

**Trip Name:** Mount Washington North Ridge to McKay Lake

**Trip ATES Rating:** Challenging

<b>Avalanche Forecast Region:</b>	Vancouver Island
<b>Local Name:</b>	Mount Washington North Ridge to McKay Lake
<b>Primary Use:</b>	Back Country skiing
<b>Access Trail Name:</b>	Mount Washington Ski Area via north bowl.
<b>Access Point:</b>	Mount Washington Ski Area via north bowl.
<b>Egress Point:</b>	McKay Lake to Boomerang Chairlift.
<b>Objective:</b>	Ridge to lake runs.
<b>Objective Longitude (or mid-point) (ddd.nnnn)</b>	+49.76363
<b>Objective Latitude (or mid-point) (dd.nnnn)</b>	-125.29119
<b>Description:</b>	Leaving ski area at west ridge to cross (avalanche controlled) north bowl with short hike to north ridge. Follow north ridge north east to where it meets the north spur of this ridge. Various run options through steep cliffy terrain heading directly to the lake exist. These involve serious terrain traps. Better options are found where the NE running ridge meets the N spur which descends to the east end of McKay Lake. These still involve one short section of avalanche terrain at the top.
<b>Terrain Classification:</b>	Challenging.
<b>Below Treeline</b>	60%
<b>Treeline:</b>	40%
<b>Alpine:</b>	0%
<b>Other Resources:</b>	
<b>Cautions</b>	Stay on north east ridge and north spur of that ridge. The clear cut on the north spur is best skied far skiers right. The upper left hand corner (on descent) is convex and frequently sees skier triggered and natural avalanches.
<b>Mitigation opportunities:</b>	Do not leave NE ridge until it meets north spur. Choose skiers ride side of clearcut above McKay lake rather than left.
<b>Recommended times for use</b>	Not during avalanche control closures on Mount Washington. Also not in times of considerable or above hazard at or below tree line. The north bowl is controlled but the remainder of the route is not.
<b>Rescue and public safety information</b>	Mount Washington Ski Patrol, RCC, RCMP.