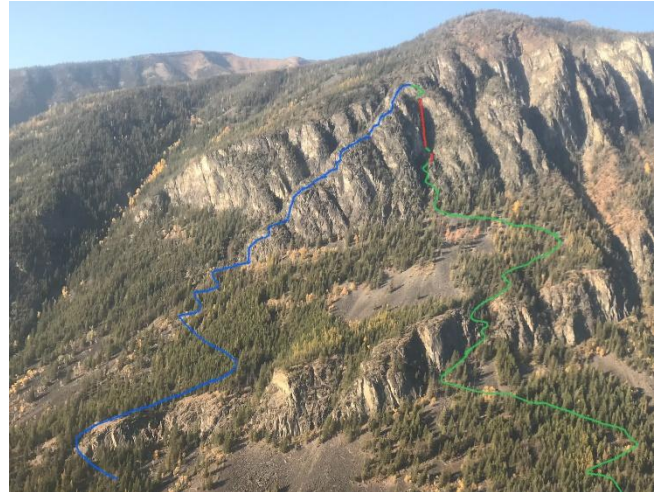


Prohibition Ridge, 5.9+ ~300m

Prohibition Ridge climbs a SW line of Bootleg's Upper Tier. Access is via the Lowside Crag. 100m from the furthest climbers left section of the crag there is a small talus field. Ascend this talus field looking for a cairn and a cut path through some trees. The trail is initially faint here as it continues up and left following cairns. Once you reach a short grassy slope it goes straight up and intersect a more prominent game trail. Follow this trail right passing above the Lowside cliffs. Eventually the trail steepens considerably, annoyingly, which is the clue that there will be an important **left** fork coming up, there is a cairn at this turn. Continue climbers left for quite a while, on a switch-backing trail that is well established. The trail climbs the right side of a rocky wash until that wash becomes a deeper gully. At a large fallen tree (new) and steepening/cliffy terrain you will exit right and traverse the base for around 75m to find the start of the route. The start is slightly uphill in a small, treed bay with an improved stance and a short finger crack on the right ~1400m.



Rack and Beta:

40-60m rope. 8-10 alpine draws. BD #0.3-3, with doubles of #.4-2. 6 nuts. The mid size pieces (.5, .75 and 1) are the most heavily used and are part of most belays so use them wisely. Many belay options exist, including natural features, and pitches can be split. Combining pitches doesn't make sense and is not recommended. Climbing with a 40m rope is perfect but you will need to split or simul the last pitch and will influence descent options. There are no fixed belays, but a few bail-off points exist on either side of the ridge if needed. Route finding is relatively straight forward with most of the pitches favouring the right side of the ridge as that's where the better rock and nicer features are. The rappel route requires a 60m rope or equivalent solution for 30m raps.

Rough time estimates: 1.5 hours approach; 5-7 hours climb; 1 hour from top through the raps; ¾-1 hour hike out. **Average climb length 8-11 hours.**

PITCH INFO			BETA
P1	5.4	20m	Find an improved belay stance below a short finger crack. Climb easily through interspersed cracks, up and left to a flat belay with boulders.
Walk right to a narrow path alongside a bulge, then scramble up and right through a break. Continue right (don't go too high here) looking for an improved belay amongst some trees, in a small right facing corner, beside a pedestal and below an inviting flake crack.			
P2	5.7	40m	Climb the flake crack up into blocky terrain. Once you top out walk 15-20m into a mini alcove and a solid belay. The belay is set far back and communication is affected.
P3	5.6	25m	Step right onto slabs below a big smooth wall. Boulder through a notch on the right to gain an easy corner. Mantle the top of the corner and belay in cracks.
Scramble up slabs and continue walking up the broad ridge. As the terrain steepens, move up and right through 3 rd class terrain looking for a ledge with a great crack and a cut stump in it. Belay here.			
P4	5.7	40m	Climb the "stump crack" into broken terrain. Continue straight up, avoiding the loose terrain out left. At a steep light-coloured wall, hand-traverse right to a ledge leading into a corner. Ascend this corner on blocky holds and jams to a belay at the top-left. Be mindful to avoid rope drag. This pitch can be split if needed.
P5	5.9	30m	One of the short lived but tricky cruxes of the ridge. Clip a bolt, plug a cam and move through to easier terrain. Continue up to a thin corner crack then step right onto a mini arete to the top and belay.
Scramble 3 rd class steps on the ridge crest. As the ridge steepens walk right , passing some bigger trees to find a sweet right-facing corner that is rusty color with bright green lichen.			
P6	5.8	25m	Make a bouldery move to get established in the right-facing corner and climb a fun laid back system with face holds and good jams. Follow the system up, right and exit onto a good ledge above your belayer. This belay takes many of the same sized cams as the corner so be thoughtful with your pro and creative with your belay.
P7	5.6	30m	Move up and right finding the path of least resistance. There is a hard to see bolt around a corner that you clip as you transition onto a slab leading to a large ledge and the next belay. This belay has 2 pins but there are also blocks to sling/thread but be judicious.
P8	5.9 +	20m	Second crux of the climb. Move up through slabby terrain into a corner. Balanced climbing passed a bolt leads to some nice jugs that are hard to find and just higher than you want them to be. Belay on the ledge (gear or sling a large boulder). Avoid easier looking line climber's left as it has a dangerously loose pillar.
Hike and scramble through 3 rd and 4 th class steps and slots as you move toward the last of the pitched climbing. As the ridge steepens find a belay below broken slabs where some trees have been cut.			
P9	5.5	55m	Boulder off the belay and climb through easy terrain plugging gear thoughtfully. Higher up there is steeper smooth wall with a crack in it. This is a logical place to split the pitch if wanted. Step left to find a bolt. Gently use blocky rock to move up and into easier terrain. Belay at a large tree or in cracks below it. Despite cleaning still use care with loose rock.
Scramble up to find a cool diagonal foot ramp through Krummholz with electric green lichen on a steeper face. Continue through easy 3 rd class terrain until you reach a wonderful flat spot with excellent views and a perfectly positioned rock bench for lunch. This "Top Out Terrace" is ~ 1715m elevation.			

