

# Alpine Scrambles Trip Report

Everett Mountaineers

Destination: Emerald/Saska/Pinnacle (Climbed Saska Gopher)  
 Map(s): BT Lucerne  
 Guidebook: Green book, p. 184  
 Trailhead: Entiat River Trail  
 Carpool at: -

Date of Trip: Sept. 4-6, '99  
 Scramble Rating: 8-4-4  
 Summit Height: 8400' +  
 Elevation Gain: 5300' +  
 Miles Round Trip: 28

Ascent Route: Entiat River Trail to Snow Brushy Creek trail, camped at 6000' near trail junction. Ascended trail to Saska Pass, and followed South Ridge, or just east of ridge to Saska Gopher was climbed via the ridge from Saska Pass also.

Descent Route: Reverse of ascent routes.

Party Members		Phone	(Leader)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1)	<u>Andy Boos</u>					
From: <u>Carpool</u>	To: <u>Trailhead</u>	Elapsed Times	Student	Reached Destination	Adequately Prepared	Correct Below
<u>Trailhead</u>	<u>Camp</u>	<u>4 1/2 hrs</u>	Potential Leader			
<u>Camp</u>	<u>Summit (Saska)</u>	<u>6 1/2 hrs</u>				
<u>Summit</u>	<u>Camp</u>	<u>5 hrs</u>				
<u>Camp</u>	<u>Trailhead</u>	<u>3 hrs</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  Snow  Brush  
 Equipment Recommended:  Hardhat  Crampons  Rope

Weather Conditions: Day 1: partly cloudy, cool, Day 2: Fog, overcast, a few afternoon sunbreaks & showers, Day 3: partly sunny, cool

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):

Good east-side area with much potential for doing a number of peaks. We did what we could, given less than ideal weather. Both Saska and Gopher are good rock scrambles, but have enough loose rock that large groups would not be advisable. Emerald and Pinnacle, which we didn't do, both are high and look only moderately difficult.

The hike in was a 10 1/2 mile trail approach to a camp in the Snow Brushy Creek Basin, SW of Saska. Camping here was nice, in a semi-open meadow near a couple of streams, in a seldom-visited valley (we saw no one in 2 days there).

We did Saska on the morning of our second day, during the only time all weekend that it was socked in. Route-finding from Saska Pass was moderately tricky, mainly because the ridge itself was too craggy to be followed directly. We all made Saska, had no views, and returned to the pass just as the clouds began lifting. By this time, Donna & Deb had had enough, so Jim and I did the ridgeline continuing on to Gopher Mtn.

There was no thought given to attempting Emerald, because of the marginal weather conditions. A possible attempt on Pinnacle on the final day fell through because of lack of time, lack of party interest, and lack of promising enough weather.

The hike out was pleasant, and we had none of the rain that we feared was supposed to arrive.

Wish we had had an extra day in there, and a little better weather.