

## New and Improved routes Upper Malemute

I would first like to acknowledge that we play, live, work and climb on the unceded territory of the Sk̓w̓x̓w̓ú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation)

I no longer remember where or when I used bolts generously provided by the Sea to Sky Route Development Fund. Almost certainly on some of these climbs. Thanks to Peter Winter and all his work on this fund. Please consider donating to the fund.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/sea-to-sky-route-development-fund-phase-2>

FA's by Jeff Thomson and variously, Peter from Tasmania, Jose Li Lin Way and Katie Thomson.

**Déjà vu** FA by J Thomson, Elisabeth Law, Wolf Eilers and Dave McKie

### Improvements

#### **Besot and Flushed**

Crack start re-cleaned and 2 more bolts added to the Arete. There were previously only 4 bolts over about 20 meters.

The arete now makes a very worthwhile climb on its own. Unfortunately, the crack fills up with pine needles quickly and so the climb sees few ascents. Or maybe it's the rappel that's necessary to reach the start ☺ Hopefully the new bolts will allow more people to enjoy all the good climbing found on this climb, help keep the crack clean, and enjoy the exposure of climbing the arete. Rap in to belay from bolted anchor.

#### ***Connect the Spots 5.11?***

The face found just right of the **Besot and Flushed** arete is now bolted. Glenn and I had only top roped it previously. The rock is very smooth, except where it isn't ;) Connecting the rough spots and features is the key to success. At the last bolt move right for the intended finish.

Belay bolt at the base. The base can be reached either by rappelling or via a fixed line on the wall opposite this face/climb.

#### ***NPCC (Nervous Parents Climbing Club)***

This climb was a single pitch that started on the big flake just down and right of the start of **Jacobs Other Ladder**. It now has a second pitch that takes you to the top of the wall. It is fully bolted, and the grade stays at 10+. One bolt was added at the start of the first pitch to prevent a potential nasty fall on to the top of the flake. The exposure, as you traverse right to the bolted belay, and start of the second pitch, makes this a worthwhile climb in its own right.

#### ***Jacobs Other Ladder***

4 Bolts added. This long and fun easy climb saw little action due to the runouts. (2 bolts only in about 25-30m) In addition it had basically an unprotected boulder start that is much harder than the rest of the route, with nasty fall potential (a fairly strong friend of mine took a nasty tumble there) To avoid possible rope-drag you can easily unclip the first bolt after clipping the

second one. My personal feeling is that the start is harder than the 5.8 in the guides so open to opinions.

### **The short, low angled, wall directly above and behind the chains on top of Jacobs Other Ladder. (The highest/upper tier section)**

The 4 older routes here had few or no bolts. They have been recleaned and bolts added (2 to 5 each) now making for a good place to learn to lead slab. A bit of gear is required/helpful for the two routes on right hand side.

I personally think that teaching beginner courses here could be good as the anchors are set well back at the top so setting up to rap is safe and easy. There are no crowds, and you won't be taking up a more popular leading area like the Parking Lot wall.

Routes from left to right = No Need But A Little Parsley 5.6, You Going To Do Something, or Just Stand There and Bleed .10b, With Friends Like That, Who needs Enemas? 5.8, I Love The Smell of Nuprin in the Morning 5.9?

### **Jacobs Wall**

1 bolt has been added to all but one of the slab routes here to reduce runouts and, negate the need to bring a single cam to place in the mid-way horizontal crack. This wall has become quite popular for solo top roping. Maybe the added bolts will make it a little stressful for people to try leading them. Have also had a bit of a re-brush.

### **New Routes**

#### **Jacobs Wall north - Please refer to photo below.**

Although there has recently been an amazing increase in the number of bolted easy climbs for people to learn on, it seems that even more are necessary with climbing's growing popularity. The first 5 climbs listed below are bolted with that philosophy in mind.

The climb, **The Hungry Caterpillar** is the easiest and safest of all the new ones. 6 Bolts in about 10 meters of fun, juggy, dike climbing is probably the closest a person can get to a 5.4? gym climb in the outdoors. There is even a perfect platform at the top to safely practice clipping into anchors. A great first lead for younger kids in my opinion. Base is a little narrow so there are belay bolts.

