

# 1 KELOWNA ROCK CLIMBING



**JOHNS FAMILY PARK and the LONELY CRAGS**

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*page 4: Rowan Smart, Lonely Boy, 5.10d,  
Lonely Boy, The Lonely Crags. Kira Shim.*

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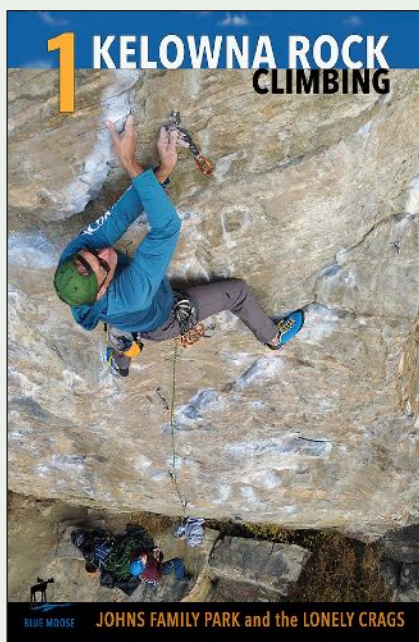
### ABOUT THE COVER

*Jeff Giebelhaus, Lonely Boy, 5.10d, Jonathan Kettle*

In keeping with being a community-driven guidebook, the cover photo was selected by ballot during a Central Okanagan Climbing Association (COCA) fundraising event. Of more than 30 community photo submissions, 4 were turned into mock covers and voted on by 65 climbers and friends. The runner ups (note pg 6) are featured inside.

Climber Jeff Giebelhaus was instrumental in the development of sport walls and trad climbing in Kelowna, and in particular the Boulderfields and the Lonely Crags.

With more than four decades of climbing experience, Jeff remains a leader in the climbing community. Be sure to check out two of his recent contributions, the three-star 40m Space Crack (5.10a), and 35m Outer Space (5.10b) on Lomer Gomer, Cedar Mountain.



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*page 6: Sophie Porier, Birthday Present, 5.10a, Gomer Lower, Cedar Mountain, Johns' Family Park. Conan Shing. Conan's photo placed second in the cover contest.*

# JOHNS' FAMILY PARK

SCRUFFY BLUFFS  
CEDAR MOUNTAIN  
THE LAIR  
THE BOULDERS





## Johns' Family Nature Conservancy Regional Park (Johns' Family Park)

*Thanks to Alfred and Nancy Johns, along with advocacy work from local conservation groups, the climbing areas of Cedar Mountain, the Scruffy Bluffs and most of the Lair are protected as part of Johns' Family Park.*

**There John legacy must be protected by ongoing community support.**

*Please help maintain climber access by picking up trash and staying on the trails.*

*Route developers, be mindful that this is a shared community space. Keep rock trundling to a minimum, use necessary, not excessive amount of bolts, and use normal stations that cannot be seen from outer space.*

*While tagging walls with new route names is helpful for climbers, this graffiti changes the visuals of the natural landscape and could negatively impact climber access.*

*page 39: Cedar Mountain, taken from the ridge near Elk Trail. The colour of the sky is not AI generated. Feb thru October there are numerous days with incredible blue skies.*

### PARK HISTORY

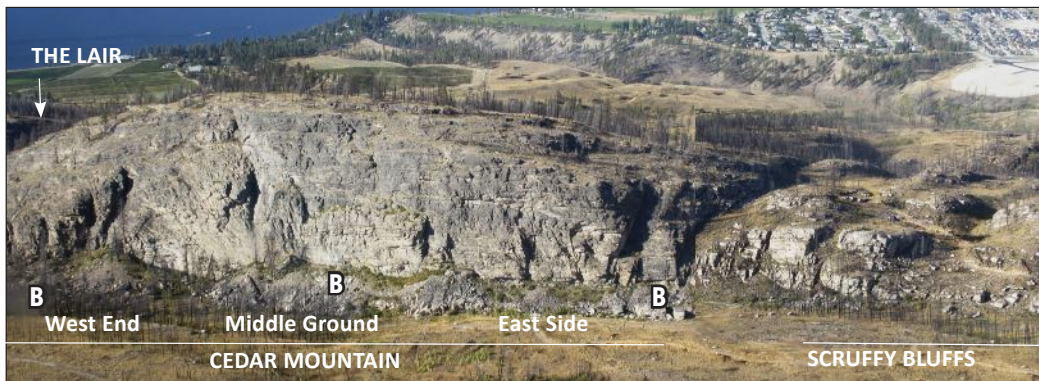
Alf and Nancy's parents, Hector and Elizabeth Johns, bought the property in 1928, and made their income through logging, with horses.

