

CDMC

Trip Report

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Sun Jun 01, 2014

 Leader: **Bob St. John**

 Co-Leader: **Carol Hunter**

Eleven members and one guest met at Harmston where waivers were checked (all good online) and car-pools arranged. 45 minutes later we met another member and guest from Parksville at the trailhead, and received a text message that Julianna and guest would be a little late and to start ahead of them. (They had made a minor geography error.. Cameron Lake vs Cowichan Lake? haha). This all goes to show that the CDMC is embracing modern tech... slowly but surely.

It was definitely shorts weather, and comfortably warm in the shade of the trees while ascending up to the ridge. Pleasant conversation made the grunt up the hill go much easier than I expected. We had a break at the 'Tuesday Forever' bench with the first good views of Cameron Lake down below. From this point most of the steady uphill was behind us with a more gentle grade up to the first lookout... with a short stop along the way to admire the amazing (and crazy) handiwork of mountain bikers past.

First lunch (elevenes) on this lookout gave us good views of Mt Arrowsmith still covered under a mantle of snow. This is also a great location for ticks this time of year... so we were careful where we sat down... rocky outcrops would seem to be better than grassy spots.

Another 40 minutes got us to the highest (and to my mind superior) viewpoint where we had a proper lunch break until 1:00 pm. We made a guess as to whether we saw Mt Baker or not... there was a bit of a haze over the Salish Sea. Otherwise the visibility was excellent.

On the way back Dean Williams from the Island Mountain Ramblers (a guest on this trip) led us to a viewpoint I didn't know about. Everyone enjoyed this new vista of Cameron Lake and on to the peaks in the west (Mt Klitsa, 5040 Peak, etc.) I want to try these someday! I also have to give a shout-out to Dean for the clipping he did both up and down the trail. Thanks Dean!

Everyone made it back down the steep section... it can be tricky in spots with the pea-gravel-like trail surface. A ice cream stop at Whiskey Creek rounded out the day. It felt good to replenish all those calories expended on the hike. Don't recommend the 'Rocky Raspberry' though... way too sweet.

Thanks to everyone for being so agreeable to be with... I wish all trips would go so smoothly. Thanks to Carol for Co-leading (always nice to have another responsible person along), and thanks to Ian and Ron for sweeping!



*Carol on the mountain
bike ramp*
[Frank Hovenden photo]



*lunch with Mt. Arrowsmith as a
backdrop*
[Frank Hovenden photo]



*Lichen covered hairy manzanita
bush*
[Frank Hovenden photo]



*Frank among the Arbutus and
Manzanita at the first break spot*
[Carol Hunter photo]



*"New" viewpoint over Cameron Lake the peaks to the
west.*
[Carol Hunter photo]

Report contributors: Frank H, Carol H, Bob S,

Participant list (16 of 16): Chris B, Rod H, Michael H:***guest***, Ian H, Frank H, Carol H, Lisa J:***guest***, Marie M, Don M, Pam M, Harold O, Ron P, Christine R, Bob S, Julianna W, Dean W:***guest***,

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