

KOKANEE LAKE BOULDERS

NELSON, B.C

Kokanee Glacier Provincial Park is a beautiful sub-alpine/alpine park located 50 minutes from the city of Nelson that offers breathtaking hiking trails and views in a diverse mountain landscape. After about an hour and a bit of hiking from the Gibson Lake parking lot you enter a grand valley and come upon Kokanee Lake. The hiking has now got even better, you've gained most your elevation and things really start to open up. Wait a second, what are those big blocs at the bottom of that slide?

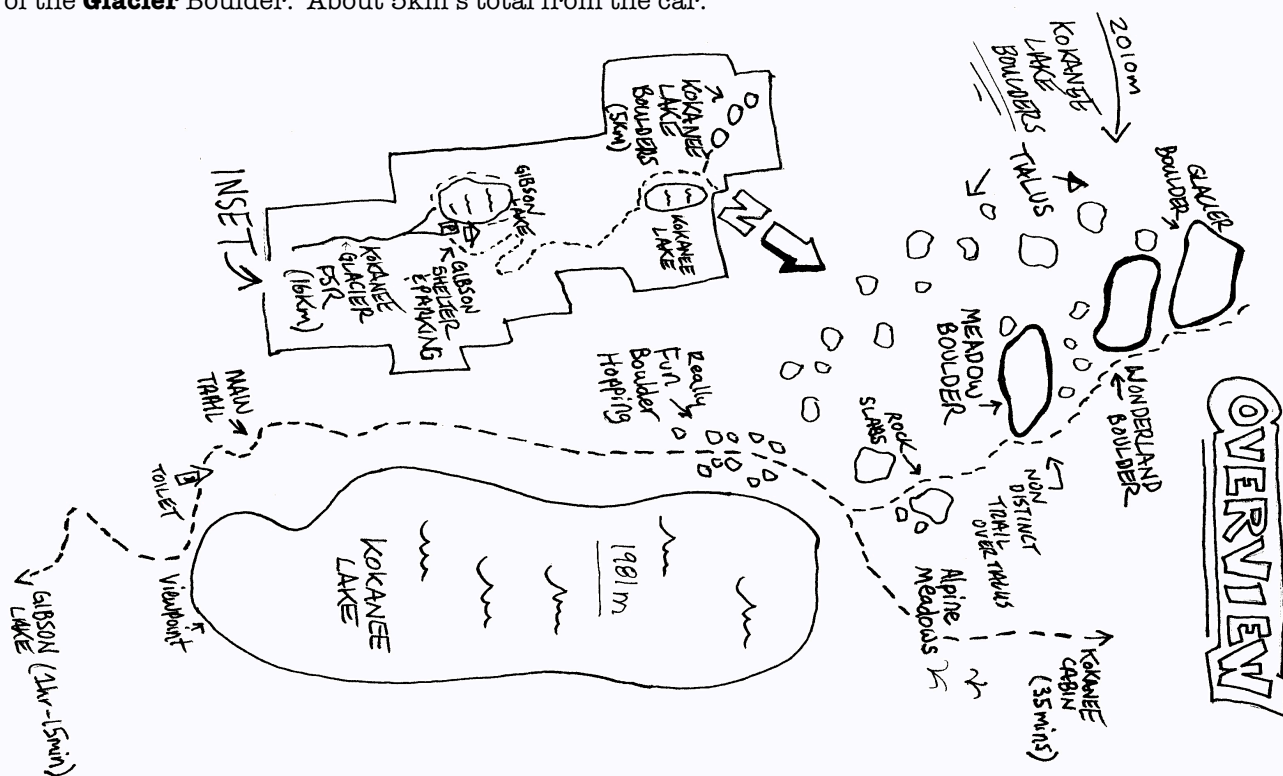
The visitors to the park will be asking you the whole way up, what are those giant things you are carrying? Well let me tell you... there is some sick bouldering up here and it is worth the hour and a half hike up with these silly things on our back that keep us from breaking our ankles :) Not only is the climbing aesthetic but, the rock is made up of a super high quality granite that offers all kinds of awesome problems! Combine this with an amazing atmosphere, fine views and a great hike in and you have a worthy destination! There is lots of potential as well for more problems! Go check it out before the snows of October, the climbing is just above 2000m and it faces northeast.... i.e. a great summer bouldering spot!

Just as a note, the landings are all made up of Talus that can make for some interesting landings. Efforts have been made to stack rocks making it much safer but care should be taken on some of the harder problems (it's a long hike out).

