

CDMC

Trip Report

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Fri Jul 29 to Mon Aug 01, 2011

Leader: **Ken Rodonets**

Co-Leader:

Everyone met at the leaders house at 9:30 am on Friday, and after signing in, paying for the boat, carpooling we were away towards Great Central Lake at 10 am. With a stop at the Tim Horton's in Port Alberni , we were on our way to Great Central Lake. Our boat arrived around 12:30 pm, and we quickly loaded our packs on board, put on our life jackets, got seated, and we were off to the end of the lake. Around an hour boat ride. Along the way we got to see a couple of black bears along the shoreline. Arriving at the dock area, we unloaded our packs, and 2 members had a quick swim. We were heading down the trail at 2 pm, heading for the Margret Creek campsite. Along the way, we found 1 creek that was flowing (last year it was dry) But it was an easy crossing. After 1 hr. we had a short break, then continued on our way. We had to cross another creek that was flowing (dry last year) Reaching the campsite in 2 hrs. Everyone found a spot and quickly set up camp. 7 kms. from the lake to the campsite in 2 hrs.

Sat. July 30th. : We were up around 6:15 am, Breakfast, packed up and on the trail by 8:30 am. After 1 hr. we stopped and had a quick break, and carried on. We were at the "new" cable car crossing by 10:30 am. (11km mark on the trail) The cable car holds 2 people and 2 packs, so with 5 trips we were all across the river. We left there at 11 am and were at the 2 metal bridge crossings at 11:35 am. There was still some snow before the metal bridges !! The bridges had some snow damaged to them, but still were in good shape. Having lunch on the other side, we left at 12:15 pm, heading up the trail. With lots of snow still melting the river was up more than last year, so some fancy moves had to be done not get any wet boots. As we approached the "old " campsite around 2 pm, lots of snow was still on the ground. The snow melted away enough, that we all found a dry spot to set up the tents, before the showers came. After setting up the tents, something to eat, and rest, we suited up in our rain gear and headed to the base of the falls. The falls this year are great, with lots of water flowing over the rocks !!

Sunday, July 31 : With the showers on Sat. afternoon, all the bush was wet, so the side trip to Love Lake was a no go, everyone was fine with that. The weather was improving with overcast and patches of blue sky above. We were all packed up and ready to hike back down to Margret creek campsite by 9:15 am. We took our time going back, due to the wet bush, wet rocks and the snow. We were back at the cable car crossing by 11:30 am, and again quickly got everyone across. Lunch was had on the other side. Leaving there around 12:30 pm and heading back to the campsite. With less than 1 hr. to go, one of the ladies slipped and fell onto a rock, causing a good size "egg" above her right eye. An instant ice bag was put on and banaged on. She was alright, and her glasses did not break. Carefully coming back, we were back at Margret Creek by 2:30 pm. The sun was out, and warmer temps, so that gave everyone a chance to dry out the tents and gear. A great evening was had by all.

Aug.1 (Monday): A sleep in for everyone, as we only had a 2 hr. hike back to the

lake and to the boat. Up at 6:45 am, breakfast, packing things away, we were off at 9:15 am. Stopping in 1hr. for a break and to get on the bug repellent, ready to do "battle" with the mosquito's!! The last hour hiking was like going thru a war zone of mosquito's They were hungry and out to get you. Back at the lake by 11:15 am, a chance for a snack, swim and relax while we waited for our boat for 12:30 pm. An hour boat ride back to the cars, and it was off to Whiskey Creek for ice cream !!. We were back in the valley by 3:30 pm.

Notes : Lots of snow up high near the old campsite and before it.

Thank you to the members who signed up and went, another great group.

Some small injuries, but nothing serious.

The 1st. hour along the trail, and the last hour coming back, was the worst for the bugs.

A very BIG THANK YOU to Norm, our boat captain again this year. Norm took time from his family to do this for us.

Thank you everyone.



Margret Creek Campsite.
[Ken Rodonets photo]



Margret Creek from the bridge.
[Ken Rodonets photo]



*The "new" cable car
crossing at the 11 km
mark over the
drinkwater creek*
[Ken Rodonets photo]



*Ken R. with the base of Della
Falls in the background.*
[Deb Kitchener photo]



*A picture of Della Falls.
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*Another picture of Della Falls.
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*some of the group with the falls
in the background.
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*The group back at the Trail
Head.
[Ken Rodonets photo]*



*Our boat ride up and back down the lake. Thanks
Norm for the boat.
[Ken Rodonets photo]*

Report contributors: Ken R,

Participant list (10 of 10): Sue B, Sheila H, Rod H, Deb K, Jeanine M, Marie M, Don M, Pam M, Peggy N, Ken R,

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