

CDMC

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Changes

 today

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 < 30 days

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Sun Apr 10, 2016

Leader: **Carol Hunter**

Co-Leader: **Lisa Jackson**

The Courtenay contingent met up with Bob & Carol at the Buckley Bay junction on the Inland Island Highway at about 8:30 and then continued on to the trailhead just before Cameron Lake.

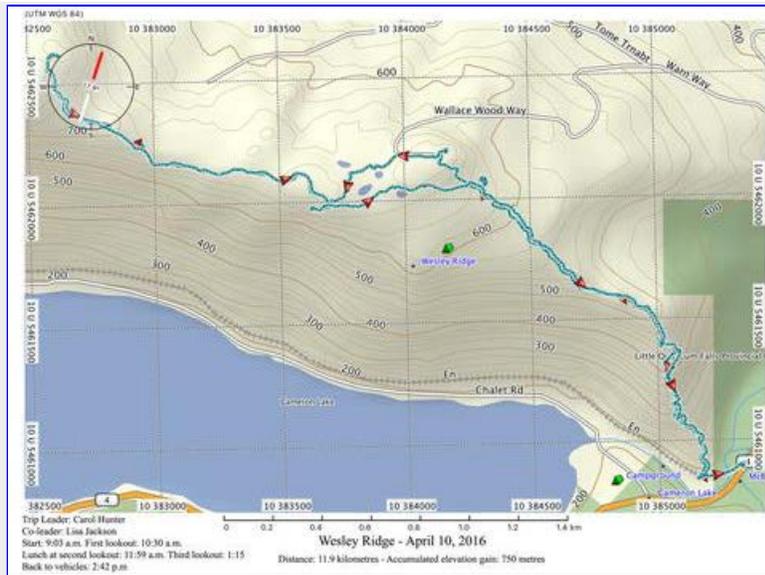
Ideal weather, sunny with a cool breeze, made for a pleasant climb to the Wesley Ridge. It took us 55 minutes to climb just over 1000 foot to the start of the ridge. After another 45 minutes along the ridge we stopped for our morning break at the first viewpoint. We had expected some good views, but it was not to be. The surrounding hills were all shrouded in fog and we only had a brief glimpse of the Cokely and Arrowsmith summits. Fifty minutes later we were at our second good viewpoint where we stopped for lunch. Again, not bad conditions, but no sunshine and rather limited views.

After taking 35 minutes for a pleasant lunch break we followed back along the same trail and then took a short detour to another good viewpoint looking down to Cameron Lake. Surprisingly, we found several Indian Paintbrush plants already in full bloom attributable, no doubt, to the early warm spring weather as were the yellow violets seen earlier in the morning.

From the lookout we took a slightly lower route along the ridge for about 1 kilometre before joining back to the main trail for the rest of the return hike. The old lichen covered trees along the ridge makes this hike particularly enjoyable. Another bonus are the beautiful arbutus trees and manzanita bushes at the more open edge of the ridge.

We were back across the tracks to our vehicles before 3:00 and stopped for the usual icecream treats at the Whiskey Creek gas station on the way home.

Many thanks to Carol and Lisa for getting us all out for another excellent day of exercise in good company.



*GPS map and stats
[Tim Penney photo]*



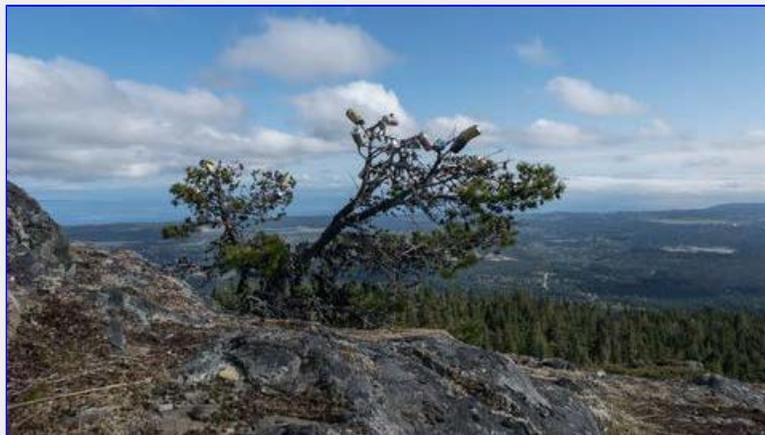
*First view back down to Cameron Lake at the start of the
ridge
[Tim Penney photo]*



Even the frogs were smiling today!
[Tim Penney photo]



Brief view of the Cokely and Arrowsmith summits
[Tim Penney photo]



A new species of tree - The stunted Beer Can Pine
[Tim Penney photo]



Not very good views today
[Tim Penney photo]



Indian Paintbrush in full bloom
[Tim Penney photo]



Most of the Manzanita bushes were in flower
[Tim Penney photo]



Group shot at the third lookout
[Tim Penney photo]



Manzanita detail
[Tim Penney photo]

Report contributors: Tim Penney,

Participant list (8 of 8): Paula Field, Gary Hanson, Carol Hunter, Lisa Jackson, Joe Lumsdon, Tim Penney, Bob St.John, James Wright,

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