- a) **You Lose Something?** 12m, .10=, 6 bolts. Start as for **Pacing the Cage**. Move right after the first 2 bolts of that climb. At the last bolt climb either to the left, harder, or on the right, much easier.
- b) **The Hungry Caterpillar**, 12m, 5.4 / 5.5? 6 bolts and chain anchor. Unfortunately accumulates pine needles etc. easily because of the great jugs on it. Please feel free to help keep it clean ☺ I think it's a great kid climb.
- c) **Mr. Squirrel**, 15m 5.9 6 bolts
- d) **Habibi**, 15m 5.9 + ☺
- e) **Hanuman**, 15m, 5.8 bolts
- f) **NPCC**, now has a second pitche, .10+ bolts.
- g) **Connect the Spots**, 18m, .11=, bolts.

The next two climbs are found just at and around the corner of **Featureless Face on The Terraces** cliff.

h) **The Abyss** .11+, Bolts, 14m

A short burly little thing that starts on the face / arete a couple of meters right of the start of **Featureless Face**. This “line” was something I had considered for ages, but for whatever reason never got around to putting in any effort. Probably because the start looked hard. A low first bolt protects that hard start. Some may find the crux to be the traverse, with hidden holds out right, over **The Abyss**. Being tall helped me here.

(it’s also possible, if hard slab isn’t your thing, to start up **Featureless Face** and after 2 – 3 bolts traverse right into this climb)

I am very grateful to two super nice people I met, Zoe and Eva, who unlocked the slab start and helped with the name.

i) **Fear Knot**, 15m, 5.5/6? gear. A very nice, but sadly short, beginners’ trad climb. Just around the corner from **The Abyss**. Great gear and very easy.

j) **Not All Orphans are Sad**, 18m, .10+ ,5 bolts. For a short little climb this thing has a few interesting moves. A strange surprise was finding a bit of a file hammered into the crack part way up.



**Caterpillar** climb name inspiration. **Lost Something?** name inspiration.

Photo below copyright Marc Bourdon/Quickdraw Publications  
New climbs are in red and older climbs in yellow.



**Survival of The Flatus** wall and area (south end of the upper Malemute) See picture topo below)

- A. **Surviving the Flatus**, 28m, 10d/11a, gear and bolts. (Rap down to the bolted anchor of **Quiet Desperation**) If the idea of wanting to climb an exposed 40 m pitch of .10b, with only a few bolts on it, doesn't appeal to you, reduce the run-out by traversing in on a diagonal crack that begins at the start of **Quiet Desperation**. When the crack runs out there is a tricky little boulder move to get up over a bulge to a bolt. Traverse left from there and finish up **Survival of the Flatus**. Still a "healthy" run out at the top.
- B. **Quiet Desperation**, 28 m, .11=, 8 bolts. Long, quite sustained, and beautiful. (Rap down to bolted anchors) Great little edges as well as rough irregularities in the rock that seemed to have been placed perfectly to allow for reasonable clipping stances. One of the nicest slabs I've come across. Don't try and stick perfectly to the bolt line ☺
- C. **Déjà vu', Soft 5.6, approx. 50m, bolts**. 2-pitches, 5.6 and 6 bolts and 5.easy and 9 bolts.  
 Want to get comfortable on longer slab climbs and do it in private? This climb was developed with a couple of things in mind.
  - 1, Its low angle means it's a great place to try well protected easy slab climbing. (The whole route has been done with no hands.)
  - 2, It was also set up as a very comfortable way to learn multi-pitch rappelling and multi-pitch climbing. (much like has been done on some of the climbs at Electric

Avenue) A chain station was set up at approx. 25m and a bolted belay exists at the very bottom and the top. Rap down – climb out

I know that some will not like what I am about to say but, it is what it is. Two bolts have been added to ***Survival of the Flatus*** with the support of the first ascensionists, Peter Croft, and Dean Hart. A huge thank you to them for their progressive thinking on this route. A beautiful line is now somewhat more accessible.

