

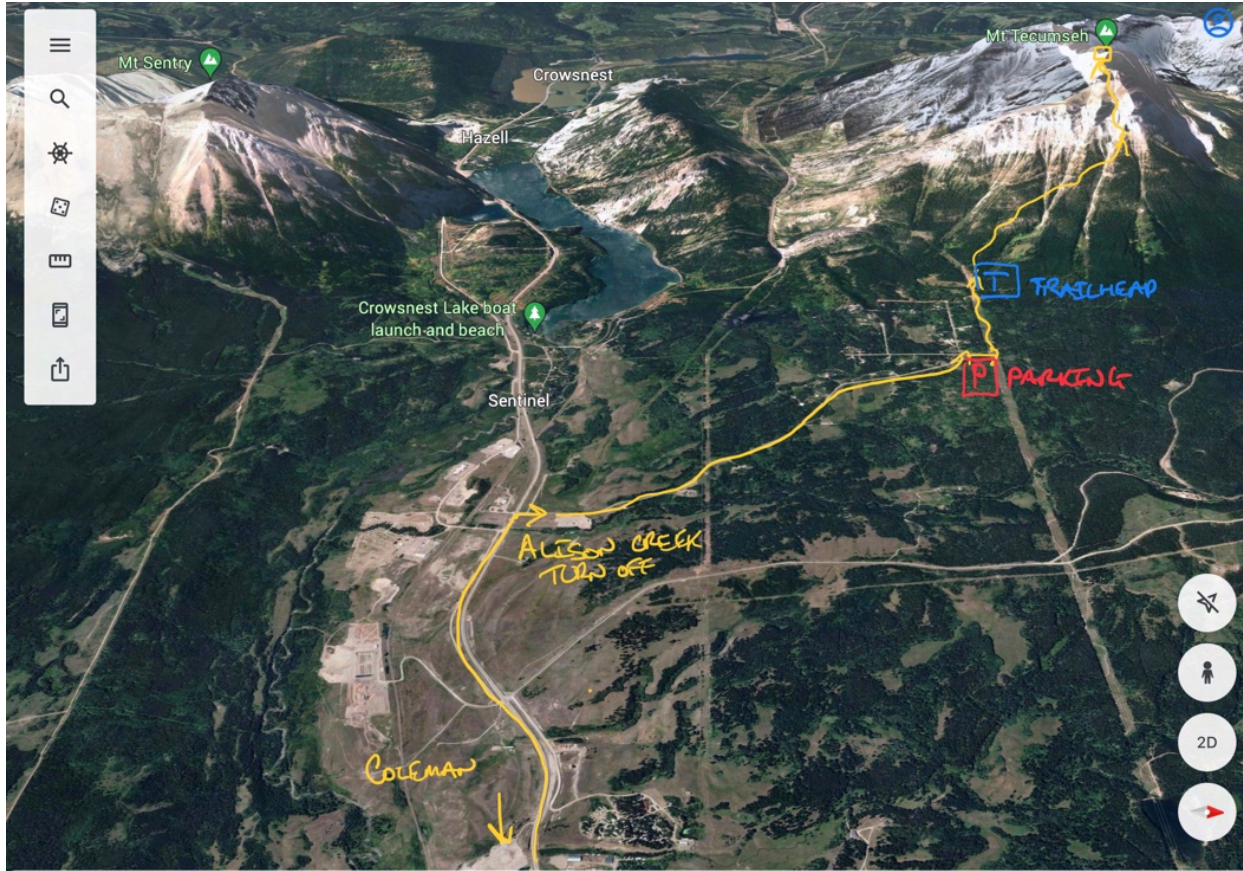


Mount Tecumseh, Alberta
New Route – “As the Crow Flies”