When the siblings inherited the land, they moved onto the property in the late '80s and turned it into a cattle ranch. The cattle guards on the road leading up to Johns' Family Park are still used, as herds continue to graze on surrounding Crown and private land.

Alf and Nancy loved nature, and wanted the ecological diversity of their huge 800-acre (323 hectares) property to be preserved. They were open to limited recreational use, including allowing climbers to continue enjoying the mountains within the property.

To make this happen, the Central Okanagan Land Trust (COLT) agreed to be the land guardian, in cooperation with the Regional District (RDCO). News of their amazing gift was made public after Nancy passed away in 2002, and Alf in 2011.

The Johns' land and neighbouring 80 hectare Cedar Mountain Regional Park are now one big happy regional park. In honour of the family, it was named Johns' Family Nature Conservancy Regional Park (Johns' Family Park).



### Cedar Mountain

EXPOSURE: South  
 ROUTES: 109 +  
 WALLS:  
 Toboggan Ledge  
 Buckle Up  
 Ziona, Macho Wall  
 Little Cougar, Oyster Shell  
 Main Walls, Yellow Wall  
 Gomer Walls, Croissant  
 Blumers Bluff  
 Wandering Wall  
 Beyond the Light  
 Secret Laboratory

### The Lair

EXPOSURE: West  
 ROUTES: 17  
 WALLS: The Lair

### The Boulders

EXPOSURE: All  
 PROBLEMS: 40 +  
 BOULDERS:  
 Approach, Lichen  
 Pika, Cheshire Cheese,  
 Hang the Lightning,  
 Bakers Block, Toad

### Scruffy Bluffs

EXPOSURE: West ROUTES: 31 +  
 BLUFFS: Lonesome Ledge, Mushroom Butress  
 Shady Wall, Warmup Wall, Green Thumb



A man in a hat and jeans is rappelling down a vertical rock face. The rock is light-colored and textured. The background is a clear blue sky. The man is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image, facing left. A rope runs vertically down the rock face, and the man is holding onto it. He has a harness and gear on his waist.

# CEDAR MOUNTAIN

TOBOGGAN LEDGE  
BUCKLE UP BLUFF  
ZIONA  
MACHO WALL  
LITTLE COUGAR  
OYSTER SHELL  
MAIN WALLS  
YELLOW WALL  
GOMER LEDGE  
GOMER LOWER  
CROISSANT  
BLUMERS BLUFF  
WANDERING WALL  
INTO THE LIGHT  
SECRET LABORATORY



