

Paradise Topo v1.5 – March 27, 2019

Warning

You are responsible for your own safety. You climb at your own risk!!!

This is also a new climbing area; while great effort has been made to clean any loose rock through pry bar and pressure washing, expect some ongoing exfoliation as the routes mature. Wearing a helmet is strongly advised!

This Crag is still under development and there are many fixed lines still up. Please respect the fixed lines by not disturbing them. If a fixed line is in your way for a route you want to do, then feel free to tie them back or use a quick draw to move them out of your way while you climb and then restore them to their original position when you are done.

There is also some gear stashed. Please leave the gear alone; it has been cached out of the way but there is some that is in the area. This includes the hose and water cache. That is how the routes were made as clean as they are and took a lot of effort to hike in and setup.

Donate to Support the Crag and Community

Bolts for all the routes developed in 2018 onward were provided by the Sea-to-Sky Bolt Fund, website link here, please donate to keep the routes at this crag coming:

<https://www.gofundme.com/seatoskyroutedevelopment>

Please also take the time to join both SAS and CASBC. Both organizations are important for keeping access to climbing open, creating parks and generally protecting climber's rights. It costs very little and makes the organization a more powerful voice when approaching municipal and provincial organizations.

Style and Rock of the Area

The rock at Paradise is a mix of Basalt and Granite with the occasional seams of Quartz. The rock has jugs, under-clings, pockets, crimps and the occasional crack. The cliffs are overhanging to vertical with roofs and a large column, corners and an arête. The climbing tends to be good sport climbing and is quite varied with technical sequences.

The routes can be long 35m to short ~16m depending on which wall you are climbing. Bring 13 draws plus anchor gear and a 70 meter rope.

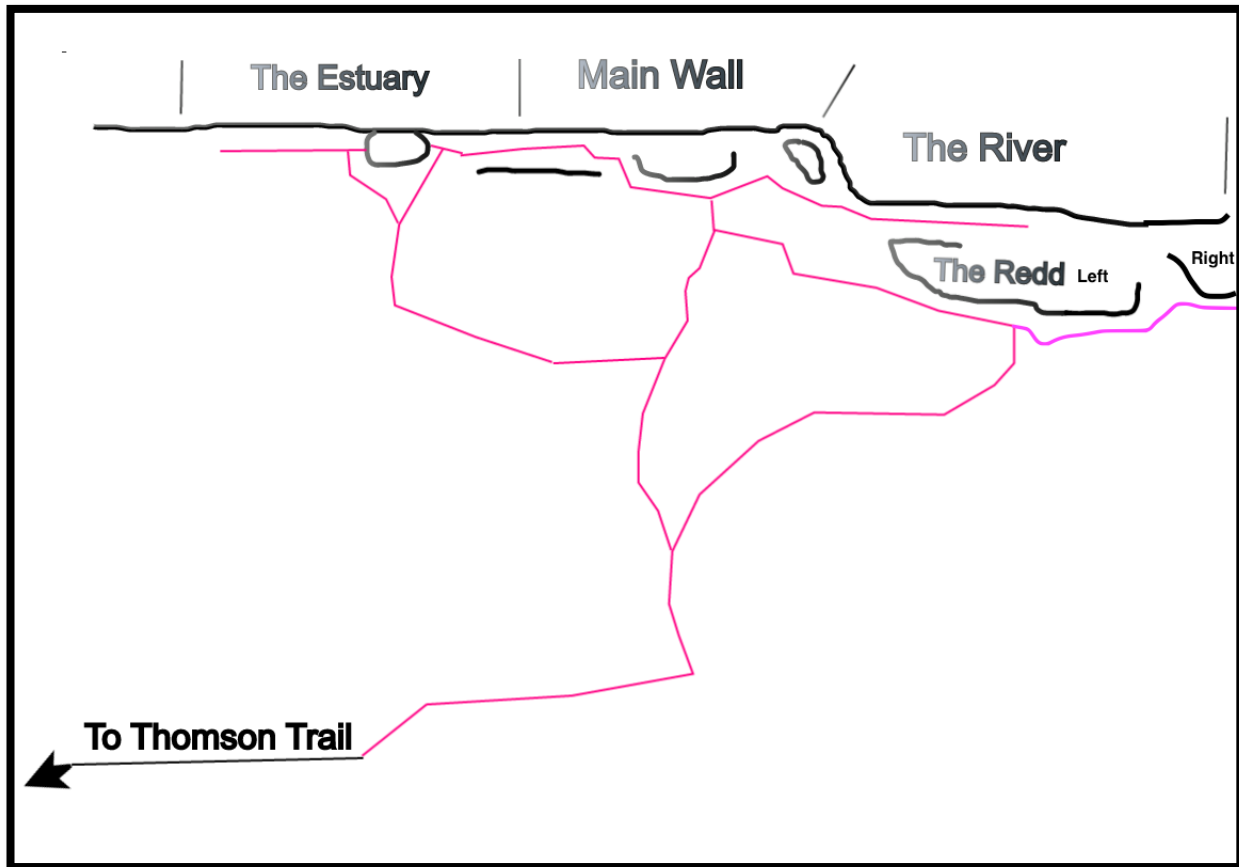
At the time of writing the Paradise crag has 21 routes completed and 6 closed projects on the go.

