

CDMC

Trip Report

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Sat May 21, 2011

 Leader: **William Wright**

Co-Leader:

After a sleep-in and a lazy morning on the beach, our intrepid adventurers headed out from camp to gather at the sea stacks between the eastern and western beaches of San Josef Bay. Our itinerary would allow us a pleasant wander on the much exposed beach, from the ebbing tide, before arriving at the Mt St Patric trailhead.

The trail is marked with a warning sign that suggests our path forward is on unsafe terrain and once on the steep route upwards, we realized this wasn't far off the mark - the trail is seemingly not maintained, heavily rutted & rooted and meanders between muddy to boggy.

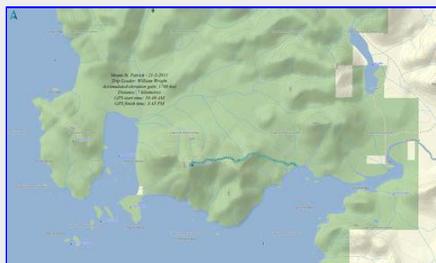
On the upside, there was a beautiful running creek, minutes into our journey, where we replenished with water and the route transitioned through several different zones from magnificent old growth Sitka to an alpine that resembled a miniature canopied forest of Bonsai-like trees

While moving carefully along boggy corridors my loyal scouts, Glen & Chris, decided closer inspection was necessary - Parks placed a sign indicating that they preferred travellers use the trail regardless of the depth that this muddy ooze presented and my lads, not wanting to disappoint, literally waded in, leg deep! When Glen tested one hole where his 4' trekking pole was not touching bottom, I suggested that he'd probably want to skirt that one.

Upon reaching the summit we were treated to exceptional views interspersed with drifting mist - Mt St Patric is the highest point in Cape Scott Provincial Park at 422 m and offers Pacific seascapes from above San Josef Bay as well as Sea Otter Cove. We spent an hour on the peak enjoying lunch along with much picture taking and then, departed back down the hill to our base camp.

When we emerged back on the beach, it was evident that laundry was in order not to mention a nourishing meal - thankfully, many brought extra goodies that they generously shared and Susan's clam-bake extraordinaire skills capped a lovely day in the park.

[More photos](#) are available for viewing.



GPS map
[Tim Penney photo]



Canyon Hikers-in-a-Row Lined Up for Approach
[William Wright photo]



Tim Programs Gadget for Ascent
[William Wright photo]



The watering hole just beyond the start of the trail
[Tim Penney photo]



Giant Sitka Spruce tree dwarfs William beside the trail
[Tim Penney photo]



Taking One for the Parks
[William Wright photo]



*View from the summit
overlooking Hanna Point*

[Tim Penney photo]



*Dead Tree and View using
Tim's Wide Angle Lens. Thanks
Tim.*

[Chris Carter photo]

*Our Group enjoying the view
and lunch.*

[Chris Carter photo]



*Bonsai Trees in Black and
White*

[Chris Carter photo]

Report contributors: Chris C, Tim P, William W,

Participant list (7 of 7): Chris C, Glen C, Angela D, Linda H, Susan H, Tim P, William W,

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