 26-mile Bridge was the trailhead, equipped with an outhouse. In the meantime, Cal & Gary drove to the north trailhead at Sumallo Grove in Manning Park and got an earlier start.

We kept up a steady pace in an effort to stop the swarms

of mosquitoes from landing on us. Many of the Lodge Pole Pine trees + Sitka Mountain Ash were completely charred black from the fire but the forest floor was alive with new bright green growth. Because of the lack of foliage, we were able to see the surrounding mountains, namely Brice Mt. to our right (east) and Silver Tip to our west.

We turned left at a junction 2 km in. The other way would've led to the Centennial Trail in Manning Park. As we approached Harlequin Camp, my anticipation mounted. Would we see the rhododendrons in all their glory? It turned out that the trail was not lined with an abundance of them as it was 2 years ago. But they were scattered throughout the forest, easier to spot because of the grey / black tree skeletons.



As we climbed a short steep trail beside a broad talus slope, we stopped to gaze at the best view of Silver Tip Mt. as it dominated the skyline. We were now entering a different Coastal Western Hemlock biogeoclimatic zone. At about 7 km in we ran into Cal & Gary. I was so focused on not forgetting to swap the car keys, (which almost happened once on a 30 km cross-over) and Cal was focused on swapping away mosquitoes and where to eat lunch. So we both forgot about taking a group shot. Sorry.



Two of our ladies went back with the guys, so as to avoid carpooling. We crossed a bridge that narrowly missed getting broken by a huge washout. Not long after that we arrived at the beautiful old-growth cedar and fir grove (about halfway point). Our steps slid into slow motion as we gazed above us at the giants. There were a few short bushwhacking & scrambling over tree sections. Now the mosquitoes were not near as bad. Not far past Delacey Horse Camp (11 km in) we got to a massive mud slide. The standing tree's in it's path still had about 3' of mud caked on them.



Our final special features were the abandoned cabin and mine (1.5 km from the north trailhead). We spent some time exploring the cabin, which remains a mystery. Why did the inhabitants leave what seems to have been so abruptly, leaving their clothes in the closet, books on the shelves and even food in the fridge? The clothes and books looked to be from the 1970s era and belonged to a younger male and female. We found a tombstone close to the cabin. It read: In loving memory of mom Nana: Isabella Wood - May 12, 1895 – July 19, 1975. Found peace in the Silver Daisy. Almost across from the cabin was the pickup truck, whose tires were merging back into the forest. It was parked below a crude collapsed cabin in which the roof was sitting atop a 3' rock foundation. A hop & a skip further was the entrance of the abandoned Silver Daisy Mine and beside it a gushing waterfall.

By 4:00pm we emerged into the Sumallo Grove parking lot. As we crossed the largest bridge just before it, we were leaving Skagit Valley Provincial Park and entering Manning Park. We met up with Cal back in Chilliwack where he was faithfully waiting for his jeep. He'd been waiting one hour and had put that time to good use by running my car through the car wash! Thanks Cal!

Stats: 16.75 km / 411m cumulative elevation gain / high point 663m / 10:30am – 4:00pm

For all 6 of these COCers, it was their first time doing a crossover on the Skagit River Trail: Sue A, Gary A, Jackie C, Cal F, Janice H, Leora P + **Joce T**

After seeing the postings to the club's Facebook Group page I'm not sure what I have to add about this fun ride, but here goes! Cycling is not like hiking or paddling where a little (or a lot) of rain doesn't seem to stop most folks from heading out. With rain, or even the hint of it, many recreational cyclists become house bound. The weather forecast for both June 13 and the 20th looked to be promising the week prior, but went sour and the call was to postpone the event for another day. The forecast for the 27th also looked promising for the Richmond area, but the pouring rain in Chilliwack, the morning of the 27th, could have easily tempted one to go back to bed. As it turned out, 20 club members and guests drove through pounding rain squalls into rather pleasant riding weather.