About 30-40 minutes past the boulders are great opportunities for overnighting at both the designated backcountry campground at Kaslo Lake & the famous Kokanee Glacier Cabin (both need to be booked prior). Random camping in the parking lot or Gibson Lake cabin is not permitted and this is strictly enforced. There are also many opportunities along the FSR to camp as well (there's a really nice spot at 7km) or down at Kokanee Creek Campground right on the beach.

Directions:

Drive east from Nelson, cross the orange bridge and head about 20km towards Kokanee Creek and Kokanee Glacier Provincial Park (signed). Just past the campground take a left following the blue provincial park signs for Kokanee Glacier. Follow the forest service road 16km up past beautiful old forests to about 1580m and the **Gibson** Lake trailhead/parking area (the road ends here). Follow the main trail up for about an hour and a bit to **Kokanee** Lake. Traverse left over on the fun rock steps, staying on the main trail around the lake, head down to the meadow and pick up the trail going up to the west through the talus/slide (tread lightly) following Cairns to the boulders; about an hour and a half from the parking. The **Meadow** Boulder is the first big guy you come to, head around to the right a bit further to reach the **Wonderland** Boulder and hidden just beyond is the wonderful rock of the **Glacier** Boulder. About 5km's total from the car.



MEADOW BOULDER

1 - Meadows in the sky - V9? **

Jump-start to the big jug on the right hand face, traverse onto the side pull/sloper feature and climb the wild arête in a great position. High!

2 - Last action hero - V2 *

Jump-start to the big jug on the face, make a big move to a gritty sloper and transition into the crack and up.

3 - Hierarchy of control - V3 **

Jump start yet again to a cool jug right on the lip, a big move out left gains another positive hold, now mantle and finish way up high on easy terrain.

4 - That beautiful somewhere - V4 *

Start under the overhang, make a powerful move up to the lip and a really cool pinch feature, figure out how to hold it and execute the mantle. Fun!

5 - Project - V7/8?

This one climbs up some positive features on the very burly overhang. Progress should be easier once you've made it over the lip. Two finishes, the left will be harder the right would climb and finish on "Indian Paintbrush"

6 - Indian paintbrush - V5 ***

Start out right on a big juggy rail, traverse out left on some tough lip holds to the crux and mantle over the bulge and into the big side pull feature.

WONDERLAND BOULDER

7 - Huckleberry - V0 *

Start crouched and make some crimp moves up into the big rail feature. Climb it up and left into the mellow corner up high. Warm up territory.

8 - PROJECT...

Start matched on a big hold down low, climb up into the arête, unlock the sequence and finish up high through diminishing holds. Looks committing.

9 - ALPINE BUTTERFLY - V0+ **

Start seated on the big blocky hold, move up through the cool features and side pulls to a hidden hold finish. Great easy problem on cool rock!

10 - COSMIC FORCES - V3 **

Start standing at the lip of the roof on some cool crimps. Awesome right-trending traversing holds lead to a big throw at the finish. Excellent! Low start anyone, there is a big beautiful hold down there but it is one big move!

11 - WONDERBAR - V5-7 *

Start as per 'Wonderland' but move out left to a tricky sequence at about mid-height and a powerful finish. Full of eliminates.

12 - WONDERLAND - V5 ***

Start way down low in the cave on an under cling and a small crimper in a kind of squeeze position. A cruxy beginning leads into easier but powerful moves up through the wild overhang. The holds are huge the whole way but can you control the pump! Worth walking up here for!

GLACIER BOULDER

13 - THE AMAZING KOKANEE LIP TRAVERSE - V2/4 ***

Climb the stratified lip right to left. A sit start on the prow down low ups the ante a grade or two and is highly recommended. This might just be one of the most amazing lip traverse lines you ever get on. The rock is unbelievable!! This problem is located on the south side of the boulder.

The next few climbs are located on the north side of the boulder.

14 - THE SHARP END - V3 *

Start low on the jug in the little corner and climb the corner out and left through some sharp rock to a nice ledge feature. A couple of big moves up and right finish things off! Should get better with traffic.

15 - GLACIER FRESH - V2 ***

Start low on the jug in the little corner on the left; move out right to the jug, now power up through those amazing holds. Unbelievably steep & exposed for a boulder problem of this grade! The Plumb line of the bunch.

16 - THE KOKANEE MARMOT WARRIOR - V2 **

Start low on the jug in the little corner, traverse out and right through some pump holds and another jug haul finish towards the middle of the face.

17 - KOKANEE GOLD - V1 **

Start seated in the middle of the face on a great hold. Power straight up through more unbelievable orange jugs to a couple of surprisingly smaller holds and the finish.

18 - ALPINE EXPRESS - V1 *

Start seated on the middle of the face on a great hold. Power out and right towards the arête and another great jug haul on amazing rock! Easiest problem on the face.

