



Trip Report

Trip Name: Turkey Trek, Corral Creek Ridge and Brazeau Mountain.

Trip Coordinator: Steve/ Sandy Irwin

Date: Oct 25-26/14

1. **Logistics** – Hotel, travel,
 - a. 10/12 stayed at Shunda Creek Hostel on Friday and 11/12 on Saturday night.
 - b. 2/12 drove out Saturday am. One drove home after Saturdays potluck.
2. **Weather.**
 - a. Day started out at 1 degree, the clouds broke at noon. The sun warmed up to 8 degrees. Great hiking weather.
3. **Trail Head Logistics:**
 - a. There are no outhouses at the trail head but lots of trees. Plan your stop prior.
 - b. Parking lot is the first area past the helicopter staging area. It is just north of the Cline River Bridge.

Day 1 Hike

4. Trial;
 - a. We took a wrong trail on off the right horse trail. We ended up above the via ferrate. Used up a couple hours but had a great view up and down Abraham Lake.
 - b. We made our way back to the trail cairn and took the proper trail to the Corral Creek viewing area. Had lunch in the sun and felt like we had put in a day.
 - c. We were only getting started as we found our way to the trail up Corral Creek Ridge, there is various ways up but we stuck to the faint trail. It is marked with cairns.
 - d. The last 2 km was an easy bush whack and not too steep. We had a little snow closer to the top but nothing more than 1 inch deep.
5. The View,
 - a. From the top of the ridge, there is a good view of Cline River, Corral Creek and the south end of Abraham Lake.
 - b. We could clearly see where we made our trail mistake in the morning.
 - c. Some went a little further on to Mount Stelford, it is only 30mins to the view over Stelford. (and another 30min to the summit) There is a great view up and down Abraham Lake with all the peaks and everything else that Western Canada has to offer.
6. Day 1, Wrap up;
 - a. Snow covered peaks and crisp air reminded us that the season was coming to an end.

- b. We returned to the hostel at 5:30.
- c. Hot tub, steak, salmon, wine and a more than we could eat potluck was enjoyed by all.

7. Hostel,

- a. Many to bed early the night before and most not until well after 7am. But what's the rush when you are staying in Nordegg.
- b. For breakfast, we ate last night's left overs and still had to send extras home with members. We bring lots and eat well

Day 2 Hike,

8. Trail,

- a. Brazeau Mountain.
- b. 6/12 participated.
- c. We started at 10am and finished at 3pm
- d. This was a great hike for the second day. Not too long and the trail head is on the way to Red Deer from Nordegg.
- e. There are multiple summits that can be had from the ridge between the various mountains
- f. Just down from the top, we ran into 5 mountain sheep. One was tagged with a blue collar. They did not seem too scared of us. We took a few photos and went to the top.

9. View,

- a. It was not too windy but with low temps, it did not take much to cool us down.
- b. In some trees, we found a hollow on the top. We ate lunch and talked about our ages.... cold air on the brain makes for odd conversations.
- c. We had fairly good view all directions, very cool cloud formations in the snowy peaks further west.
- d. Just as we were leaving the summit, misty clouds and light wind started. Just in time for us to leave.
- e. As we got into the trees and on trail, the weather was not an issue.

10. Turkey Trek,

- a. Nothing brings a group together like a good potluck. (and a hike)
- b. Big thanks to Steve and Sandy for planning. This was a great wrap up weekend.
- c. We are all looking forward to share time on next year's trails