

Alpine Scrambling Trip Report

Everett Mountaineers

Destination: Red Mountain (Salmon La Sac)	Date of Trip: 9/7/2002
Map(s): GT Kachess Lake	Scramble Rating: R-3-3
Guidebook: none	Summit Height: 5840+
Trailhead: Red Mountain trail off Cooper Lake Road #46	Elevation Gained: 3250'
Miles Round Trip: 6	

Leader: **Sherri Chisarik**

Driving Instructions: **I-90 to Exit 80, then go north thru Roslyn/Ronald and continue another 12 miles or so to Road #46 and turn left. Go about 1.5 miles or so, Red Mountain trail is on the left, rather inconspicuous. Parking available in small pullout area on right 200' past trail.**

Ascent Route: **Ascend the unmaintained Red Mountain trail. It's occasionally tricky to find, but it is continuous. In 2.5 miles of steep trail reach the crest of the summit ridge. The True summit is to the north, reach by a 20 minute ridge scramble with a couple of interesting spots, but mostly no problems. NOTE THAT THE 5722' POINT ON THE MAP IS NOT THE SUMMIT.**

Descent Route: **Return to trail saddle and descend trail. Could also run the ridge toward the southeast. We went about 1/2 mile along the ridge to the 5680+' high point**

Weather conditions: **Mostly cloudy with a light shower early, slowly improving throughout the day, 55°**

Trip Summary	From	To	Elapsed Times
	Carpool: 7:15 am	Trailhead: 9:30 am	2:15 hours
	Trail head: 9:45 am	Summit: 12:45 pm	3 hours
	Summit: 3:30 pm	Trailhead: 5:30 pm	2 hours

Overall Pace of Party: Leisurely Moderate Intense
 Steepness Can't Fall Could Fall Don't Fall
 Terrain Encountered: Rock Snow/ice Brush Other.
 Equipment Recommended: Hardhat Crampons Rope Snowshoes
 Was a handline used: **No** (If yes, describe circumstances):
 Accident Involved: **No** (If yes, submit an accident report):

Party Members	Phone	City	Student	Reached	Adequately	Comments
				Destination	Prepared	Below

Trip Comments: This was the "committee" scramble, an unofficial trip that was put together by Sherri for any scramble committee person. The original destination was Snoqualmie Mountain, but dense fog and showers at the pass send us further east in search of better weather. The sun was shining by Exit 80, so we headed up the Salmon La Sac/Cle Elum River Road. Arriving at Red Mountain trail, with light showers and overcast, we wondered if this was a good idea. But the weather improved considerably, and the views we had up higher told us it was a good call.

The trail gains 1,200' per mile, and although it's unmaintained, it's in good shape. There were a few minor blow downs, some brushy sections, and a couple of spots where you have to search around for the trail, but we had no problem with it.

Upon reaching the trail saddle at 5680+, we realized that the actual summit was to the north, not the 5722' point marked on the map. We proceeded to scramble along the ridge to the summit, encountering a couple

of tricky spots, but nothing too difficult. The summit was nice featuring views of all the peaks in the Salmon La Sac area, plus partial view of the peaks in the distance.

We scrambled back to the trail saddle, then continued along the ridge to the high point 1/2 mile south. This was simply a walk-up. We had hoped to get to a good view of Cle Elum Lake, but there was a lower ridge point in the way. Our hope at one point was to scramble the long ridge and make a big loop, but the time was later than we wanted, so we headed back down the trail.