

# Alpine Scrambles Trip Report

Everett Mountaineers

Destination: Rampart Ridge  
 Map(s): GT Snoqualmie Pass  
 Guidebook: Vol 1, p. 163  
 Trailhead: Rachel Lake Trail  
 Carpool at: Everett 6:30 AM

Date of Trip: 14 June 95  
 Scramble Rating: S-3-2 (?)  
 Summit Height: 5870  
 Elevation Gain: 3100  
 Miles Round Trip: 12

Ascent Route: Trail to Rachel Lake and Rampart Lakes, ascend northeast slopes to high point

Descent Route: Reverse of ascent route

Party Members Phone (Leader)

1) Andy Boos

From:	To:	Elapsed Times	Student	Potential Leader	Reached Destination	Adequately Prepared	Comments Noted Below
<u>Carpool</u>	<u>Trailhead</u>	<u>2 1/2 hrs</u>					
<u>Trailhead</u>	<u>Summit</u>	<u>5 1/2 hrs</u>					
<u>Summit</u>	<u>Trailhead</u>	<u>4 1/2 hrs</u>					

Overall Pace of Party:  Leisurely  Moderate  Intense  
 Steepness/Difficulty:  Can't fall  Could fall  Don't fall

Terrain Encountered:  Rock <sup>very</sup> little  Snow  Brush  
 Equipment Recommended:  Hardhat  Crampons  Rope  Other umbrella  
 Weather Conditions: Light to Moderate Showers virtually all day temps in 40's or 50's

Was a handline used?  Yes  No (If Yes, describe circumstances)

Accident Involved?  Yes  No (If Yes, submit an accident report)

Trip Narrative/Comments (about skills and conditioning of students):

Despite the rather poor weather, this large group enjoyed the snow scramble to the summit of Rampart Ridge. The trip came off fairly uneventfully, although it proved to be somewhat longer than expected (over 10 hours r.t.) and the summit was a bit tricky because of the weather conditions.

The trail to Rachel Lake is fairly good, with occasional blowdowns in the first 3 miles, and a few fairly challenging stream crossings. As it steepens during the final mile to the lake, it gets a little more rugged, but is easy to follow. We encountered patchy snow almost from the start, by about 4400' or so, the snow was fairly continuous. Rachel Lake was 3/4 thawed, Rampart Lakes were just beginning, but still snow and ice covered.

The route is fairly straight forward, even in the fog, although I got  
 (Continue on back)

the impression that the students may have had considerable trouble if the route finding were left to them. Most of them could use map & compass practice.

Snow slopes led nearly to the summit, which we wound up approaching from the south right at the end. The summit is atop a short band of tilted slab- ledges. When dry, they're probably a fairly simple class 2 or 3 finish. We found them pretty slimy and treacherous, so even though we were able to approach on snow to within 30 feet of the summit, there was no route from that side that I considered safe. So, we had to drop almost 200', traverse northward under some rock bands, and complete the route via the north ridge. This proved to be the easiest route. There was some steep ( $40^\circ$ ) snow, and a delicate move or two on the wet rock, but everyone ascended and descended with little trouble. Our summit stay was brief, our views fairly limited, but spirits were good anyway. brought Chocolate Covered Macadamian Nuts for all.

Most of the group handled this route without any difficulty. forgot to pack his rain parka, but was helped out by a spare poncho offered by . . . Everyone stayed warm and dry throughout the day.

Note: On the drive, we went from Everett to North Bend via Monroe, Duvall, and Carnation, thus avoiding the midweek morning rush hour. I'd recommend it to other midweek scramblers going to the Snoq. Pass area.