

Seal Cove New routes and updates

Please note that on the included topo photo:

- Black lines and letters indicate pre-existing routes.
- Red lines and numbers indicate new routes or route extensions.
- Yellow line indicates the trail / approach to the routes at the south end of Seal Cove

Up-dates

A big thank you to the Squamish bolt fund for the hardware for the new routes!

- There is now bolt anchors at the top of ***"Beware the Tides of March"*** and ***"Future and a Hope"***
- The **Seal Cove Traverse** has been extended by approx. another 15 meters and takes you all the way across the cliff into the two new climbs listed below. Grade is the same and bolts for protection
- 3 bolts have been added to the top of **Whānau**. This was done to make for a safer experience for people leading at this grade and also to help delineate the line of the original route. (This route was originally done with no bolts)
- We have climbed a significant number of variations and links ups on this cliff. We have chosen not to name or grade them as I think the wall lends itself well to a kind of "find your own adventure" vibe. Just launch off and see where your climbing takes you.
- ***Beware the Tides of March*** has been recleaned and now has 9 bolts, up from the original 7, and two bolts have been moved to make more sense. A 1" cam can be used between the 3rd and 4th bolt where the climbing isn't hard but a little run out. Consensus seems to be that it is harder than 11A now. Friction climbing does that in my experience as crystals break etc. I feel it's more like mid 5.11 now, but happy to hear other people's views.
- ***Tsunami Laugh***, 10+, 10m, 5 bolts. This once sketchy gear lead is now a safe sport climb. The shallow corner has tricky face climbing and an amazing finger jam at the top. Bolted anchor at the bottom and top. See below for approach info

New climbs

1. Variation finish to **Whānau**. We had climbed this more than a decade ago but never bothered to mention it. Now it's been cleaned up a bit and a reasonable variation finish. Grade remains the same. It follows the obvious crack feature up to the anchors at the top of "Lost Horizon" or to the top of "The Next Generation" (It's shown as number 1 on the topo photo)
2. **The Reverse Traverse**. 60+meters, bolts and cams to 2". Starts at the anchors of **Swept Away** and moves leftward and upward across the entire cliff. A bit strange to some maybe, but quite fun imo. Mind you, I love climbing sideways. Several variations possible so find your own adventure. FA Jeff Thomson
3. **The Professor** .10 =, 33 m 7 bolts and take a small rack up to 1 inch if uncomfortable with slightly run out but easy climbing. FA Jeff Thomson
4. **Dorsiflexion** 10+, 20 m, 7 bolts. I personally think it's one of the better lines at the crag. Having a good range of motion in the dorsiflexion position will help with the crux section ;) FA Jeff Thomson
5. **Silence of the Clams**, .10a, 7 bolts 18 m,
FA - Elise and Marc Bourdon and Jennifer Ramses.
Well protected moderate climbing. Rap into a bolted belay or do the extended seal cove traverse. (Elise's name choice for this route deserves to be in the running for best new route name this year in my opinion.
6. **Sea Puppies** .9, 7 bolts, 18 m
FA - Jennifer Ramses, Hamish Thomson and Elise Bourdon.
Well protected moderate climbing. Rap into a bolted belay or do the full-length seal cove traverse
7. A bolted extension to the original Seal Cove traverse. There are two separate extensions, with belay anchors, several meters apart for climbs # 5 and #6

The next climb isn't much to brag about, but the position and views are great. The topo indicates the trail to approach this climb as well as **Beware the Tides of March** and **Tsunami Laugh**. There are fixed lines along to the trail which will keep you safe and guide you to the climbs
8. **Into the Drink** 5.6, 12m, 4 bolts. Bolted anchor at the bottom and the top – an ok route to do a first little lead on. Named in remembrance of my glasses falling off my head and slipping beneath the sea while cleaning routes here

(I'm currently cleaning a route or two on the nice long slab (approx. 35 meters) beside *Sea Puppies*. They will be bolt protected and I think fall in the 5.10 range)



9. **Heads I win, tails you lose**, 35m, 10b, 12 bolts and take a small rack to .75

FA - Rio Geatros and Rick Nitsche

Rap from the top anchor or do the extended Seal Cove Traverse. Climb straight up the slab and cracks until you can traverse horizontally to the ledge on the left, finish straight up the slab. Variations are possible through the low angle corner or starting on Sea Puppies (both 10a).