Location and Parking

Drive through Squamish, after Brackendale, turn left off the highway down Squamish Valley Rd, which is at the Alice Lake junction. Drive down Squamish Valley till you reach Fergies and the bridge over the Cheakamus River. Bear right down Paradise Valley Rd. Continue for several kilometers, crossing the Cheakamus river again on a single lane bridge. Another two kilometers and turn right down Midnight way. Continue to the end of Midnight Way and park on the right at the Tenderfoot Creek Fish Hatchery.

Approach

From the parking lot at Tender Foot Fish hatchery, walk past the gate and up the Thompson Trail. You'll cross the bridge and pass by the Enchanted boulder and start winding your way up the screen slope on the trail. The trail continues up past some old wooden steps then veers left. After about 100m there are some decaying steps in the ground and a large Douglas fir growing out of the trail's left side. At this point turn right and hike up towards a couple stacked boulders. You'll switch back right of the boulder and start winding your way up the climbers trail. The trail leads up through a small notch and then continues right until you reach another boulder. Continue up the left side of that boulder and a couple high steps up to a more open talus field covered with moss. The trail from this point by moss free boulders through the open moss covered talus. The diagram below shows the various walls and the climber's trails to access them. It's not to scale but at this point in the direction you'll be able to see the walls through the trees.





The Redd Wall Legend:
#1 - Spilt Milt - 5.11a
- FA Robin Richardson - June-2016
#2 - The Redd - 5.11a
- FA Chris Singer - Aug-2016
#3 - Alevin and the Chipmunks - 5.11c
- FA Chris Singer - Aug-2016
#4 - Keystone Species - 5.11c/d
- FA Chris Singer - Aug-2016
#5 - Anadromous Fish - 5.10a
- FA Chris Singer - Aug-2016

The Redd Right is past the gully and is a wall down a little down and right from the Redd Left. The routes started on the North Facing gully side and wrap around the arête onto a West facing wall. The are list from left to right as follows:

#1 Salmon in your Tallon's – Prep JP Caputa and Chris Singer FA Chris Singer 2019-01-29 – 5.9

This is the farthest left line on the gully wall. Crimps to a tricky crack move to a jug. Then a rest, easy climbing to the top.

#2 On the Hook – FA Chris Singer 2018-12-03 – 5.10c

Start standing on a rock protruding from the ground. Boulder start then climb to easier terrain to a small corner system. Move up and left as the corner forms into a flake and the rock steepens. Get on top of the flake and then break left out onto the face and up till you are standing on top of a small ledge. Move up and left using underclings form the start of a scoop. Climb this scoop on thin holds and tricky footwork to the anchor above.

#3 Off the Hook – FA Chris Singer 2018-12-03 – 5.10a

The same start as for Off the Hook (stand on the rock protrusion and do the boulder problem). Follow "On the Hook" till you establish on top of the flake for a rest with hands in a monster. Instead of breaking left onto the slabby face you continue up the dyke system then directly up to the anchor just below the steeper head wall.