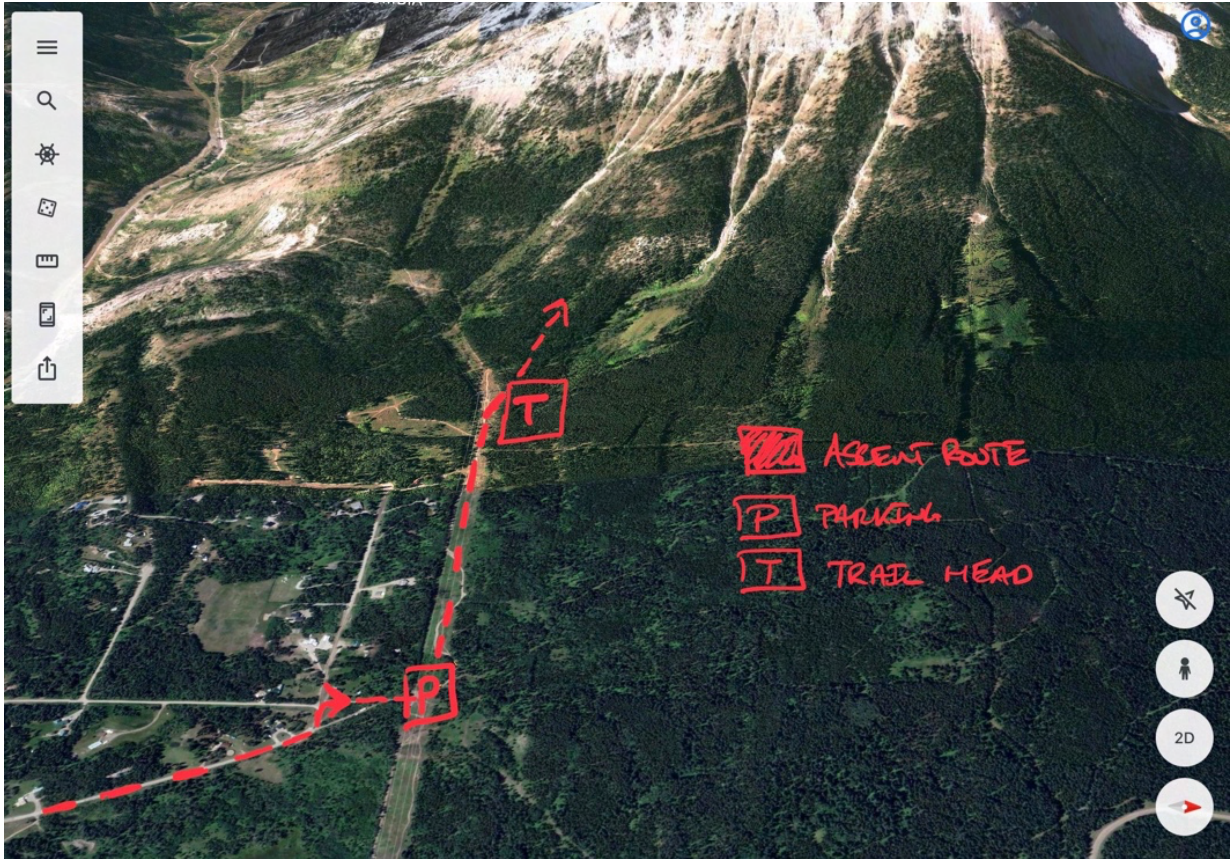
Equipment: 35m rope, 12 quick draws +2 extendable
Time Car to Car: 10hrs / 7.19 miles / 4222' total Ascent

The goal of this route was to establish more of a direct option for the public vs the classic route which is all a scramble. This route would be considered a great training or intermediate objective for individuals. When projecting this route and doing the first stages of this new route we had the opportunity to descend this classic route which was horrendously long. Logistically this route brings you back to an old dirt road which connects to the power line cut, but since it normal now to restrict access to vehicles. This presented us with another long walk where we had to re climb part of the front of the mountain to get back to the vehicles. Plus there was an notice later mailed to our homes as he were parked illegally and if caught again the fines were a steep \$700+ plus tow.

