

CDMC

Trip Report

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Sun Mar 17, 2013

 Leader: **Tim Penney**

Co-Leader:

Panther Lake - 17-3-2013

We met at the Raven Lodge before sunrise and six of us were on the trail by 7:40, just a few minutes after sunrise. As we started out with the alpenglow on Albert and Regan the temperature was a chilly -5 degrees, but fortunately no wind at the lodge. The snow was really quite hard and we made very little impact except for very loud crunching noises.

The walking was very easy and, except for a short stop for clothing adjustments, we made quick time to Battleship Lake. We had an early morning view of long shadows and highly patterned snow from all the rain last week. A quick cup of tea and a snack at the north end of the lake set us up for the next leg of our trip to Lady Lake where Linda, who had started out a bit later caught up to us. Next up was Croteau Lake. It took us just over 1.5 hours in total to get to Croteau Lake where we stopped for five minutes to take a few more photos and have our second cup of tea.

From Croteau Lake we were able to cut off a large part of the summer trail by just heading down the steep hillside to the meadows below. See the GPS map. Another 2 kilometres and we were at the north end of Panther Lake by just after 10 o'clock. Just under 2.5 hours from the lodge. This was much faster than my trip out to Panther Lake last summer.

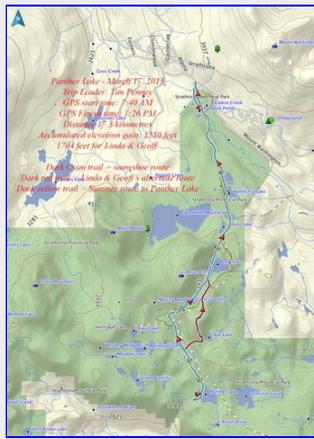
We walked about half the length of the lake and then climbed to the top of a small side hill on the west side that provided us with great views for our early lunch break. It was cold and clear for most of the trip and only started to cloud over as were nearing Raven Lodge on the way home.

On the return trek Linda & Geoff pioneered a new, and steep route, up from the lower meadows in a direct line towards Ball Lake. From just to the west of Ball Lake they took a route up onto the ridge on the east side of Croteau Lake and the followed the ridge down to Lady Lake where they met up again with the rest of the party.

Whilst Geoff and Linda were traversing their route, the rest of us took a detour to the viewpoint to the west of Croteau Lake with a splendid view down to Murray Meadows and across to the local Strathcona Park peaks.

The whole trip was much faster than I had anticipated mainly due to such good snow conditions. We were back to the Lodge and enjoying refreshments by 1:30.

This was another wonderful day in the mountains and made all the more interesting by the fact that none of us had done a winter snowshoe trip to Panther Lake before. The only downside to this outing were the snowmobile tracks all over the lake and the surrounding area, even on the hill where we had lunch.



GPS route map
[Tim Penney photo]



Alpenglow on Mount Albert Edward and Mount Regan
[Tim Penney photo]



Croteau Lake
[Tim Penney photo]



Checking out the Panther Lake inflow creek
[Tim Penney photo]



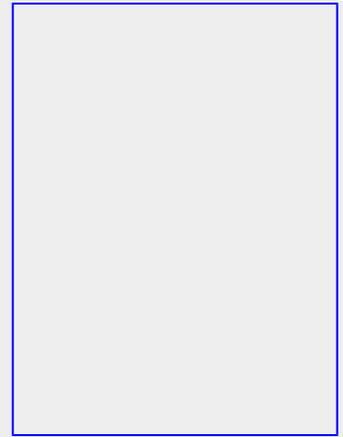
Great views from our lunch spot above Panther Lake
[Tim Penney photo]



Enjoying lunch and the view
[Tim Penney photo]



The outflow from Panther Lake
[Tim Penney photo]



patterns and tracks
[Carol Hunter photo]



Our lunch rest view
[Julianna Wells photo]



*Climbing the steep ridge above
Ball Lake*
[Geoff Brameld photo]

Report contributors: Geoff B, Carol H, Tim P, Julianna W,

Participant list (7 of 7): Geoff B, Kurtis F, Linda H, Carol H, Tim P, Bob S, Julianna W,

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