

## West Kootenay Ice

### South Slocan

#### Glade Creek Falls WI2-3 3p.

(Elev. ~600m; north facing; high flow)

This high flow waterfall takes a prolonged cold snap to be climbable but offers a fun day out with easy access. Drive ~25km west from Nelson and turn left on to the Glade Ferry Rd. Take the car ferry to the east side of the Kootenay River, drive up the hill and take the first right onto Glade Rd. Follow this until the main ploughed road ends in a turnaround and park here. Continue walking on the main road across a bridge. In a few hundred meters the road bends left and climbs up a hill. When the road switch backs up to the right, go left on a hiking trail that leads to the falls.

~20 min. approach.

P1. WI 2 15m

P2. WI 3 20m

P3. WI 3 12m

#### Jacob Creek Falls (Kosiancic Falls) WI5 3p.

(Elev. ~820m; SW facing in a recess; medium flow)

Access is an issue so ask permission of land owners to gain access to the power lines.

Here is one possible access:

Park on the east shoulder of Hwy 6 just north of the Passmore sign. Hike up the steep driveway on the right to a T junction between 2 houses. Continue straight through to the first set of power lines and follow a road under the lines and down to a gate. Continue down the road to the valley and turn left following the main powerlines. After tower 312, trend right into an opening in the trees (the ice can be seen from here). Follow flagging up the rib on the left with cut trees into a draw that leads to a small saddle allowing passage over the rib and into the main Jacob Creek drainage. Ascend the drainage to a small ice step and eventually to the base of the climb. This is about a 300m elevation gain (1 to 1.5 hrs).

P1. Climb the freestanding pillar WI5 50m or bypass it on the left.

P2. Climb Cauliflower ice to a freestanding pillar and featured ice above. WI4/5 50m

P3. Continue on to a shorter pitch higher up WI3

#### Slocan Park Ice WI3-5 15-25m?

(Elev. ~1000m; NE facing; low flow)

Several flows, smears and mixed lines seen from the Coop gas station in Slocan Park. Cross the bridge across the Slocan River just NW of Slocan Park Rd. Turn left onto Slocan Valley West Rd. Access is through private property so ask permission from the owners.

#### Vanishing Falls WI3 3p.

(Elev. ~1100m; SW facing; medium flow?)

This high elevation climb can be seen easily from the road and involves a long and steep approach that might be best be done on snowshoes.

Driving north on Hwy 6 turn right after the Coop on Slocan Park Rd. Turn right at the T junction onto Upper Slocan Park Rd. Follow this past the Vanishing Falls B&B into a narrow road through the woods and turn left to reach the power lines. Park near the rocky creek bed and walk up this until a trail begins on the climber's left bank following a long, black water pipe. Watch for a trail that switchbacks left and leads up to a faint old road. Follow game trails and old flagging that switch back their way up onto the top of a large rib. Gain elevation on the rib until it is possible to traverse right into the main drainage. Follow this up, staying left at a fork, then keep right to reach the start of the ice. ~3 hr. approach

### **Above Slocan City**

#### **First Pullout WI4**

(Elev. ~850m; west facing; low flow)

This unnamed flow is seen easily from the pullout 4.2km north of the turnoff for Slocan City. A low angle apron of thin ice leads to a variety of options from hanging daggers on the left to thinner ice on the right. The thickest ice in the middle leads right behind a rock diving board and up a pillar to a treed bench.

#### **Home By Noon WI4 M5 90m** (D. Lussier & I. de Zwart '07)

(Elev. ~850m; west facing; low flow)

This is the right hand of the two broad ice sheets seen easily from the highway. The climb stays close to the left facing corner for the first 2 pitches, and then traverses right on exposed rock to an unlikely rock ledge.

Park at the south end of the cement retaining wall on the west side of the highway and walk north to the start of a right trending ramp that leads to trees and easier ground on the far right. At the top of a scree/snow gully, head back left to a short ice step which can be bypassed on the left to reach the base of the climbs. Alternatively stay right of the ice step and bushwack up trees until a higher ice step leads to the base. A fairly protected belay can be found in the trees on the far right of the rock corner.

P1. Climb the right side of the ice to a 2 bolt belay under a rock roof. 35m WI3

P2. Step out left and climb straight up a steep section, then trend left to another bolted belay beneath the next large roof. 35m WI4

P3. Traverse directly right from the belay towards an airy, bolt protected rock traverse, heading for the back side of an ice pillar and then up the far side of the same ice pillar (some rope drag) passing another short curtain to a tree belay at the top. 20m WI4 M5

#### **Just Another Quickie WI4 105m** (FA Unknown)

(Elev. ~850m; west facing, low flow)

Access the base of the ice as for Home by Noon and belay at 2 large birch trees in the alders to the right of the climb.

P1. Climb blue ice on the left to a good ledge. If the ice is too wet or thin, then take rock ledges right of the ice with minimal pro that ramp back left to gain the ledge. Traverse left to a thin slab and climb this to belay under a large rock roof right of the main flow.

30m WI3

P2. Head up the icy corner groove and then stay right on easier but wetter ice or continue straight up a more vertical section for ~7m until regaining the slabby ice above. A pleasant jaunt up easy ice brings you to the base of the final steeper pitch. 50m WI3-4  
P3. Pick your way up the featured curtain on the right to the trees above. 25m WI4

### **Slocan-Silverton Hwy**

#### **The Enterprise WI3-4 35m**

(Elev. ~820m; north facing; low flow)

1:15hr. drive from Nelson. 14.5km north of the turnoff for Slocan City, Hwy 6 crosses a bridge over Enterprise Creek. If low snow banks allow it may be possible to park on the right shoulder south of the bridge. Otherwise safest to park 800m further north at the ploughed Enterprise Rd. turnoff and walk back. The falls are seen from the north side of the bridge.

From the south side of the bridge over Enterprise Creek, walk east along a logging road until it is possible to climb right up the steep slope towards the ice which will not be visible through the trees until closer to the climb. ~35min. approach