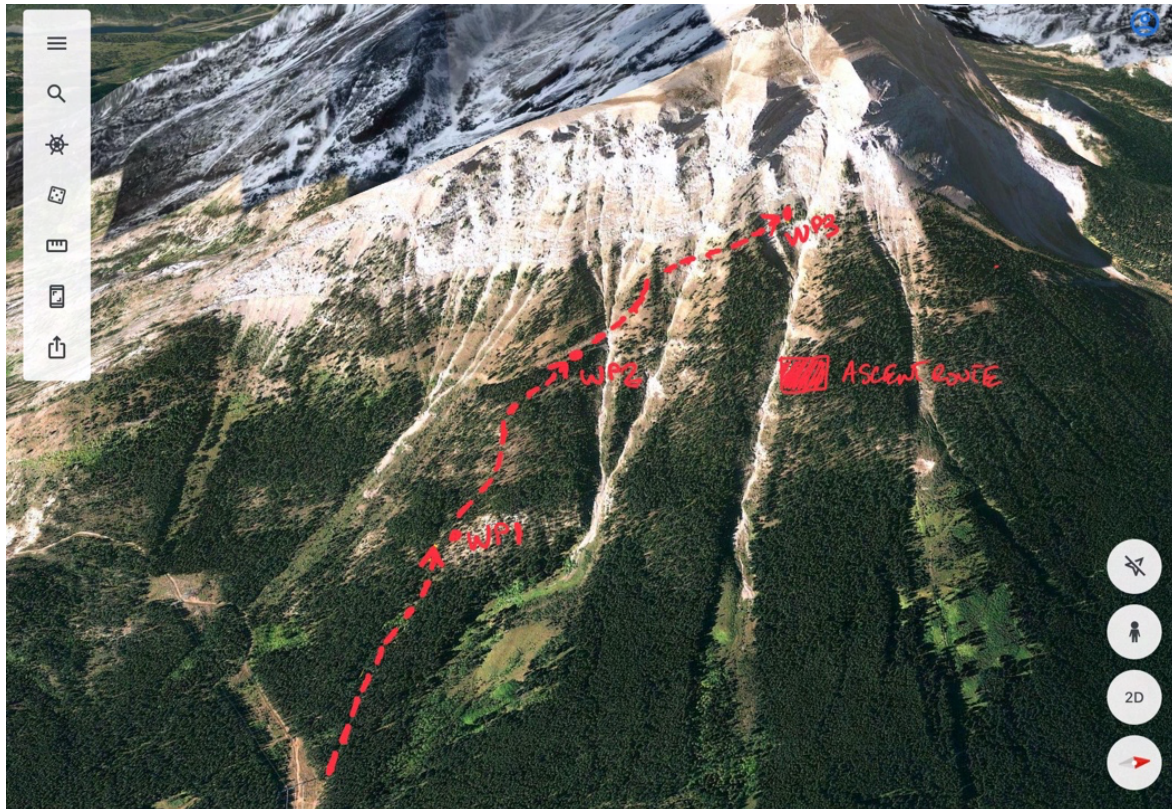
So began the conversation of getting a better route established to open this mountain back up to the public again. We hope you enjoy it as it took 2 seasons to get in and will give the public a chance to experience an approach where it will test your back and shoulders on the ascent, a nice pitch of grippy rock 5.6 to the final 20ft being a precarious 5.9+, more ascent and V class scrambling on the last pitch to the summit.



Start by heading west on Hwy 3 towards Sparwood, BC. You will make a right turn go north on the Alison Creek Road. The road is paved and will lead you in to a acreage residential area. You will pass a small parking lot with signage and a cattle guard gate which is the entrance to the power line road. It is highly suggested to park here as any further up this road will result in possible fines or getting your vehicle towed. There is signage at this entrance for no motorized vehicles allowed.



The trailhead will be to the right of the power line road and it marked with a few signs for skidoos allowed. Follow this trail and stay left once we are in the trees. You know your on the right trail when it drastically goes steep. Now your on the “up”.



