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Trip Report

Kwai Lake (snowshoeing)

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Fri Jan 03, 2014

 Leader: **Glenn Ord**

 Co-Leader: **Sheila Ord**

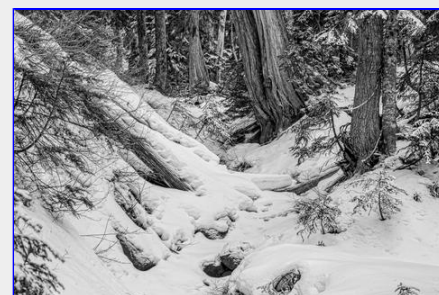
A half dozen of us met in town and car pooled up to the Raven Lodge. Five of us strapped on snowshoes while Ken opted for instep crampons. There was a skiff of fresh snow on the ground and we traveled across the meadows, taking turns "breaking trail" and up the icy trail up to Lake Helen McKenzie. We hit the sunshine on the lake and walked across the well frozen surface (a few cracks created some doubts). We took a direct route up the slopes out of the lake, with at least one steep pitch that was easily handled.

Once we were up on the bench and near the old ranger station, there was noticeably more snow hanging on the trees and the snow surface made travel without snow shoes more challenging; it almost felt like winter! We dropped down onto lovely frozen Kwai lake for lunch and enjoyed views of the surrounding peaks.

After lunch, we climbed out of Kwai Lake onto windswept Croteau Lake. Lady and Battleship rounded out the lakes and we steamed across the meadows back for 2:30 pm. Raven Lodge was open till 3:00 pm, so we enjoyed hot drinks and met a few other club members who were also out enjoying the sunshine. It was another superb day in the mountains.


GPS Map
[Tim Penney photo]

**Heading up to Lake Helen
Mackenzie**
[Tim Penney photo]

Crossing Helen McKenzie lake
[Glenn Ord photo]


*The inflow creek to Lake Helen
Mackenzie*

[Tim Penney photo]



A steep pitch
[Glenn Ord photo]



Arriving on Kwai lake
[Glenn Ord photo]



*Making fresh tracks on Kwai
Lake*
[Tim Penney photo]



Lunch break on Kwai Lake
[Tim Penney photo]



The group on Lady lake
[Glenn Ord photo]

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