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Sun Jul 01, 2012

 Leader: **Carol Hunter**

Co-Leader:

Wow, what a day.

13 of CDMC's finest headed off to Mount Horne for Canada Day. Although the mountain was shrouded in cloud, the optimistic group headed up the road to the start of the trail, unaware of what lay ahead. The hike was rated moderate-strenuous so we began with the first of many steep climbs. After an hour of arduous ascent with only two reprieves, a walk down the railway tracks and a view of some falls, we had made it to the power line. We were pleased to see we still had all 13 hikers, although one had tried to escape; but we got him back and were keeping an eye on him.

The next part of the trail ended in a clear cut and I had been informed that the logging slash could be avoided by staying on the power line to the top. Obviously that advice came from someone who had never done it. We slogged through brush and downed trees only to be faced with a deep gully and a rock face so we bushwhacked our way through to the old trail and met the cut block head on. It didn't seem all that bad anymore. All 13 of the amazingly good-hearted hikers completed this gruelling portion and continued on their way.

A short walk down a logging road helped mitigate the effects of the climb so far, then the unsuspecting group was led back into the woods for a little more bushwhacking and a little more of the steep stuff. Fortunately the clouds had continued to rise while we had been climbing so when we reached the top we had a view. We also had a wind which kept us from idling too long after lunch.

The trip down was no less steep but the brilliant colours of the penstemon and columbine provided a beautiful distraction. We only had one more member attempt to flee, but I think by this time the group had realized escape was futile.

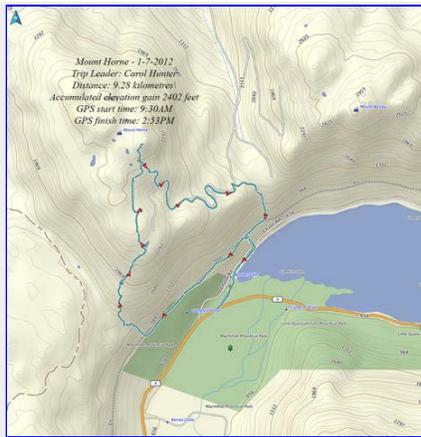
It was a tough day for some, a major workout for all, and even with all the bushwhacking, slippery slopes, and logging slash everyone returned in good spirits. While descending the final steep portion of the trail I could hear the laughter and chatter of the people behind me, confirming the endurance and good nature of my companions of the day.

Quote of the Day:

Sue: "Carol, is that a drop off over there?"

Carol: "No Sue, thats the trail!"

[More photos from this trip](#) can be seen here.



GPS map and stats
[Tim Penney photo]



Start of the trail
[Tim Penney photo]



Carol said, "This is where the serious bushwhacking starts."
[Bev Kulak photo]



Rocky climb just below the summit
[Tim Penney photo]



Lunchbreak lookout to Mount Wesley and Cameron Lake
[Tim Penney photo]



Heading down
[Bev Kulak photo]



[Catherine Poupard photo]

Report contributors: Carol H, Bev K, Tim P, Catherine P,

Participant list (13 of 13): Sylvia A, Ron D, Sue D, Carol H, Bev K, Don K, Kurt N, Harold O, Tim P, Catherine P, Andy R, Bob S, Otto W,

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