#4 Recommend by the Sturgeon General – FA Chris Singer 2018-11-19 – 5.11b

Start on the left side of the arête that divides the Gully and the West facing parts of the wall. Climb up directly up the face until you reach the left trending crack at the 3rd bolt. Move left to the small roof formation. Clip and then move under the roof till you can move up. Slightly left and tackle some technical climbing off of gastons and pinches that are really fun and sustained. Climb till you establish on a small ledge with a basalt dyke that runs to the anchor. Climb this dyke to the anchor above.

#5 Closed Project – FA Chris Singer 2019-0?-?? –

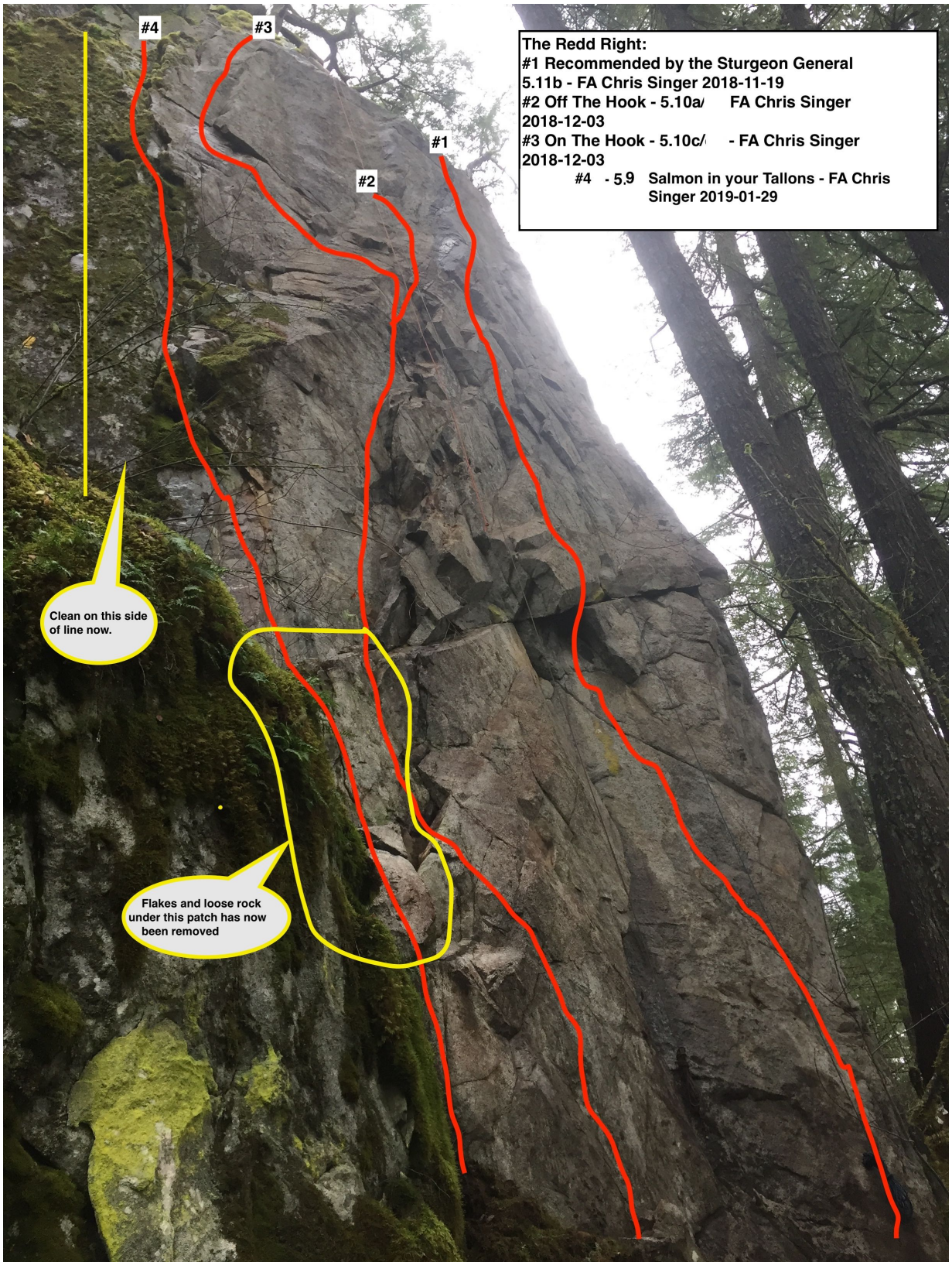
Start on the ride side of the arête that splits the gully and west facing part of the wall.