Descent:

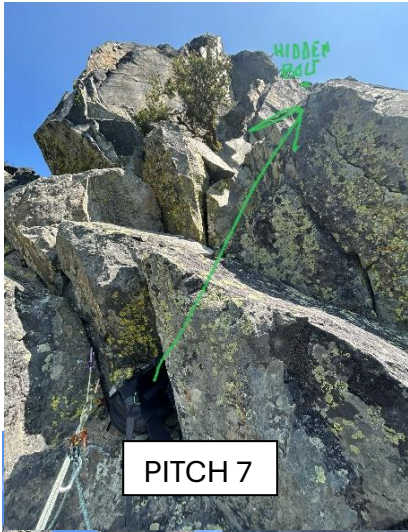
From the Top-out Terrace walk skiers left to find a large cairn. Scramble down a diagonal ramp to a short 4th class step. Next, walk skiers right to find a large flake above an old, horizontally inclined tree. Use the flake to belay your partner down a groove, skiers right of the old tree, to a stance and a hidden rap station (Ring Bolts).

Raps		Notes: All stations are off-set ring bolts, lengths are approximate
R1	30m	Fall line rap, slightly climbers right to find a stance. Careful pulling ropes.
R2	25m	Fall line rap, slightly climbers right
R3	25m	Fall line rap
R4	30m	Climbers right to the ground.
There is an optional 15m rap to lessen some loose & steep walking. Follow easiest way down skiers left to a small bluff. Go left down a short step to a 2-bolt anchor w/ carabiners. Rap to a shaded ledge under a huge tree.		

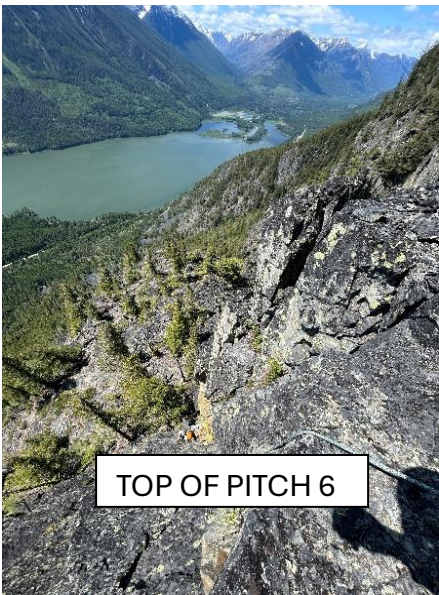
After the raps continue down the gully along a cut trail through some alder exiting the gully on the left. At the talus slope trend skiers left until you rejoin the Upper Bootleg Trail. Follow this down, passing Highside Crag, and all the way to the road.



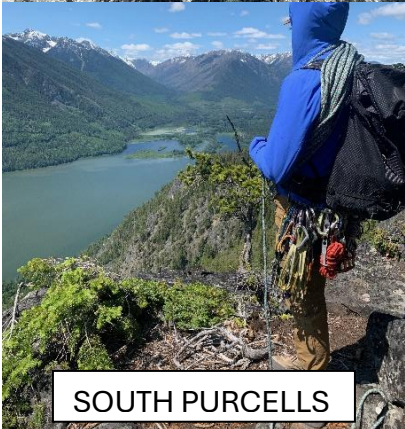
PITCH 6 CORNER



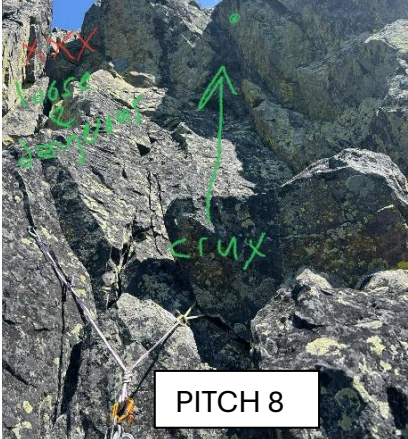
PITCH 7



TOP OF PITCH 6



SOUTH PURCELLS



PITCH 8



FINDING FIRST RAP