

CDMC

Trip Report

[Home](#)
[Future trips](#)
[Past trips](#)
[Trip guidelines](#)
[Conditions](#)
[Routes >](#)
[Forum](#)
[Membership](#)
[Reference >](#)
[FAQ](#)
[Photo contest](#)
[What's new](#)

Member

[Login](#)

Changes

- today
- yesterday
- < 7 days
- < 30 days

Della Falls (hiking) [return to Reports list](#)

Fri Aug 02 to Mon Aug 05, 2013

Leader: **Ken Rodonets**

Co-Leader:

With an overcast day, 10 of us met at my place, signed in, paid the boat fare, and left at 9:50 am. In Port Alberni, at the Tim Horton's we met our other 2 members who came up from the south island. After a snack, we left for Great Central Lake, where we met our boat. It is about 23 kms from Port Alberni. We were at the lake at about 12:15 pm, gathered up our gear and loaded up our boat. Underway at around 12:45 pm it is around a 1 hr. boat ride up to the end of the lake, which is 26 miles long. We started up the trail for the Margaret Creek campsite at 2 pm. Stopped after 1 hr. for a break at a creek crossing, where there was water. After a brief stop, we were hiking again at 3:15 pm. We arrived at Margaret Creek campsite at 4 pm to see that we had it to ourselves. Everyone picked out a spot, set up the tents, etc. for the night. It is a 7 km hike to here, mostly flat.

SAT. AUG. 3/13 : Getting up at 6:30 am, we were surprised to see 3 more tents in the area. This group came in after 10:30 pm on Friday night!! [DT: I was woken at 12:30 a.m. with the light of a headlamp. I thought it was lightning!] We nick named them the "Coleman campers" after seeing one tent which was made by coleman and a 4 liter tin of coleman fuel. (inside joke) Leaving at 8:30 am, we stopped after an hour at a creek crossing for a quick break and water. We then arrived at the Cable Car Crossing at about 10:10 am. (11.3 km) We got everyone across, and started hiking again at 10:30 am. We soon arrived at the two metal bridges at 11:05 am (12.8 km) We had a good break there having a snack and water break. Leaving there at 11:40 am, we were at the campsite at 12:45 pm. (15 km) We were surprised to see a couple of tents in the area. After picking out a spot, everyone set up their tents, had a break, and snack. At 2 pm everyone headed for the falls which was about 1 km away. After taking pictures, soaking up the falls, etc. it was time to head back to the tents to start dinner. At dinner time, some hikers came through, so we directed them to a camping spot just over the Drinkwater creek bridge. The day was still overcast, but we hoped that the forecast was going to be sunny on Sunday and Monday. [DT: When I got up for middle of the night ablutions, the sky was clear with stars. Yeah!]

SUNDAY Aug. 4/13.... Up at 6:30 am, to bright, clear skies, breakfast, packed up and left for the Love Lake trail at 8:30 am. We left our big packs at the start of the Love lake trail, and headed up to the view point at 8:55 am. This trail is getting overgrown in places but still has a good grade to it. We had to climb over some deadfall, but soon we were at the viewpoint at 10:30 am It was clear skies and great views from here. All to soon it was time to head back down to our big packs. Leaving the view point at 11:20 am, it only took 1 hr. to get down. After a short snack break, we left for Margret Creek campsite at 12:55 pm. Back at the metal bridges at 1:50 pm, the Cable Car Crossing at 2:30 pm, and Margaret Creek Campsite by 4:30 pm. We were lucky again to have this site all to ourselves. After setting up the tents, we all had a refreshing dip in the creek. It was a good way to get the sweat off and feel good again.

MONDAY Aug. 5/13..... Up again at 6:30 am, breakfast, packed up and ready to go back to the lake at 8:30 am. With a short 2 hr. hike back to the lake, we were there by 10:30 am. After a snack, most of us had a nice swim in the lake, which was warm. Our boat was coming around 12:15 pm to pick us up, so we were all ready by 12 noon. After loading our packs up into the boat, it was time for the "annual" group picture in the boat. Under clear sunny skies, our trip back was a great one, seeing the sites along the lake. In 1 hr. we were back to our cars and heading to Whiskey Creek for Ice Cream !!! Everyone had a good portion of ice cream. We had to say good bye to Kurtis and Richard, as they were heading back south. The rest of us headed back to Courtenay.

Thank you to the members who came out this year. It was another great trip, under great weather. Thanks once again to Norm for the boat ride, up and back. It is about a 115 km highway driving, one way. [DT: Thanks, Ken, for a well-planned and led trip to a very special place.]

You can see Darrell's Wildflowers on Della Falls trip on her [Picasa site](#)



We are off with a shove!
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



It was gloomy at the 'ghost forest' at the end of Great Central Lake and the Della Falls trailhead.
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



The lovely falls at Margaret Creek bridge
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



bev eating bear food
[Harold Osborne photo]



*The cable crossing over
Drinkwater Creek
[Bev Kulak photo]*



*Don stopped by the cable
crossing to sample the
blueberries.
[Darrell Tomkins photo]*



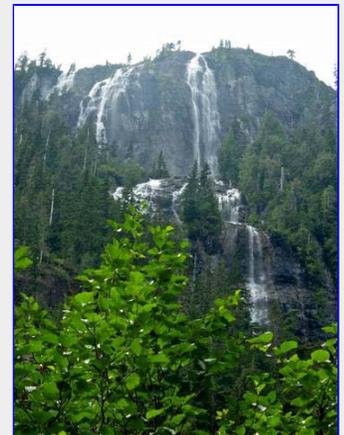
*Harold crossing one of
the steel bridges over
the Drinkwater.
[Darrell Tomkins photo]*



*darrell shooting more flowers
[Harold Osborne photo]*



*Glenn does his photo artistry on
the approach to the Falls.
[Darrell Tomkins photo]*



*Approaching the tallest
falls in Canada!
[Richard Matthews photo]*



Looking up from the base of Della Falls
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



Group shot at the base of the falls
[Glenn Ord photo]



Red Columbine at Della Falls
[Richard Matthews photo]



Della Lake and the Falls from the Love lake view point.
[Ken Rodonets photo]



View of Nine Peaks, Big Interior, Della Lake and the Falls from the Love Lake lookout
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



Century old artefacts from the age of mining and logging
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



Margaret Creek Campsite
[Ken Rodonets photo]



*The whole gang at the end of
the trail anticipating a refreshing
swim in the lake*
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



*Come on in! The water's not wet
today!*
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



Our boat, leaving on Monday.
[Ken Rodonets photo]

Attachments

- [Flower List for the Della Falls Backpacking Trip](#) (docx, 15 Kb)

Report contributors: Richard M, Glenn O, Harold O, Ken R, Bob S, Darrell T,

Participant list (12 of 12): Kurtis F, Sheila H, Craig J, Bev K, Don K, Kathryn L, Richard M, Glenn O, Sheila O, Harold O, Ken R, Darrell T,

[return to Reports](#)