

FALL ON ROCK, FAILURE TO FOLLOW ROUTE, PROTECTION PULLED OUT **British Columbia, Bugaboo Glacier Provincial Park/Alpine Recreation Area, Snowpatch Spire**

On August 2, having climbed through the squeeze chimney, two climbers were ascending the final pitch of the Kraus/McCarthy route on Snowpatch Spire. The lead climber mistakenly assumed the 5.10 crack under the anchor was the 5.8 crack in the Kraus/McCarthy route description. After moving through a layback, he selected to reach for the anchor rather than reverse down the layback. The crack is fist-sized towards the top. Cams of the correct size had been used up lower down on the pitch. The lead climber fell just below the summit ridge. The top-most nut and cam ripped from the crack and the climber hit the ledge below, landing on his back. Shortly thereafter, two other climbers were descending the Kraus/McCarthy and were able to help with the rappels.

Analysis

The old topo from the first edition of Randall and Greene's guidebook for the area indicates a bolted anchor above the 5.8 crack. The new edition correctly shows the anchor well to the right of the crack (above the 5.10b crack). The ledge below would have provided a good belay station that could have been used to bring up the second and re-rack gear. Better analysis of the route, as well as possibly splitting the pitch into two pitches to allow gear to be reused, might have changed the results. (Source: Stephane Durocher)

FALL ON ROCK

British Columbia, Squamish, Lower Malamute area

On August 6, a 23-year-old male from the United States fell while rock climbing in an area known as the Lower Malamute. He narrowly missed hitting the railroad tracks when he fell. He was transported to the Squamish Hospital assisted by employees of BC Rail with possible back injuries.

Analysis

This is the second incident of this type in the last few weeks where a climber has fallen in the same area. The RCMP and BC Rail would like to remind the public that this area is on BC Rail property and it is illegal and unsafe to be in this area climbing or for any other reason. Signs identifying that this is Private Property have now been placed in the area. (Source: RCMP, BC Media)

FALL INTO CREVASSE, PLACED INADEQUATE PROTECTION, TIME OF DAY **British Columbia, Mount Robson Provincial Park, Mount Robson**

On August 31, Richard Denker (48) and Bob Breivogel (52) were making their way up the Robson Glacier to the Dome. At 1645 while weaving through the "Mousetrap," a crevasse field at approximately 2,900 meters, Breivogel fell through a snow bridge over a crevasse. Blocks of snow which had bridged the crevasse fell onto the climber while he hung upside down from the rope, six meters below the lip. The falling debris caused rib and