

CDMC

Trip Report

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Mt Albert Edward & Moat Lake (Overnight) (snowshoeing)

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Sat Mar 30 to Sun Mar 31, 2013

 Leader: **Glenn Ord**

Co-Leader:

Three hardy souls started the trip from the edge of Raven Lodge under blue skies with a warm and clear weather forecast. We trundled through familiar territory, stopped for lunch at the old ranger cabin and were ambushed by three CDMC'ers who were returning from a day trip to Moat Lake. We snowshoed in mushy snow conditions out to the outlet creek of Circler lake and we established a camp there in warm conditions.

Like the migrating Brant geese, Susan had recently flown from Baja California and opted for a siesta while Bob & Glenn took a wander over to Moat Lake. From the top of Wood Island, we speculated on all kinds of possible routes beyond, but wisely returned to camp by 6:30pm. Bob demonstrated his shovel skills by sculpting a fine dining and kitchen area for the group. There was a small open water area at the outlet and we were able to clamber out on a log and collect drinking water rather than melt snow with our stoves. After a pink sunset, we all slipped into our sleeping bags and, for the most part, slept comfortably through the overnight low of about -5C.

The camp was buzzing with activity by 5:30 am in starlight and a faint glow of the sun to the east. Susan opted to manage the base camp while Bob & Glenn broke camp at 6:30 am. We took the winter route up to the Mt Jutland shoulder, sometimes following ski tracks from the days before. The conditions were hard frozen snow but the snowshoe crampons were effective on the steep angles. We pulled up onto the ridge with fine views of a setting moon over Mt Albert Edward and Mt Regan. Travel thereafter was easy; it took about 3 hours from Circler Lake to the summit at 2093m. Views on the cloudless day were outstanding in all directions and we spent half an hour on top. By the time we returned to the flanks of Mt Jutland and retraced our steps, the snow had softened considerably. Although we had activated our avalanche transceivers, the conditions appeared safe as we dropped down the very steep slopes and back to base camp, two hours after leaving the summit.

We broke camp and the three of us returned to Raven Lodge. The snow was soft and the sun beat down on us, making it feel much warmer than the actual 14C. We took breaks in the shade of trees along the way. It was a most enjoyable trip.



*Walking across Lake Helen
McKenzie
[Glenn Ord photo]*



*Piggott Creek bridge
[Bob St John photo]*



*The sight of the ambush
[Tim Penny photo]*



*Camp at Cirplet lake
[Bob St John photo]*



*Approaching Moat Lake
[Glenn Ord photo]*



*Moat lake approach
[Bob St John photo]*



*Moat Lake
[Glenn Ord photo]*



*Early morning start on the winter
route
[Glenn Ord photo]*



Our destination in sight

[Bob St John photo]



Feeling small on Mt Albert Edward

[Bob St John photo]



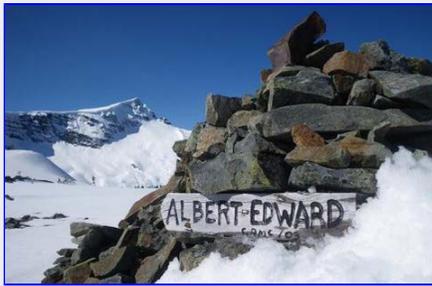
Mt Albert Edward

[Glenn Ord photo]



Mt Albert Edward summit

[Bob St John photo]



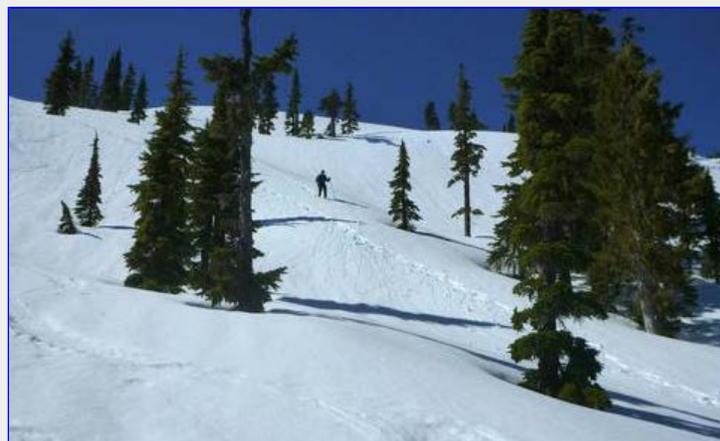
CDMC sign

[Glenn Ord photo]



Descending back to camp

[Glenn Ord photo]



Descending back to camp

[Bob St John photo]

Report contributors: Glenn O,

Participant list (3 of 3): Susan H, Glenn O, Bob S,

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