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Mount Elma (snowshoeing)

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Mon Feb 22, 2016

Leader: **Tim Penney**

Co-Leader: **Susan Osso**

This was another short notice snowshoe trip listed to take advantage of what looked like a good weather forecast. However, the weather was not quite as good as the forecast, but with plenty of fresh snow and high clouds the trip was very enjoyable. As usual, our group were the early birds, so we broke trail in previous tracks all the way to the Elma lookout. The snow was fairly light so the trail breaking was too onerous.

Our winter route up the ridge to the plateau is quite steep, but by keeping more to the south of the usual summer route and zig-zagging on the steeper sections, it works very well. Crossing the plateau we kept to a more level route by skirting to the west of the actual Elma summit.

It was good to have one new member to the CDMC join us on this trip and, hopefully, some more in the future.

Even though we had little sunshine, walking across the plateau had its rewards, especially for the photographers. The trees were quite well covered with snow and lots of icicles. Some tracks from previous visitors were still visible in places, but were mostly filled in, or blown over with drifting snow.

At the viewpoint we had good views down to Croteau Lake, Panther Lake, across to Mount Becher and other local areas, but no view of the Comox Glacier, Albert Edward or the other higher local mountains.

After a 30 minute lunch break we decided to head back the same way that we came out. A cross over trip would have been nice, but 2 of us were also planning on doing the Full Moon trek in the evening and wanted to get back with a bit of time to spare.

This was, as usual, another excellent stroll in the park and enjoyed by all the participants. Thanks to the youngsters who helped with the trail breaking and Susan for doing the co-leader duties.



GPS map and stats
[Tim Penney photo]



Navigating the final steep section to the Plateau
[Tim Penney photo]



Short break on the way to Mt, Elma
[Lubosh Kloucek photo]



Almost at the end of our destination
[Lubosh Kloucek photo]



Enjoying the view
[Tim Penney photo]



The well covered trees
[Tim Penney photo]



View down to Croteau Lake
[Tim Penney photo]



Lunch break
[Tim Penney photo]



Our homeward bound tracks
[Tim Penney photo]



The start of the steep descent
[Tim Penney photo]

Report contributors: Paula Field, Lubosh Kloucek, Tim Penney,

Participant list (9 of 9): Paula Field, Tony Harding, Frank Hovenden, Brian Jackson, Lubosh Kloucek, Joe Lumsdon, Susan Osso, Tim Penney, Bob St. John,

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