#6 Closed Project – FA Chris Singer 2019-0?-?? –

Start a few meters left of #5 Project and just right of Hook, Line and Sinker.

#7 Hook, Line and Sinker – FA Chris Singer 2018-10-11 – 5.12a

Some reachy moves off the ground (stick clip recommended) leads to a good stance on jugs at the second bolt. Reach the third bolt with difficulty then sustained till the angle backs off mid-route. Rest up and before launching into a vertical section through some dishes and a pocket to reach technical and perplexing crux. Sustained climbing gets you to the anchors. Fun and harder than it looks.

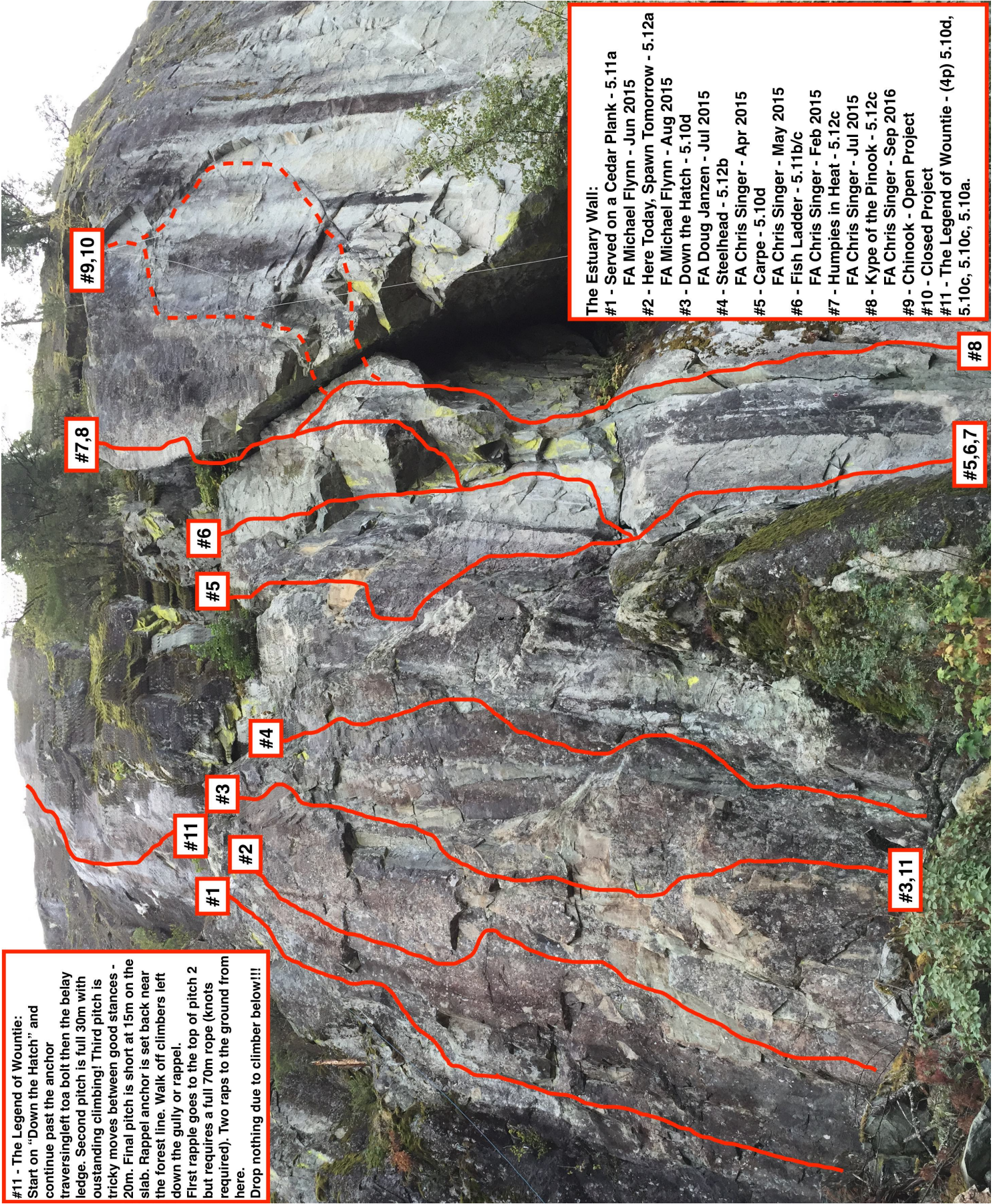


The Redd Right:
#1 Recommended by the Sturgeon General
5.11b - FA Chris Singer 2018-11-19
#2 Off The Hook - 5.10a/ FA Chris Singer
2018-12-03
#3 On The Hook - 5.10c/ - FA Chris Singer
2018-12-03
#4 - 5.9 Salmon in your Tallons - FA Chris
Singer 2019-01-29

Clean on this side
of line now.

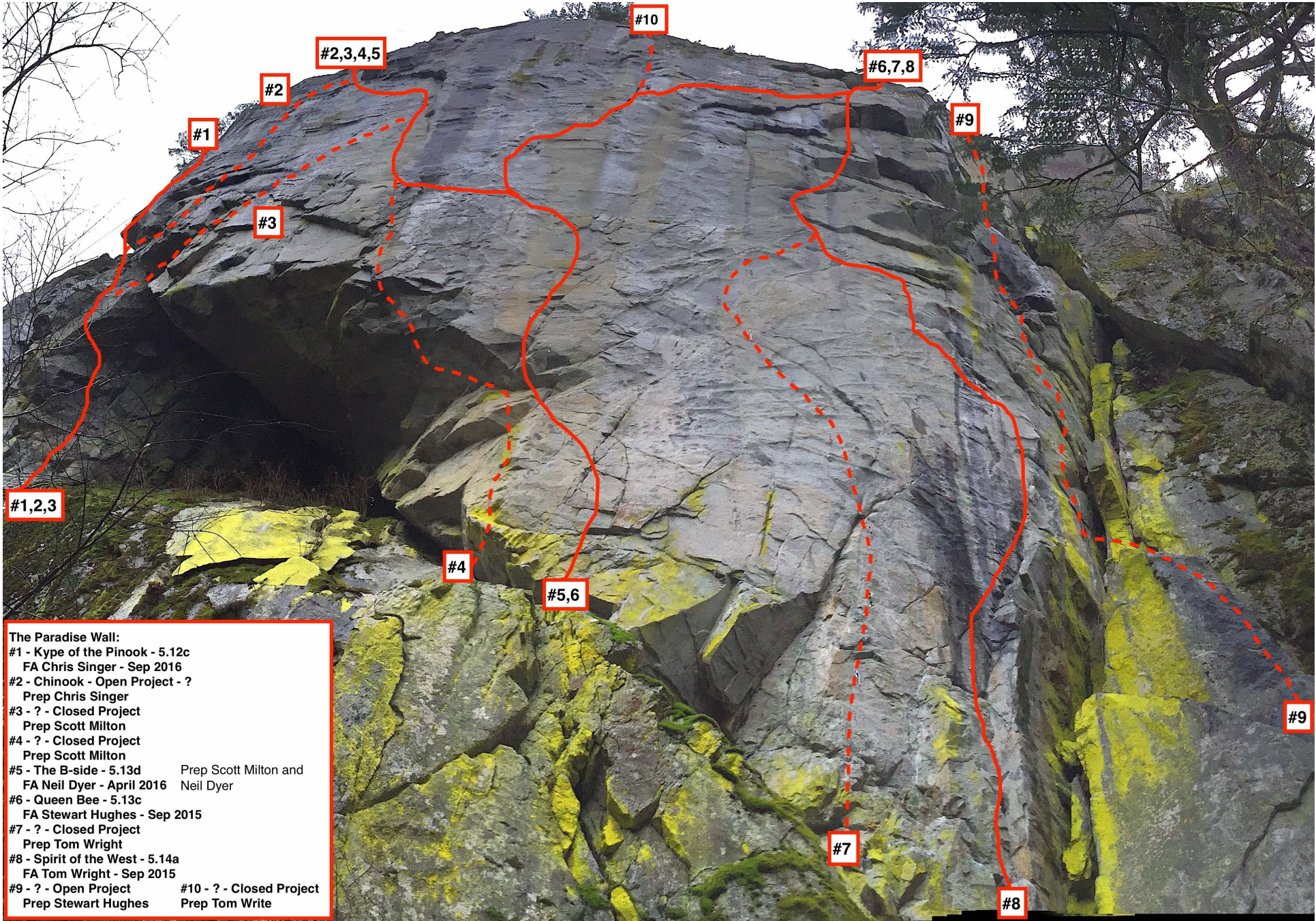
Flakes and loose rock
under this patch has now
been removed

