

Shuswap

Hut to Hut



BULLETIN Trail & Waterway Initiative

September 26, 2005

Rough & Ready Over-the-Top



▲ Rough and ready trail links are ready to go



▲ Tip toeing through the exquisite Bog Lake



▲ Freewheelin' into vistas of Anstey Arm

About the proposed route: A four-season single-track destination route for hiking, mountain-biking and skiing, this trail begins in the South Canoe area and traverses along the north-east height of the Larch Hills area before descending down to Sicamous.

The rough and ready version is already a go. Existing skid track, forestry roads, and ski trails link up and over from South Canoe in Salmon Arm and drop down the 112 Forest Service Road meeting up with the Trans Canada Highway. A quick jog east finds the Old Sicamous Highway and a lovely 6 kilometre ramble into Sicamous thanks to the work of the Sicamous Chamber of Commerce. Inspiring views of the Salmon and Anstey Arms of Shuswap Lake greet the traveller.

The traverse includes discussion to build the first cabin in the Shuswap Hut-to-Hut trail system, providing an accessible wilderness site to develop and practice ecologically sound principles for backcountry hut construction. The cabin and traverse trail route can provide extended nature-based recreational, educational and tourism opportunities in the immediate area.

This section of trail has moved to a position of priority, given the current endorsement of both the Mayors of Salmon Arm and Sicamous, the support of the joint trails committee of the Larch Hills Nordic Society and Shuswap Outdoors, a strong regional Hut-to-Hut trail initiative steering cluster, positive invitations from local landowners, support for trail development from Federated Coop, regional district and Community Futures participation in the initiative.

Development Issues: Planning for long-term with Forestry and other land users. Also, seeking out the elusive line from the east end of the ridge to Sicamous.



▲ Fall colours peak through en route to Sicamous



Trailhead Access: Start in either Sicamous (first right west across the Hwy 1 bridge) or Salmon Arm (at the South Canoe trail head parking area.)

Route Length: Approx. 35 kilometres, up and over.

Trip Options: Create shorter loops by connecting with the South Canoe, Larch Hills or Rubberhead trails, or stage a shuttle at the end of 112 FSRoad.

Potential Huts: 1(new) + existing