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# **Trip Report**

Beech And Chinese Mtns. (hiking)

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Wed Jul 22, 2015 Leader: **Bob St. John** 

Co-Leader: Ed Tickner

Meeting at the Ferry Terminal at 9:00 gave some of us plenty of time to relax with a jug of java prior to the sailing time at 9:30.

Smooth sailing and a short drive north had us eager beavers ready to start on the trail by shortly after 10:00. Not so fast, though. At the trailhead, and away from the vehicles, Bob and Ed did the group introductions, good for any new members or guests, and talked about our club guidelines and safety whilst on the trail.

The weather was rather overcast but at least the searing heat was turned down a bit and that made for quite pleasant hiking conditions. Evidence of the recent very hot and dry weather was hard to miss. In some areas even the salal was either completely dead or in the throes of dying. Underfoot, the trail and mosses were very dry and crunchy.

We took a few viewpoint and snack breaks on the 1100 foot climb to Beech's Mountain and arrived at our first destination by 12:20. Nice views and time for lunch. However, there were a lot of wasps around and, after one hiker was stung, we decided to head on to the South summit of Chinese Mountain for our second lunch break arriving at 1:20. Again, we had great views down to Rebecca Spit and back to Campbell River and a more relaxing break without so many wasps buzing around.

At 2:00 we started out for the Chinese Mountain north summit, a small detour on the way back to the vehicles, arriving at 2:30. The south summit definitely provides the best views but adding another 270 foot of elevation gain to the trip must be good for something. We were back to the vehicles for sign out by 3:10.

Hiking distance was 8 kilometres with an accumulated elevation gain of about 1500 ft.

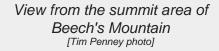
On this hike we came across several yellow tape signs in different areas that, after doing some searching on the web, seem to have been referencing rock climbing routes that are quite popular on the rocky bluffs of both Chinese and Beechs Mountains.

All in all, another enjoyable stroll on Quadra Island with an excellent group of hikers. Many thanks to Bob & Ed for running this trip.





Taking in the view on our way up Beech's Mountain
[Ed Tickner photo]





Bonsai style trees on the summit rocks [Tim Penney photo]



View from Chinese Mountain south summit [Tim Penney photo]



[Ed Tickner photo]



Exceedingly dry conditions with little in the way of flowers or green grasses

[Tim Penney photo]



[Ed Tickner photo]



Beautiful panoramic view from the summit of Chinese Mountain south peak



View of Rebecca Spit and Strait of Georgia from South Chinese Mountain [Darrell Tomkins photo]



Given that I seem to be the photographer in many photos, here are some of the others at one of the view points up

Beech's Mounta

[Darrell Tomkins photo]

Report contributors: Tim P, Ed T, Darrell T,

Participant list (8 of 8): Mary F, Susan H, Carol H, Tim P, Bob S, ■Ed T, Darrell T, James W,

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