#11 - The Legend of Wountie:
 Start on "Down the Hatch" and continue past the anchor traversing left to a bolt then the belay ledge. Second pitch is full 30m with outstanding climbing! Third pitch is tricky moves between good stances - 20m. Final pitch is short at 15m on the slab. Rappel anchor is set back near the forest line. Walk off climbers left down the gully or rappel.
 First rappe goes to the top of pitch 2 but requires a full 70m rope (knots required). Two raps to the ground from here.
 Drop nothing due to climber below!!!



The Estuary Wall:

- #1 - Served on a Cedar Plank - 5.11a
FA Michael Flynn - Jun 2015
- #2 - Here Today, Spawn Tomorrow - 5.12a
FA Michael Flynn - Aug 2015
- #3 - Down the Hatch - 5.10d
FA Doug Janzen - Jul 2015
- #4 - Steelhead - 5.12b
FA Chris Singer - Apr 2015
- #5 - Carpe - 5.10d
FA Chris Singer - May 2015
- #6 - Fish Ladder - 5.11b/c
FA Chris Singer - Feb 2015
- #7 - Humpies in Heat - 5.12c
FA Chris Singer - Jul 2015
- #8 - Kype of the Pinook - 5.12c
FA Chris Singer - Sep 2016
- #9 - Chinook - Open Project
- #10 - Closed Project
- #11 - The Legend of Wountie - (4p) 5.10d, 5.10c, 5.10c, 5.10a.



The Paradise Wall:

- #1 - Kype of the Pinook - 5.12c
FA Chris Singer - Sep 2016
- #2 - Chinook - Open Project - ?
Prep Chris Singer
- #3 - ? - Closed Project
Prep Scott Milton
- #4 - ? - Closed Project
Prep Scott Milton
- #5 - The B-side - 5.13d Prep Scott Milton and
FA Neil Dyer - April 2016 Neil Dyer
- #6 - Queen Bee - 5.13c
FA Stewart Hughes - Sep 2015
- #7 - ? - Closed Project
Prep Tom Wright
- #8 - Spirit of the West - 5.14a
FA Tom Wright - Sep 2015
- #9 - ? - Open Project
- #10 - ? - Closed Project
Prep Stewart Hughes Prep Tom Write

The River Sector:

While there are no pictures of the River sector, there are 4 routes up there

Accessing the start of the River wall. From the main wall, follow climbers right up to a fixed line lines that is more of a banister than a rope to be climbed. As you arrived to where the line is tied to a hemlock, you will be facing the start of the River wall. The lines are described from left to right. Note that moving across the wall involves going up a steep gully that has fixed lines attached.