This ride was oversubscribed at the first posting. I was uncomfortable for safety reasons with increasing the group size limit and leading such a larger group on shared pathways and popular cycle routes. Not wanting to disappoint so many folks just wanting to get outside, go somewhere, anywhere I called Irene Hofer and asked if she would co-lead this ride with me. She agreed....Irene: THANK YOU... THANK YOU... THANK YOU...At first, we considered dividing the group in half, I'd lead one group on the route clockwise, Irene would take the other group around the route counter clockwise. In the end we decided to have both groups go counter clockwise with the riders to divide up based on speed. Folks self-selected the group they would ride in, this seemed to work out just fine. Throughout the ride the groups often met up. What seemed to happen the faster group would pull ahead and when they stopped the second group would arrive a few minutes later. Everyone would mingle for a few minutes, then group # 1 would head off first. This process repeated itself over and over. Fun!!!!



This is a route I have ridden numerous times. The route took us into/through areas of New Westminster, Burnaby, Vancouver and Richmond. On past rides one of the delights along the way were the local farmers' and craft markets we had encountered. Of course, there were none this year, a disappointment as they were always fun to walk through. I,

at least, was gobsmacked by the new developments along the route. What only a few years ago were abandoned industrial sites are now parks and multistore apartment complexes.

At the start of the ride I was concerned about WIND, particularly along the West Dyke Trail from the Tera Nova residential area (on the south shore of the Fraser River directly across from YVR) south to Steveston. We had been riding into fairly strong winds as we approached The Dyke and I feared the worst as along the Dyke one is exposed completely to any onshore winds. Much to my relief and delight the wind proved to be slightly on our backs. As a bonus, by the time we reached Steveston the clouds had dissipated and we were able to enjoy our lunch stop at Garry Point Park in sunshine. The two groups arrived about 5-10 minutes apart. In the past we have tended to linger along the Steveston boardwalks, not this time, as social distancing would have been near impossible. Irene chose to take a slightly different route back to the vehicles, as I also did, from the planned route, I wanted to lead the group by numerous mega houses (most purported to have been built with 'dirty' money. This would cause us to partially bypass one of the more interesting sections of the original route, the Finn Squatters Slough, so we took a short detour to go see it.



The final section of the route took along North River Rd. which paralleled the roads and paths we had ridden near the start, just on the other side of the river channel. Surprise, surprise with about 3km to the finish a rider blasts by us, it was one of our own. It was John LaF., on his e-bike.

Although our routes had been different both groups came together to finish the ride together. The supposedly 'slower group' was not so slow after all. It was a good day to be out on our bikes.

Submitted by: **Gary Baker** (Event Organizer)

CHILLIWACK LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK AREA

- 16-18 JUNE



Basing all hikes out of the Post Creek parking lot and day use lot at the campground, we had a total of 19 participants over the three days. Flora Pass was the objective on day 1 and despite rain to start, then fog, then continuous snow cover, we made it.



Never hike without microspikes! We considered Flora peak, which is 200m higher but the snow cover and low cloud would have made it unrewarding. The weather cleared somewhat on our descent so we had some peeks at Chilliwack Lake. 1100m elevation gain, 12km, seven hours return.

On Day 2, we hiked up to Lindeman Lake and on to Greendrop Lake. Greendrop is a loong way beyond Lindeman. Being a Wednesday, it wasn't busy going up but we passed the multitudes ascending on our way down. There is a significant tree fall just short of Greendrop, which



requires you to go over or under or around the huge trees. We found it easiest to keep to the left as we ascended, near the marshy area. Be sure to go a little ways beyond the main campground at Greendrop up the east side trail to get some good views of why they call the lake Greendrop. 566m total elevation gain, 11km, seven hours return.