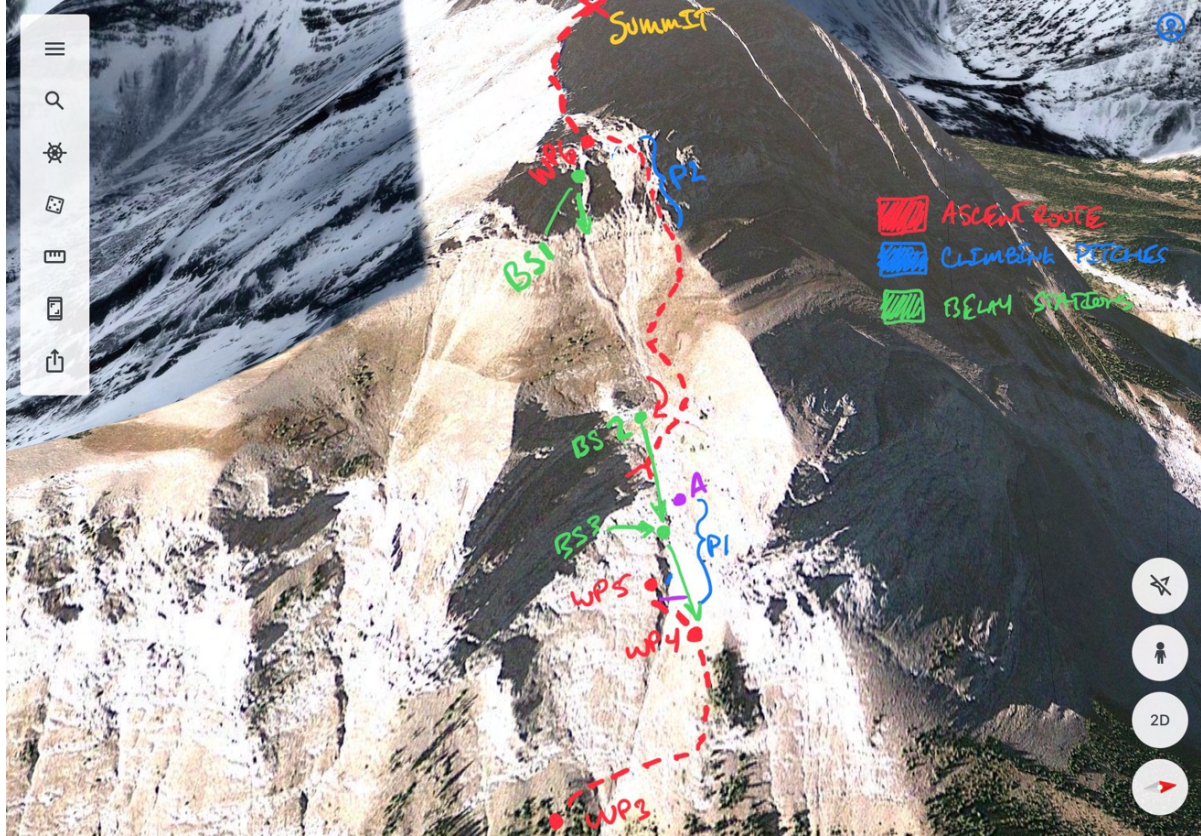
Waypoints:

Waypoint 1 – 49.657531, -114.629828

Waypoint 2 – 49.660254, -114.634518

Waypoint 3 – 49.663885, -114.636116

The route up will be constant up but you will have full views east into Alberta. The terrain is typical forest alpine till the rock bank and then prepare for scree ledges and some grippy scoured rock. Depending on the time of year you will see quite the selection of wild flowers on your way up. We didn't see too many sheep activity on this side of the range but higher up you might get to see a mountain goat or two.



The meat and potatoes of the route.

On the ascent to the start of the climbing pitch your goal is to make it to the far right draw. Take a moment if you have time to go to the ridge on the right and have a gander at the sheer cliff and valley which gives great view points for a break or lunch. Waypoint 4 – 49.664976, -114.637560 is your objective start point for the climbing pitch. At this stage the rough numbers were 2591' of elevation gain, 335' of elevation loss this is due to the gullies you have to traverse diagonally to get to WP#4. Elevation at this stage is around 6726'.



