

the summit. With low snow last winter and an advancing icefall high on the route, difficult routefinding conditions existed. Many open crevasses have made this route more difficult over the past few years.

As usual most expeditions went to Mt. Logan. Twenty-nine attempted Logan—eight via the King Trench route, nine the East Ridge, one the Catenary, and one the Southeast Face. Only six expeditions reached one of the main summits. One success was a traverse of the mountain from the East Ridge to the King Trench.

Other mountains that saw climbing expeditions included King Peak (2), Queen Mary (3), Vancouver (2), Foresta (1), Kennedy (2), Hubbard (1), Walsh (1), Wood (1), and Steel/Lucania (1). In addition a research team was on Mt. Logan, and there were four ski-touring expeditions, including one that circumskied the Mt. Logan massif. The St. Elias Ranges offer excellent ski touring, and it was good to see more people taking advantage of this activity.

There were no major search and rescue operations. A few climbing teams self-evacuated or looked after injured or sick members of their team—thus the advantage of building self-reliance into one's climbing plans.

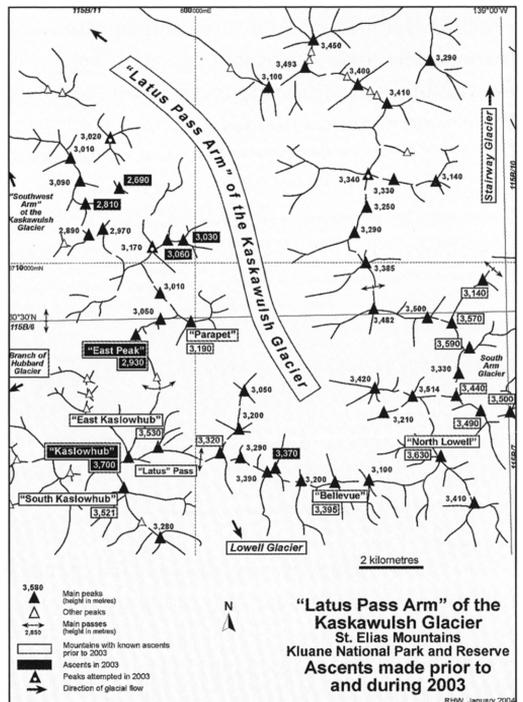
Anyone interested in mountaineering or ski-touring in Kluane National Park Reserve should contact Mountaineering Warden, Kluane National Park Reserve, Box 5495, Haines Jct, Yukon, Y0B 1L0; call 867-634-7279; fax 867-634-7277; or email kluane_info@pc.gc.ca. Ask for a "mountaineer's package." Alternatively, visit the parks website at www.parksCanada.gc.ca/kluane. Application forms and assumption-of-risk forms can be downloaded from this site.

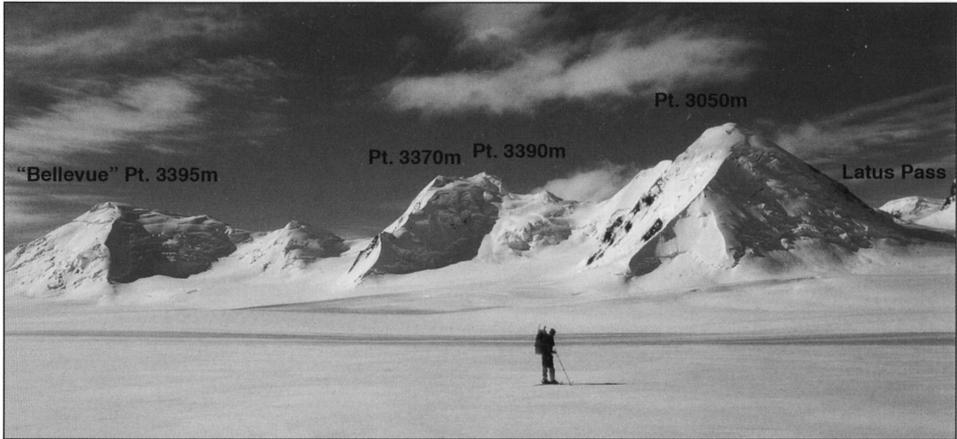
RICK STALEY, *Mountaineering Warden, Kluane National Park Reserve*

Good Neighbor Peak, southeast ridge and clarification, and traverse to Mt. Vancouver. See the Alaska section of Climbs & Expeditions for this report.

Latus Pass Arm, various ascents and attempts. There are four main tributaries on the south side of Kaskawulsh Glacier: South Arm, Stairway, Cascade, and, farthest from Slims River, the Latus Pass Arm. In July we made a short visit to the Latus Pass Arm, to evaluate its potential as a site for an Alpine Club of Canada Centennial Camp in 2006.

As ski-touring terrain, the Latus Pass Arm is well-known because it provides an excellent route from the upper Hubbard/upper Kaska-wulsh iceshed, via the Latus Pass, to the upper Lowell Glacier and the country lying beyond to the south and east. However, as a mountaineering area it has received little





Peaks near Latus Pass Arm. Roger Wallis

attention, probably because of the poor rock quality and the lack of major peaks, with Kaslowhub (3,700m) being the highest. The area was first explored by Bradford Washburn's 1935 Lowell Glacier Expedition. The first ascents appeared to have been made in 1961 by a large Seattle Mountaineers party. Since then a number of peaks have been climbed.

Our plan in 2003 was to place a base camp at 2,600m and explore the side glaciers and mountains at the head (southern end) of the Latus Pass Arm Glacier. However, due to unfavorable weather and poor flying/landing conditions, Andy Williams had to drop us off at 2,350m, eight kilometers north of our intended base. During our stay it snowed or rained, with fog and/or whiteout on seven of the nine climbing days. We only had freezing temperatures on three nights, and the frozen surface was gone by noon.

We completed the following climbs: Point 3,030m: first ascent, via southwest ridge; Simon Carr, Bill McKenzie. Point 3,060m: first ascent via north cirque and west ridge; Roger Wallis, Ted Rosen, Bill McKenzie, Simon Carr, Mark McDermott. Point 2,690m: first ascent, via west slope; Mark McDermott, Simon Carr. Point 2,810m: first ascent, via south ridge; Paul Geddes. Point 3,370m: first ascent, via southeast ridge from east col; Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Ted Rosen, Roger Wallis. Mt. Kaslowhub (3,700m): 4th ascent(?), via north-northeast ramp, and ski descent (4,000'); Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Ted Rosen. East Peak (2,930m): 2nd ascent, via south ridge; Roger Wallis.

Climbs attempted but not completed: Point 3,050m: via south col and south ridge; Paul Geddes, Willa Harasym, Ted Rosen. Point 3,170m: via north cirque and east ridge; Roger Wallis, Ted Rosen, Bill McKenzie, Simon Carr, Mark McDermott. Point 3,340m: via southwest cirque and south ridge; Bill McKenzie, Simon Carr, Mark McDermott. Point 3,020m: via east ridge; Bill McKenzie and Simon Carr.

The Latus Pass area has a number of moderately challenging peaks in the height range 2,900-3,700m, many of which remain unclimbed. There are attractive snow-and-ice routes, but the rock quality is appalling, and some of the snow-and-ice routes are threatened by seracs, crevasse systems, and cornices. Really cold nights with hard frozen snow are required to make climbing safe and enjoyable. Hence early June might be the best time for climbing.

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