Finally, day 3 brought clear blue skies and sunshine! Departing from the day use parking lot at Chilliwack Lake Campground, it is a long walk (3km) to the Radium Lake

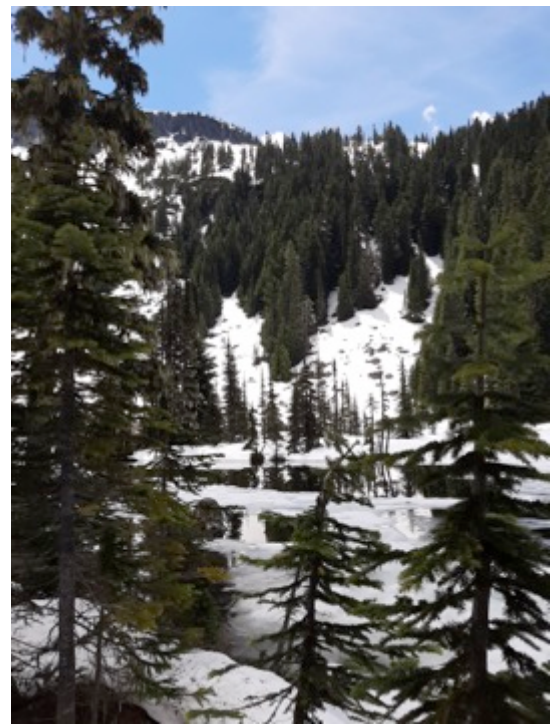


The trail was in good shape with trailhead intersection with the Great Trail. Then, up, up, up, three new bridges spanning Radium Creek.

Encountering snow as low as 1100m, we had some difficulty way-finding

and post-holing through the snow cover. We arrived at the partially ice-covered lake where most of us turned around after a lunch. Three hardy souls continued up to the Webb-MacDonald col and hence to Mt Webb summit. To Radium Lake: 1020m total gain, 20km round trip, 8.5 hrs.

Thanks for coming out: Gary A, Ingrid F, Annette L, Grete H, Christine C, Marcel D, Maureen S, Herb C, John M, Mark S, Stuart W. Organizer **Grant A.**



EAGLE BLUFFS VIA BLACK MT. - JUNE 25

This was a relaxing popular hike in Cypress PP. There were 15 of us that met up at the Cypress Mt. ski resort parking lot. As we were busy gearing up for the day, we heard a happy reunion taking place. It was Astrid! She used to be a member of our club. She ended up joining us for the day. We were in the sun most of the day but the clouds stuck to the peaks like glue. Nevertheless, it was a lovely day.



We started out on the Black Mt. trail, which was left just past the blue chairlift, which was past the Black Mt. Lodge. This

was the steepest part of the hike, following alongside the ski slopes. In about half an hour we turned left on the Cabin Lake trail, which forms a loop. Now the grade became more level. We often walked on boards that bordered the picturesque gold tarns. At the next junction we turned left again, onto the Baden Powell trail.



This trail led gently downwards through forest to Eagle Ridge Bluffs. The ground was riddled with roots and mud. But on the bluffs it was warm & dry in the sun on the smooth large rocks. Not only were there lots of people, but there were also lots of chipmunks and ravens that were eager to steal our lunches. When we first arrived there was no view; only fog. But within minutes the fog began to disperse and revealed Vancouver Island on the horizon + Horseshoe Bay & Eagle Lake & Lighthouse Park below us. No one was in a hurry to get up and go. Our lunch break stretched out to an hour. Vancouver did not show itself so we carried on...



Back up the Baden Powell trail we went, turning left at the next junction to get back onto the Cabin Lake loop trail. Past more pretty tarns and then a stop and look at the South Black Mt. summit (1217m), which was right beside the trail. To our west we could see parts of Bowen and Gambier Islands. Then on we went to Cabin Lake where we agreed to wait up for each other. Five of us chose to do the 20-minute

climb to the North Black Mt. summit. I personally think this summit offers a nicer view on Howe Sound, Mt. Strachan + the Lions (the latter remained hidden in cloud).



When we got back to the lake the last hikers had arrived. Again, no one was in a hurry to get up and go. Conversation kept up a steady flow -- until I mentioned we should try to avoid rush hour. Anne got to ride back with Glenn on his fancy Harley-Davidson motorcycle! Lucky girl.

