

# CDMC

## Trip Report

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**Mount Becher** (hiking) [return to Reports list](#)

Sun Jan 05, 2014

Leader: **Tim Penney**

Co-Leader:

Mount Becher - January 5, 2014

We had a nice size turnout of 6 for this fairly strenuous trip to the summit of Mount Becher. We started out from the old ski hill parking area at 9:40 just as the early morning fog was beginning to clear.

4 of us had crampons of one sort or another, one used Yaktrax and one used regular MSR Lightning Ascent snowshoes. The snowshoes proved to give the most problems due to the amount of ice and the narrow unevenly stomped down trail. The lower part of the trail up into the park was just a river of ice in places and made it quite difficult for the several hikers that we saw who were without any sort of aid for traction.

It didnt take us long to clear the fog and, from then on, we were heading up into brilliant sunny conditions with no wind, for a change, and temperatures hovering around zero. It seemed most unusual to have such little snow for a trip in January, especially compared to recent years. However, we were able to pretty much stick to the summer trail for the complete trip. The two steep gully areas were definitely the most difficult for snowshoes both up and down. Carrying the snowshoes, finding softer snow and holding onto the trees helped, especially on the way down.

We shared the summit with several other hikers including an Australian, who had spent the night in a snow cave, and took several runs into the lower summit meadows, climbing up again to the summit, whilst we had lunch. Like another hiker we met on the way down, he was wanting for the snow to fly to start his job at Mount Washington.

Apart from our one snowshoer, we had a fairly easy walk back to the vehicles. Hot drinks at Hot Chocolates on our return to Courtenay nicely completed the trip.

770 metres elevation gain in 11.5 kilometres



*Ice flows on the lower section of the trail*

*[Tim Penney photo]*



*Frozen water water everywhere!*

*[Darrell Tomkins photo]*



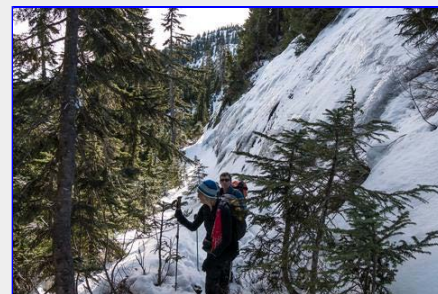
*Rising above the clouds*  
[Glenn Ord photo]



*The view from above the clouds*  
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



*Ice formations on the trail*  
[Darrell Tomkins photo]



*One of the narrow gullies*  
[Tim Penney photo]



*Relaxing on the way to the summit*  
[Tim Penney photo]



*Our fearless leader in full stride just below the summit*  
[Glenn Ord photo]



*Summit shot*  
[Tim Penney photo]



*Gadget happy trio*  
[Glenn Ord photo]

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**Report contributors:** Glenn O, Tim P, Bob S, Darrell T,

**Participant list (6 of 6):** Glenn O, Harold O, Tim P, Karl S, Darrell T, Otto W,

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