The 1<sup>st</sup> additional bolt is between what were the first and second bolts. The second one was added above what was the third bolt. Both bolts were placed from stances where drilling on lead would have been possible. Please note that it is still a serious undertaking as even now there are only 5 bolts over about the first 30 m of climbing. (An original bolt is up near the very top, for a total of only 6 bolts in approx. 40 meters) The runouts are still there, but without the very real risk of injury that used to exist if one were to have fallen, especially at the crux, which was way above the bolt on the original route. I also recommend taking a 1-to-2-inch piece to place at the diagonal crack near the top. I've never seen a mention of this crack in a guide but without putting a piece in there, even though the climbing isn't hard, a fall above the 5<sup>th</sup> bolt could result in a huge fall. As for the start. It's possible to climb the original 5.7 first pitch but, it's totally grown over with trees etc. and it would be hard to call it climbing. Rappelling in is highly recommend. When re-cleaning the route, and replacing the original manky bolts, I found ancient slings around a tree. So that was where I established a bolted belay assuming that that was where the first ascensionists launched off onto the slab.

New cliff - **Momo's cliff** – named after my dog who braved the cold to guard me from bears and cougars in the forest while scrubbing.

Can approach by following the trail that enters the trees behind the south end of Stooges Slab. The shortest and fastest approach though is to take the obvious trail that branches left about 20 meters before the wooden stairs that lead up to the upper Malemute. It's an obvious trail and if you come across a short, fixed line about 30 m into the forest, after you've branched left, you will know you are on the right path. There is orange flagging tape to help find the place either from Stooges or the lower approach.

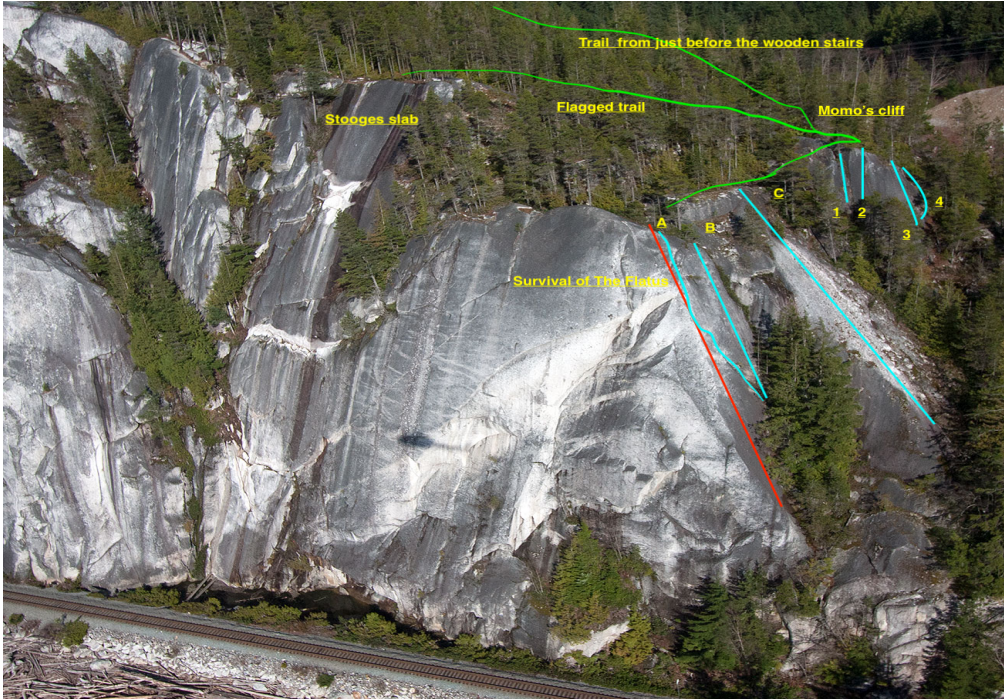
A nice addition to the Upper Malemute. A beautiful spot to sit on top of and view Shannon Falls and the sea. Rap in or scramble down skiers left from the top.

1. **Bum Bum** **HAVEN'T FINISHED CLEANING IT YET, SORRY** – short crack, 5.?, 10m. gear. Mantle as for **Zizou** or traverse in on the obvious little ledge.
2. **Zizou** 5.9/10a 14m, Bolts and gear – Perhaps a little reachy at the start, but a nice mantle move to begin.
3. **Momo** 5.9 18m, the bolted slab – crux higher up. Really good lower end slab climbing with crux up high on the climb.

4. **Tuna** 5.8 18m, bolts and smaller gear. Clip first two or three bolts of **Momo** then move right into thin crack. Or scramble up a short distance and climb the crack from its beginning.

Photo below copyright Marc Bourdon/Quickdraw Publications

New climbs in blue. **Survival of The Flatus** route is in red.



Momo the dog on guard and Jim Li Lin Way on the FA of **Momo**