Stats: 10.15 km / 546m gain / 1222m high / 3:20 hr. MT

Participants were: Dave B & Val, Terry B, Jackie Ch, Glenn G, Irene & Simon H, Leora P, Liz L, Michelle M, Anne O'L, Ling S, Anita U + Case & **Joce T**



pic by Christine Camilleri

COC 2020 MULTI DAY OUTDOOR TRIPS

TRIP: ICEFIELD HIGHWAY, BANFF & JASPER NP, DAY HIKING, CAR CAMP & HOSTEL
DATE: JULY 18 – 24 2020
LEADER: RON DART @ RDART@SHAW.CA & DAVE BIEHN @ DAVE.BIEHN@GMAIL.COM
PEOPLE: 12 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: FROSTY PK MANNING PARK, BP TO PCT CAMPSITE, DAY HIKE TO FROSTY, THEN BP OUT, TENTING 2 NIGHTS
DATE: AUGUST 1-3 2020
LEADER: TERY BERGEN @ TERRYBERGEN@SHAW.CA
PEOPLE: 12 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: BACKPACKING IN THE CHILCOTIN PROVINCIAL PARK
DATE: AUGUST 10-17 2020
LEADER: JOCE TIMMERMAN @ JOCELYNTIMMERMANS@HOTMAIL.COM & DAVE WALTON @ KELLY.WALTON@ZAYAC.ORG
PEOPLE: 10 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: HIKE INTO THE KEES & CLAIRE HUT IN THE WHISTLER AREA
DATE: AUGUST ?????????????? 2020
LEADER: RON DART @ RDART@SHAW.CA
PEOPLE: 8 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: SHADOW LAKE LODGE, BANFF NP, DAY HIKE, SCRAMBLE, BIKE IN
LEADER: RON DART @RDART@SHAW.CA
PEOPLE: 8 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: BACKPACK BRAZEAU LAKE LOOP, JASPER NP
DATE: AUGUST 29 – SEPT 06 2020
LEADER: SUE LAWRENCE @ GWELU@TELUS.NET & AL SMITH @ HIKETHEPEAK@GMAIL.COM
PEOPLE: 8 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: DAY HIKING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF MT BAKER ALONG HWY 20 TO THE NORTH CASCADES NP
DATE: 3/5 DAYS AT A TIME IN AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2020 AND BEYOND
LEADER: CAL FRANCIS @ CALFRANCIS@GMAIL.COM
PEOPLE: 12 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: CHURN LAKE PROTECTED AREA, CHILCOTIN AREA OF B.C.
DATE: SEPTEMBER 17-18-19-20 2020
LEADER: JUDY PASEMKO @ JUDYPASEMKO@SHAW.CA
PEOPLE: 8 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: UTAH – ZION NP, BRYCE CANYON NP, VERMILLON CLIFFS NM ETC ETC, CAR CAMPING AND DAY HIKING
DATE: OCTOBER 12 – 31 2020
LEADER: DAVE BIEHN @ DAVE.BIEHN@GMAIL.COM

TRIP: THE ISLAND OF MAUI & HALEAKALA NP HAWAII, DAY HIKE, STAY AT HOSTEL OR AIR B&B
DATE: NOVEMBER 13 – 26 2020
LEADER: JOHN MCLELLAN @ JHMCLELLAN@SHAW.CA
PEOPLE: 8 PERSON LIMIT

TRIP: DAY HIKING IN PATAGONIA ARGENTINA/CHILE IN SOUTH AMERICA
DATE: JANUARY 23 – FEBRUARY 15 2021
LEADER: CAL FRANCIS @ CALFRANCIS@GMAIL.COM
PEOPLE: 12 PERSON LIMIT

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 (club sponsor), www.backpacker.com and 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

3	shovels	1	climbing dead man anchor
2	pairs of crampons	13	ice axes
2	avalanche transceivers	1	avalanche probe
6	climbing harnesses & a few carbineers	5	ice screws
			contact Cal Francis to use: calfrancis@gmail.com

Note: All equipment must be returned in the same condition as borrowed or repaired appropriately. The equipment is being examined to determine

its state of repair and will be reviewed by the Board of Directors as to what should be retained, scrapped or sold.

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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