BELAY AREA PROTECTION

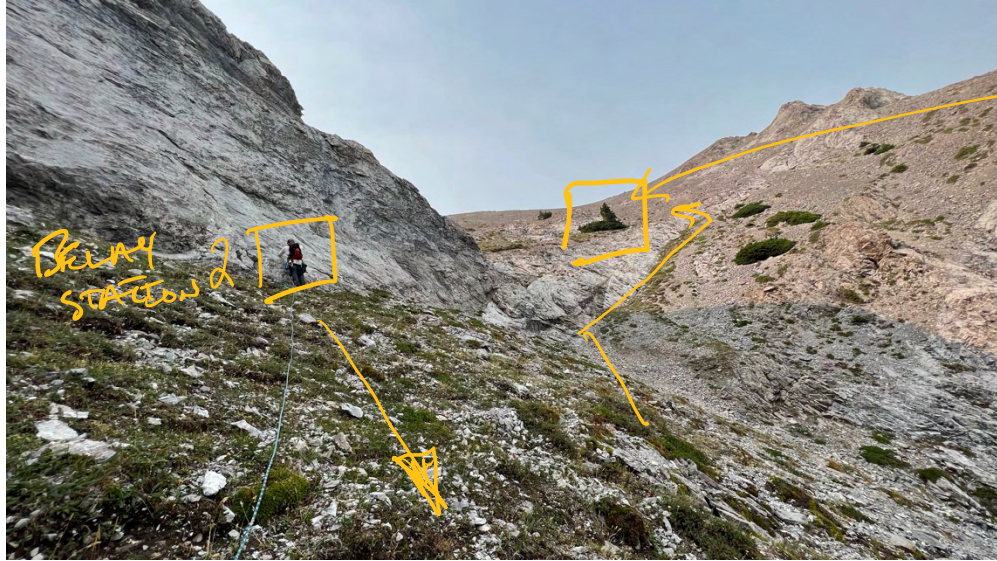
ROCK FALL DIRECTIONS
#EYES OPEN*

ROUGHLY THE
FIRST ANCHORS

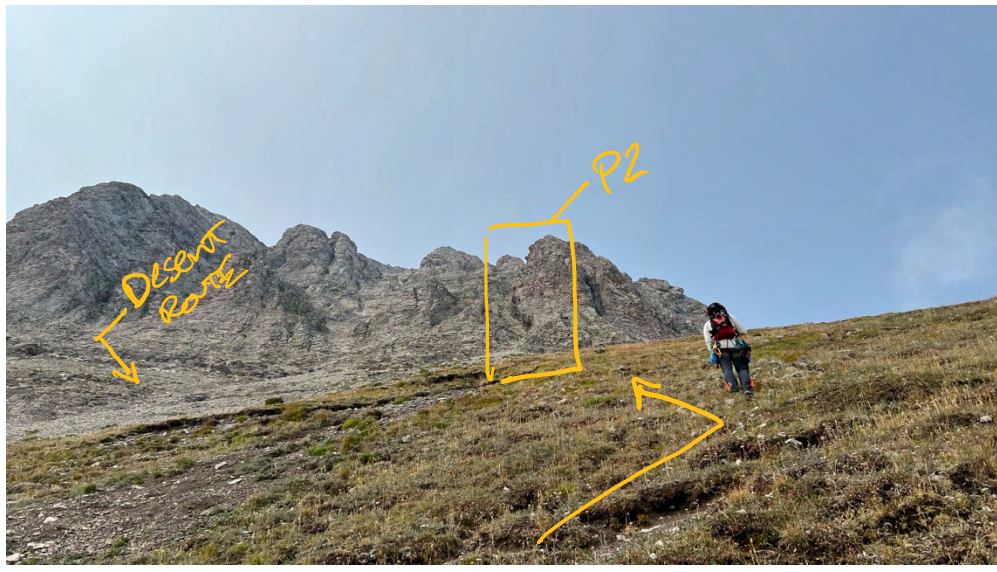
Getting to Waypoint 5 – 49.664682, -114.638143, is just a short section of scramble you can leave your hikers on for this but after this it is recommended to switch to rock climbing shoes as the next section is very smeary for your feet. You will need at least 13 QuickDraws for this pitch with the possibility of 2 extendable draws. The belay station is to the left of the first bolted quick draw station. This will give the belayer and other people in your party a spot to hunker down if you need protection from falling rock. This is a normal disclaimer for Southern Alberta rock routes. These routes are never finally cleaned even after going through this section a couple times there is still small rock that will peel off. Just keep your eyes and ears open while at this section.

