CDMC

Trip Report

Mountain Meadows Loop (hiking)   [return to Reports list](#)
Thu Jul 08, 2010
Leader: **William Wright**
Co-Leader:

Another fine day in the hills... We headed out through Paradise Meadows, from the SWI Hut, under brilliant skies and what eventually would become 30 degrees in the sunshine... the refrigeration effect of moving on snow and amongst the trees was a refreshing break from this continuous heat.

Moving south to the infamous Piggott Creek Bridge, we then travelled southwest to side step the high ground on the northern shores of Lake Helen Mackenzie, to end up in the meadows on the northwest corner of the lake.

At this juncture, we climbed above the summer trial to access a string of very pretty meadows that contour around the east side of Mount Allan Brooks, gently rising into the col between Allan Brooks and Mount Elma. We took morning coffee on this seldom travelled route that Bill Brown introduced me to, several years ago.

We crossed the col in a southeasterly direction, towards Mount Elma and followed a route that side hilled around the cliff bands onto the Murray Meadows Lookout, above the south end of Croteau Lake. Here we took lunch, in the shade and luxuriated with the incredible views that were presented.
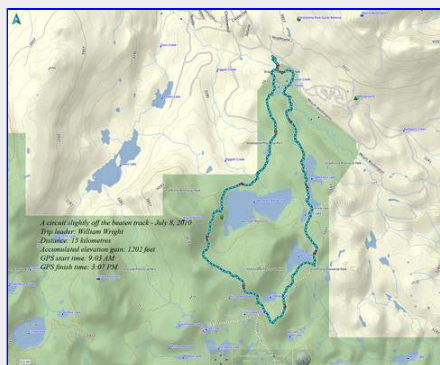
After our break, we dropped to the south end of the lake and then climbed in a southeasterly direction onto a ridge that overlooks Ball Lake, to wander in a another series of sub-alpine meadows. Proceeding north off the summit we accessed the meadows at the north end of Lady Lake and followed these around the eastern shoreline to the lookout at the Lady Lake Creek, which becomes part of the Browns River watershed. We stopped for afternoon tea and again, admired some stunning views.

Continuing north, we crossed the meadows at the base of the northeastern ridge of Mount Elma and passed Kooso Lake on our way to the western shores of Battleship Lake. We had an intesting encounter, here, with 2 young lads wandering to Circlet Lake... They had been attempting to travel up the col between Allan Brooks and Elma but were, seemingly a tad wide where we found them. They were confused with a snow covered trail and we gave them input that may've helped them but I've no idea as to the outcome of their adventure... I certainly could relate as to the many times I've been burdened with confusion in the backcountry.
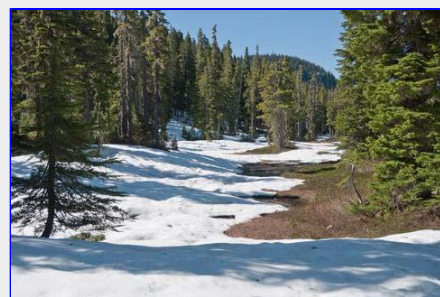
Returning across Paradise Meadows we encountered boardwalks that were mainly free of snow and now, mostly filled with a summer throng out enjoying a fine summer's day.

Our very satisfying adventure was capped off with drinks and ice-cream at the Mt Washington Village followed by a gathering at Tim's Merville Cinema to watch Linda's African Adventure, which included her summit of Kilimanjaro along with a Tanzanian safari, clips of a future trip to Patagonia, snippets of Clint Eastwood singing in "Paint Your Wagon" and of course, more drinks and ice-cream. A good
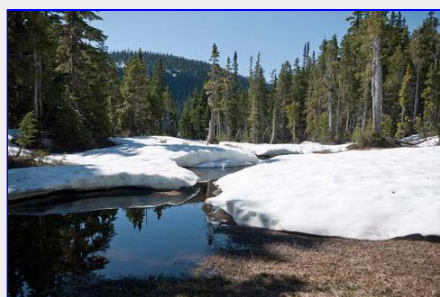
day in the company of good friends.

GPS Map
[Tim Penney photo]

Meadows above the summer trail heading around the west side of Helen Mackenzie Lake
[Tim Penney photo]

Following the line of meadows - Part of Bill Brown's route to Mount Allan Brooks
[Tim Penney photo]

Guess who?
[Tim Penney photo]

Still 4 or 5 foot of snow, but melting quickly.
[Tim Penney photo]

Steep side hill section below Mount Elma
[Tim Penney photo]

*View down into Ball Lake from
the ridge above Croteau Lake*
[Tim Penney photo]

*We followed the ridge on the
East side of Croteau Lake*
[Tim Penney photo]

*View of Croteau and Lady lakes
from the top of the ridge*
[Tim Penney photo]

Alongside Lady Lake
[Tim Penney photo]

Report contributors: Tim P, William W,

Participant list (3 of 3): Linda H, Tim P, William W,

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