



Mount Shuksan via Fisher Chimneys & SE Ridge Trip Report

DATE	ROUTE, TYPE & DIFFICULTY	ELEVATION	TOTAL GAIN	ROUND TRIP DISTANCE
7/6/2025-7/8/2025	M3	~9,127 ft	~6,000 ft	~15 miles



What's even happening here?



Smiling and pretending to be having fun on the summit.

Leader: Shonee Langford

Assistant Leader: Laurie Muhlbauer

Climbers: Tracy Lence Bluhm, Adam Lambert, Geoff Barstow, Andrew Solecki

Link to Video: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1I2nfAesgRWSvSuhoZmy9ryo-m84A6Lo/view>

Link to Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/xsJhmocc31DhVnrH6>

Watch the video. Check out the photo album with a couple of photos we took. Those are all you really need for a trip report and to see that we had absolutely ZERO FUN. The landscape was only so-so. The company was mediocre at best.

Gear used: couple ropes (50m), slings, cams, tricams, nuts, alpine draws, pickets, Rocky Talkies

Written by: Laurie M



Heading up Fisher Chimneys



Winnie's Slide



Camp

Kidding!

Trip Information:

Day 1

Started at Lake Ann Trailhead at about 4,750' elevation

Dropped 750' before heading up the trail

Beautiful meadows, patches of snow on the trail early on

Most wore comfy shoes and carried mountaineering boots on packs. We switched out before the Chimneys and left them near the trail. On the way down, Tracy had Geoff worried when he couldn't find his shoes. She had hidden them!

On consistent snow, we missed the trail for Lake Ann, so we didn't get an up-close view until day 3.

Topped off water at a stream. Some team members couldn't resist a bouldering session on nearby rock.

Bits of a snow field were left over, and a moat was present at the base of the Chimneys, so we gingerly stepped in this area to get to rock.

Fisher Chimneys were melted out and had mellow climbing with occasional step sections and low 5th class moves. One break time meant karaoke talk and a Vanilla Ice classic. Adam even did a little ditty (country music) to show his musical range.

The team decided to camp above Winnie's Slide for the first night. This was a great choice and presented us with running water and magnificent scenery of the glacier.

I led a running belay up the Slide. I was told I had to put that in here, but I must point out the ascent had a nice boot ladder, so it was a great first running belay lead.

We didn't have any neighbors the first night at camp, so we danced, and we started filming a music video without being too noisy.

We did get serious and readied the ropes for our early morning awakening and discussed our rope teams and travel plans for the next day.

We were all in bed by 08:30 to 9:30pm.

Day 2

We were 15 minutes behind our scheduled 3am departure time from camp. Maybe it was from too much dancing the night before?

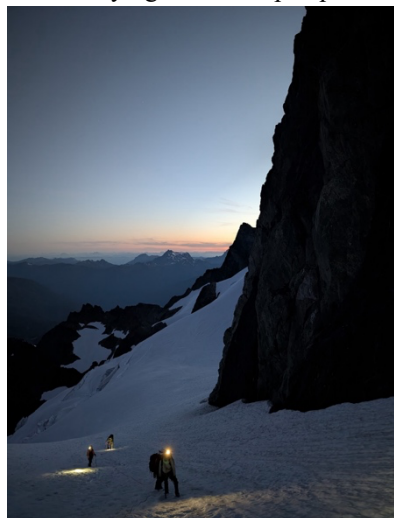
Andrew was ready at least 45 minutes early for everything. We still don't know how he did it. Maybe he was eager to beat Micheal Gurley's Sulphide team up the mountain. Shonee and Michael both had cell service at their camps and were able to text the night before our summit bids.

The Upper Curtis Glacier from our camp was straightforward.

Hell's Highway was steep. Shonee led it with a running belay. At the top he yelled out "falling" and the team dropped into self-arrest. He claims it was a "just a test".

After getting to the Sulphide Glacier, we aimed for a notch on the SE Ridge Line.

We had an efficient system for the ridge climb (rock). Shonee led, setting a fixed line. Adam belayed Geoff who climbed last and graciously cleaned gear. Andrew and Tracy were willing to do whatever was needed. We took turns carrying the free rope up for the next line to be set. Andrew lead belayed on the last pitch.



Hell's Highway

While on the ridge, it was neat to see Gurley's team of six crossing the glacier below and coming up the gully. Once at the top, we hung out to be able to talk with them and take a photo.



Sulphide Glacier



Getting on the Ridge



SE Ridge



Hell's Highway Rappel

Chemeketans teams were the only ones on the mountain until the afternoon. The abseils/rappels were tedious and long over rock and snow. It took 4.5 hours to climb the ridge and 5 hours to descend the gulley because of rock fall, assessing anchors, and wearing out/fatigue.

Back at Hell's Highway, the team decided to abseil. A solid snow anchor was built with two vertical placements and a Deadman. Geoff started down and radioed to us that he was crossing crevasses. At the bottom of the rope's length, he said he shouldn't have to cross anymore, so he untied, and the rest of the team followed. Shonee was last, leaving a picket behind. Luckily, he found one about halfway down the slope that someone else had left.

At 8pm, nearly 17 hours later, we made it back to camp. The next day's start time had to be negotiated. Some wanted early and some wanted to sleep in.

Day 3

At 7ish the next morning, we started out of camp. We down climbed Winnie's Slide with that solid boot ladder.

We kept down the way we came up. We downclimbed portions of the Fisher Chimneys and did a few rappels in steep sections.

In a snow field, Adam got a surprise when he punched through the snow up to his hip. He twisted his ankle when his foot struck an angled rock at least a couple of feet below the snow. After reluctance, he allowed team members to take some of his weight from his pack. Across other snow fields, he crawled in style to avoid punching through any more snow. He made it out on his own and at the end caused others to have to huff it up the 750' of hill to keep up with him to get back to the trailhead.

Other

Warning: Go "Bathroom, Bathroom" before getting to the ridge. If you wait until you get up and back down the summit, it makes for a grumpy team member, but if you go on the ridge, you might just end up with a nickname related to it. Also, be careful with your harness straps on the back. If they catch, they can give you a snap and that can also lead to a nickname.

A note needs to be made about Shonee's nemesis, Pinky. Pinky often twisted and knotted but by the end of the climb, the two had reached an understanding. Maybe Shonee's constant berating of the rope and name calling got the rope's attention.

Special thanks to Shonee "Show Time" Langford for leading this climb. Thanks to everyone on the team for a FABULOUS time. Everyone pitched in and helped. Thanks to Adam for putting our music video together.



Chemeketans! Sulphide Glacier & Fisher Chimneys Crews