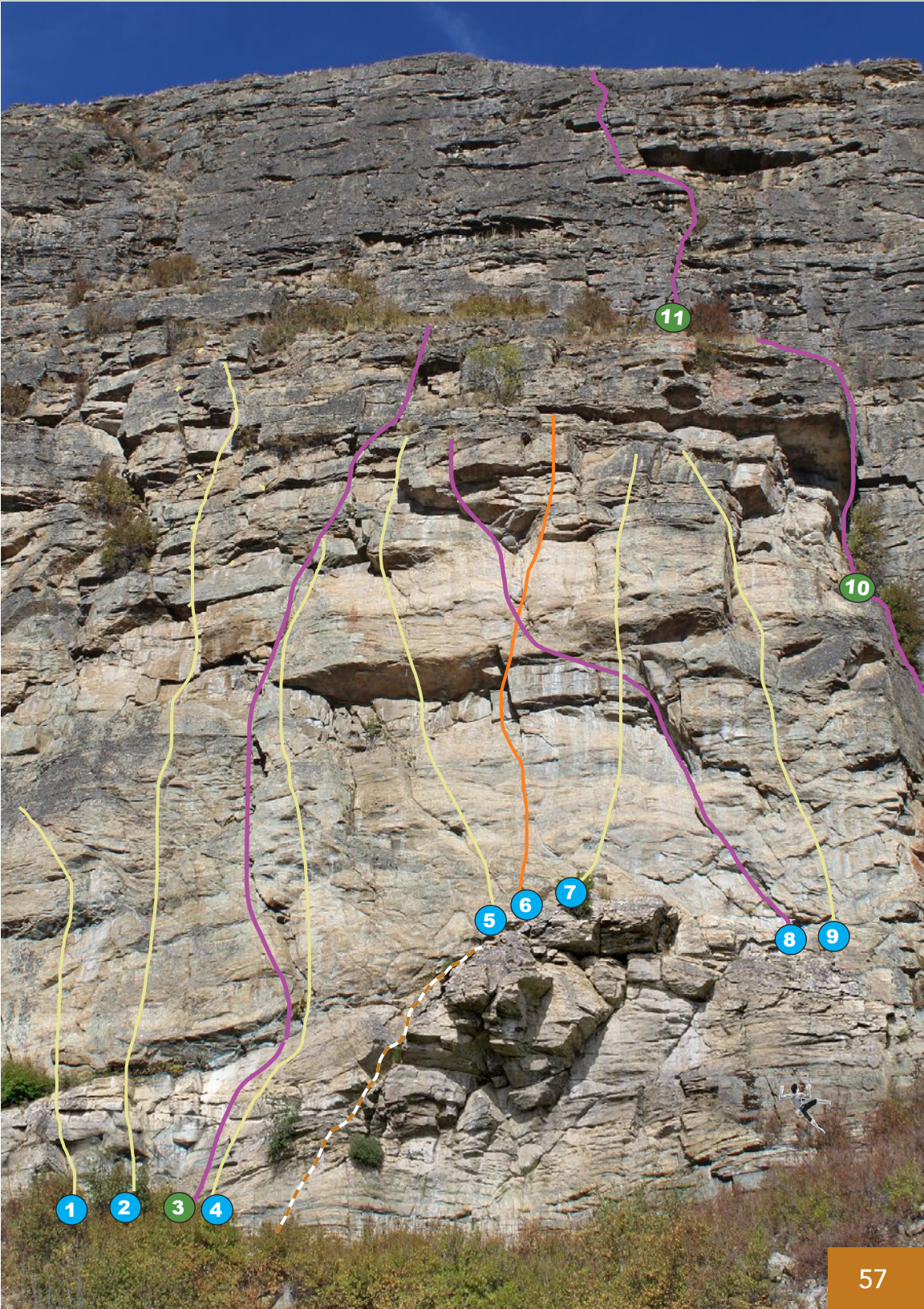
## Toboggan Ledge

*Look up. Way up. Toboggan Ledge is on the eastern side of Cedar Mountain, easily seen from the Cedar Trail stairs and above the Big Block boulders.*

*In the 90s, Toboggan Ledge was a favorite spot for guys like Tyler Parenteau. Now, the Ledge and its awkward belay base sees very few visitors. But don't write it off. While not recommended for beginners, if you like adventure and exposure, this could be your happy place.*

*When the closed sign for the summit trail comes down, head towards the rock stairs, then turn left at the large, downed trees and scramble descend to access the base. Photo was taken from above the Buckle Up and Claw Hammer stations. HM*

- 1. Buy Your Ticket\*** 5.10c B(5) 14m  
 Friendly climbing on big sloper holds leads past a horizontal break and then up and over a ledge into an alcove. Rap links to lower.  
*Todd Guy '94*
- 2. Gamelan** 5.10b B(5) 15m  
 Climb to a bold, first bolt and then follow the hollow flake to a small roof. Pull the lip on suspect flakes. Chains to lower.  
*Andrew Sauter, Gary Wolkoff '93*
- 3. Char-Broiled Baldness\*** 5.9 B(3) 10m  
 Right line starts 4m from Gamelan. Engaging climbing leads past two bolts down low, then eases off as you enter groundfall zone at the third clip. Fun, but runout. Fixed station.  
*Mike Shannon, Lyle Thiede '97*



1 2 3 4

5 6 7

8 9

11

10



## Oyster Shell

The wall topo does not do justice to the big bulge feature of Oyster Shell, between Little Cougar and Main Wall. Its left corner flank features the much loved burly corner crack, Noisy Oyster, not to be confused with the less loved bush-wacking Bull 'N Bush on its right. In between are a series of worthy trad and sport routes.