The crux of this section is the last 3-4 QuickDraws as the terrain goes steep into the 5.9 area and there is not much to hold on to as you are transitioning from slab and smear holds to downward angle rock. All stations have rings in place.

Once at this anchor position we put our boots back on and continued up. You want to aim for a clump of trees to the right as it is easier to get through this section. Take note as a belay station for the descent is almost straight up at the rock band. From here you want to target your ascent through the upper meadow to the right hand side of the upper rock face.



Clump of trees



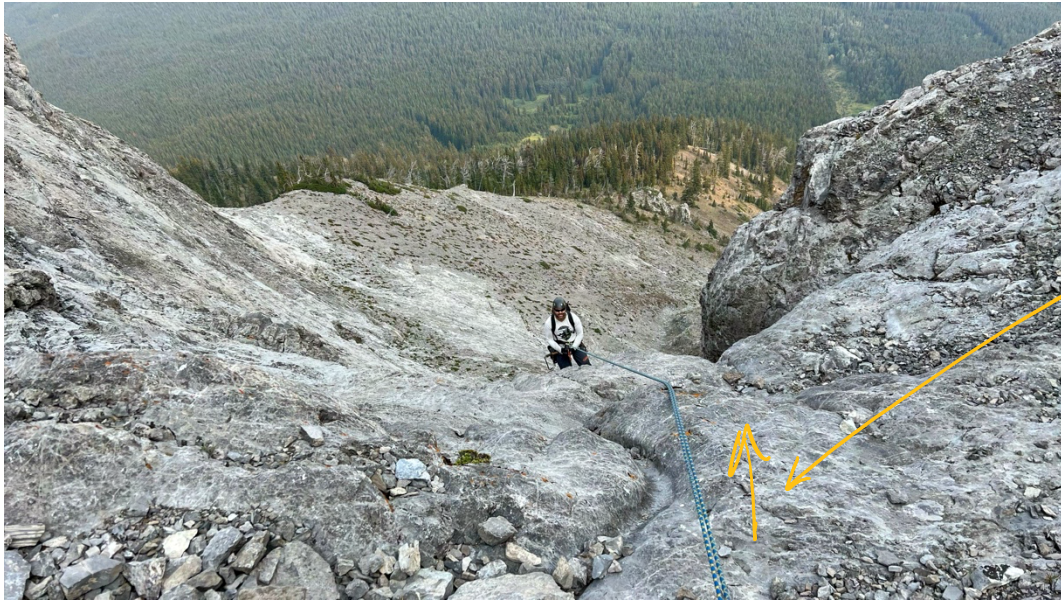
The second pitch is very loose "V" class scramble. We were prepared to bolt this section but the quality of this rock is very poor. The route through this gully to the top traverse is self explanatory just take your time. Once at the top the ridge line is all open to the summit.

The Descent - From the summit

You will want to stay to your right and enter the second draw. There will be a belay station just slightly down from the ridge crest.



You will be looking for a belay station 1 which will have rap rings. We decided to put this rappel in this draw as it had a better exit point. The rope will bring you to the scree slop at the bottom of this draw. Once past this, meander down the same way to the clump of trees and then to belay station 2. This will take you over the edge and a little passed the climb start of pitch 1.



LOOKING DOWN
FROM BELAY
STATION #3

Belay station 3 will take you down to a safer location to continue the descent to the main trail. This concludes the beta for this route. We hope you enjoy this more of a direct route it was sure nice to be able to take in all the wildlife and views this route has to offer.