

# CDMC

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### Changes

 today

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 < 7 days

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### Battleship Lake/Kooso Lake (snowshoeing)

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Sat Feb 06, 2016

 Leader: **Tim Penney**

 Co-Leader: **Joe Lumsdon**

Taking advantage of a good weather forecast for Saturday, the last good one for the next several days, 10 of us took a nice stroll out to Kooso Lake.

We started out from the Raven Lodge soon after 9:30 and, from the outset, we had to break trail in some of the deepest snow of this winter. Not bad going, though, with several of us taking turns to push through the deep and rather heavy snow. A short distance from Battleship Lake two youngsters on skies, who were planning to overnight somewhere, caught up to us and then went ahead and, much to our pleasure, continued breaking trail to the lake.

Arriving at the north end of the lake at 11:00 we stopped for a well deserved tea break and to admire the scenery. We also happily watched the two skiers continue on down the lake. After our break, and some sign photography, we followed the skiers tracks until they turned off to the west about half way down the lake. We continued on to the end, hit the ski trail, turned back north for a short distance and then dropped on down to Kooso Lake. Very deep snow at the lake, but a nice out of the wind spot for our lunch break.

After taking 35 minutes for lunch we started the trek back the same way that we came. It would have been nice to have done the complete circuit via Lake Helen Mackenzie but, with such deep snow and no broken trail, it would have been quite a slog. It took us just under one and a half hours at a leisurely pace to get back to our vehicles. Hot drinks in the relaxing atmosphere of the lodge completed our trip in excellent style before we headed down the hill for home.

Thanks to all the trail breakers and to Joe for being the co-leader.

I thought an explanation of the signs would help... Alanna Mahr says it best - Bob

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Hi everyone,

As you know if youve been following us on [social media](#) or if youve been following the [BC governments budgets](#) for the past decade and a half our parks system is drastically underfunded. BC Parks 2015 operating budget of \$31 million has been virtually stagnant for the past decade and a half. Divide that up over 13 million hectares of parks land and it works out to a mere \$2.29 a hectare.

These numbers mean shorter operating seasons, cuts to programming, cuts to staffing, a reduction in maintenance and aging infrastructure that isnt getting replaced. Until now, the governments response to these issues has been utterly inadequate: to compensate for their financial shortcomings, last year they moved to

increase camping and day use fees in some of BCs most popular parks.

This is not acceptable.

Weve already asked you to speak up for parks by writing letters to your MLAs and we encourage you to keep doing that. But we need to bolster our efforts. And so this Family Day weekend, were asking you to think about what makes your favourite provincial park great and why it deserves more funding. Put your message on a poster, paint a picture, make a video, or however else you want to creatively communicate that your park is important. If you can visit your park, thats even better. Take a picture, tag it with #FundBCParks and share it with your friends, family and colleagues. Well be collecting images and messages and sending them to Finance Minister Mike de Jong early next week.

Lets make our chorus so loud its impossible to ignore: #FundBCParks in 2016.

Thank you for participating.

Alanna Mahr  
Communications Coordinator  
Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC

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*GPS map and stats*  
[Tim Penney photo]



*Joe breaks trail as we head out from the meadows*  
[Tim Penney photo]



*Deep snow at the bridge*  
[Tim Penney photo]



*Nice lighting and pristine snow at the lake outflow*  
[Tim Penney photo]



*Presenting Bob's new signs - Getting the message out there!*  
[Tim Penney photo]



*So much snow*  
[Carol Hunter photo]



*More trail breaking*  
[Carol Hunter photo]



*Approaching Battleship Lake*  
[Carol Hunter photo]




*Carving out a spot for lunch at Kooso Lake*  
[Carol Hunter photo]



*Battleship Lake - pristine once again*  
[Carol Hunter photo]

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**Report contributors:** Carol Hunter, Tim Penney, Bob St. John,

**Participant list (10 of 10):** Denise Allard, Jim Guthrie, Carol Hunter, Joe Lumsdon, Tim Penney, Sohlea Rico, Bob St. John, Bruce Stevenson, Karl Stevenson, Arlene Trustham,

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