The top of this wall has a pleasant look out spot that can see down to the hatcher parking lot and up valley. Its worth a look and can be a nice place to warm up on cool days.

#1 Peri Peri Crack (TRAD)– FA Tom Wright 2017-05-26 – 5.11a

This line is a thin seam just up and left from the hemlock with the fixed line attached to it. Climb up clipping two bolts that are shared with Lox Stalk. Then Thin gear low down gives way to a widening seam above a small roof. Pack the 000 C3 and small RPs as this one is spicy!

#2 Lox Stalk and Two Smolt on Bagels – FA Chris Singer 2017-08-27 – 5.12a

This line starts just right of the hemlock with the fixed line on it. It follows the first two bolts of Peri Peri then break out right on some technical moves at the third bolt. A short and powerful series of boulder problems on slightly overhanging basalt column makes for a short but interesting line.

#3 Parr for the Course – FA Chris Singer 2016-Jul-21 – 5.11d

Access by moving right and up the fixed line(s). There is a good belay platform a few couple meters up the fixed line. The route starts at the name plate above the belay spot near a small stump. Belay should allow the climber to get to the stump before moving onto the belay platform as the climber could knock debris onto their belayer. Climber start on the detached flake then steps left into the large wide crack on the main face. Easy moves quickly give way to progressively hardware pulls and steeper terrain. A crux arrives just before the ledge traverse and then more outstanding climbing to the anchor. Stick clipping the first bolt is recommend!

#4 Small Fry – FA Chris Singer, Robin Richardson 2018-May-6 – 5.11b

Continue up and left from Parr for the course to where the fixed lined is attached. The top is a nice lookout with view up the valley but gets a bit more sun. This is the platform above “The Redd” sector. WARNING: Climbers maybe below, do not knock anything off of this ledge.

Small Fry is the steep overhanging crack line that can be access from a break in the 2.5m tall flakes that are next to the main cliff face. This is a good hand crack a that might feel soft to trade climbers but is a good climb for sport climbers to gain develop hand crack climbing skills. Steep hand jams and locks past several bolts on steep terrain. The crux appears near the top when the crack disappears and the climber must used a few giant flakes to gain an alcove. A few exposed face but easy face moves makes for an exciting finish. Steep but fun.

#5 Open Project – 14m – Prep Tom Wright

Very hard - thin boulder problem. Still needs 1 or 2 bolts down load but the rest is ready.

To reach the start of this route and #7, walk along the thin ledge right of Small Fry till you reach a pillar this is roughly the start of #6 Paradise Bipolar Circus. Careful on the ledge traverse as rocks knocked off can rain down the gully on the climbers at the base of Redd Right (a ledge construction project for this section will be done by end of summer. For now be careful). At the pillar you can step behind it and the main wall then descend down into a 1.5 x 2.5m ledge area built for the purpose of allowing access to #7 and #8. There is a belay bolt down there for those feeling a bit exposed though most will feel comfortable enough. There is a place for two people and room to put on your shoes. Just keep in mind that falling from the ledge is about a 10m drop into a gully that carries down for another 15-20m.

#6 Bipolar Circus – FA Tom Write 2018-Nov – 5.12d

Steep climbing low till you hit a ramp then and the angle switches to vertical to slab with the holds getting smaller. Some much appreciated pockets show up in this sections. Get your footwork dialed to reach the anchor.

#7 Closed Project – ?m - Prep Vikki Weldon –

#8 Who's the Boss Sea Wasp – 19m - FA Stinger 2019-May-26 – 5.12-

Climb directly up and right to reach the first bolt, then traverse up and diagonally right using the good holds on top of the basalt layer that forms the roof. Continue for 2 bolts on larger holds as the feet disappear till the basalt layer comes to its Apex. Then make some big moves to establish on the face above, weave throw the some side pull flake features for a couple bolts. Feet are scarce as our tackle a crimps and reaches to pass through another crux. The difficult backs off above as with the angle but a final sequence on sidepull jugs guards the chains.

The Legend of Wountie Detailed Description

The Legend of Wountie – FA Michael Flynn 2016-Jul-6 - Sport Multi-Pitch – 5.11a (5.10b/c A0), 5.10c, 5.10c, 5.10a

This is a more detailed description of options for the Legend of Wountie. The route is found on the Estuary Wall.

There are two options for the first pitch. The recommended first pitch is to climb “Served on a Cedar Plank”. This pitch is 5.11a but can be aided by clipping the bolt second to last bolt and using the draw and pulling through the crux. Climb past the Cedar plank anchor and clip one more bolt to gain the clean upper ledge above and belay your partner up from here. The alternate start is to climb “Down the Hatch” at 5.10d, however, this is discouraged because it has a longer run out at the top, traverse over the intermediate line and ties up what is one of the best warm ups for the area.

Pitch #2 is a full 30m with outstanding climbing! Technical with excellent rock that has great texture the whole way.

Pitch #3 is very technical and thought provoking. The rock is excellent and similar to the second pitch but harder to read.

Pitch #4 is a bit shorter and trends up over the dome top. This is a tricky climb and shouldn't be taken for granted. The crux comes very quickly off the anchor after clipping a bolt the climber must seek up and through the slab to reach better holds. A few more slab moves and then an easy romp to the top. The anchors are set back fairly far next the forest line.

Walk off is back into the forest then turn left after clearing the dome. Walk ~75-100m until reaching a steep gully on your left. Then follow the gully back down past the water cache and down the scree slope until you reach your starting point. The trail is not well marked and the first 10-20m of the gully is much steeper than the rest of the walk off. So take your time. The scree slope below a trail once you reach the water cache. Just follow the hose but don't step on it.

Rappel is possible as well but be mindful of climbers below as this section of the wall is popular and knocking object off will surely come down on them. Rappel from the top in 4 or if you have a 70m rope (MUST TIE KNOTS in the ends) you can rappel from Pitch 4 and pitch 3 in one go. Continue rapping but be sure the final rap you talk with anyone at the base of the crag.

History of Paradise Crag

Originally discovered by the likes of Andrew Boyd and others who were in search of traditional climb. The crag was passed over for lacking the gear protected routes they sought. The crag was rediscovered by Stewart Hughes who started the initial development on the main wall in Fall 2014. He was joined by Chris Singer and Mike Flynn who started scrubbing the Estuary wall in early 2015. Thanks to the dry winter, the first route went up in late February of 2015 and many routes soon followed. Tom Wright put up the indomitable Spirit of the West and set about red pointing it. Doug Janzen contributed to both the trail and his first route Down The Hatch the best warm up at the time. The very hot summer made red pointing challenge but as the cooler temperatures returned more first ascents came. By the end of the season, the Main wall had two world-class climbs; Queen Bee 5.13c by Stewart Hughes and Spirit of the West, 5.14a by Tom Wright. The Estuary wall was essentially completed providing good warm ups and a few good 5.12s.

Over the following Fall and Winter more pressure washing and intense cleaning revealed The Redd wall and The River wall. The squeaky clean nature of the Redd wall is in part due to the scrubbing contributed by Linstead Peck. Scott Milton also joined the development bolting several impressive lines up the main wall. Neil Dyer, having waited for Queen Bee to be completed, set about red pointing The B-Side that shared the same start. He red pointed the line early in the 2016 season.

The 2017 season took a slower pace of development. The developers took some time to enjoy the climbing. The development that did happen was largely focused on the River wall. The development was slow going with the additions of Peri Peri and Lox Stalk and to Smolt on Bagels.

The 2018 season saw a resurgence of the development in late season with the completion of an additional 5 routes in the late fall. The overhanging crack, Small Fry was up in May. After a nightmare wasp nest incident in late August while rapping the lines to gain access to the Redd Right wall the scrubbing continued. The Redd right was excavated, revealing (finally) some high quality moderate routes and a couple harder lines. Several FAed during the dead of winter in December and January. The River wall also saw some attention from Tom Write and Vikki Weldon. Tom completed the outstanding Paradise Bipolar Circus at 5.12+. Knowing Tom, this will be stout for the grade.