### 1. Reaching for Shania's Slot\*\*

5.11b B(4) 12m Good jugs and crimps lead up to the steep bulge and blank headwall for the crux up top. Starting from the ground adds 3m to the route. Quicklink station. *Todd Guy '96*

### 2. Wall Banger \*\*\* 5.10c B(11) 30m

The newest addition to Oyster Shell is smooth, flowy, and fun, with a well-protected first crux on a mystifyingly blank roof. The second crux is a brute-force brawl with the chains in sight. Be mindful of loose rock. Do not clip the old piton. Carabiners. *Jeff Giebelhaus '23*.

### 3. Trick or Treat\*\* 5.8 38m P1

Follow the left trending crack with bomber gear and jams/jugs. Finish at Blue Monday station (24m) or continue to the original ending chain station, located on a large ledge. *Rick Cox, Chris Dunstan '83 TRAD*

### 4. Blue Monday\*\*\* 5.10a B(10) 24m

A popular addition to the wall which weaves a path up the bomber rock. Start just right of Trick or Treat and clip nicely spaced bolts to a distinct thin crux. Grade upped to 5.10 from climber feedback. Chains. *J. Vaaranpaa, Hanna Miller '13*

### 5. Don't Date Teddy Bears\*\* (aka DDT)

5.11b B(4) 25m From the ledge, trend up and left toward the wild-looking roof. Pull the roof (fun), then follow up with a thin move before the bulge. If you want, there is room for a small cam to protect the final run-out to the chains. *Dean Urness, Chris Leachman '96*

### 6. Not So Soft\*\* 5.11b B(4) 25m

From the ledge, climb the slab into the left-facing corner to the base of the second roof which intersects Kelowna One. From here, either work the challenging roof to gain the ledge and walk to DDT station or continue left and finish as per Kelowna One and DDT. Rack: nuts, CDs to 1.5" Chains (DDT). *D.Urness, C. Leachman '96 MIXED*

## Oyster Shell



ROUTES: 5.8 - 5.11c

SPORT AND TRAD

BEST: 5.10c Wall Banger  
5.8 Trick or Treat  
5.10a Blue Monday  
5.10b Reaching - Shania's Slot

### 7. Grin and Grunt It 5.11c B(6) 25m

Follow the line which trends up and right from the belay bolt. Three clips lead to a blank-looking bulge. A hard-to-read sequence gets you up and over to a good stance. The next bit is runout with a thin move before the last clip. Chains. *Dean Urness, J.C. Lapierre '02*.

*The next two climbs start on another ledge (with a belay bolt) left of the Bull 'N Bush corner.*

### 8. Kelowna One 5.10+ 32m

From the belay bolt, climb up the left-facing corner to a handrail traverse. Carry on to another left-facing corner feature and under a small roof. Step left to finish at DDT station. Rack: nuts, cams up to 2". *Kirby Dunstan, Chris Dunstan '85 TRAD*

### 9. French Connection 5.10b B(6) 25m

Gingerly move up and right over suspect rock and a loose, big flake. Pull the crux bulge and scramble up a slab towards the right-facing corner with a bolt. Jugs to an exposed move left of last bolt. Chains. *D. Urness, J.C. Lapierre '02*.

### 10. Bull 'N Bush 5.7 35m P1

This is the obvious right-facing corner with the perfect name. Bull 'N Bush involves large bushes, dirt, and loose rock, and is one of Kelowna's oldest climbs. The wide chimney exits onto a grassy ledge. A slinged block will protect your final moves. This route has been tidied up and now has a rap anchor.

*Leon Blumer, Eric Rayson '64 TRAD*

### 11 Dolly Parton Overhand\* 5.6 30m

The second pitch of Bull 'N Bush is enjoyable. Begin on the ledge, and build your belay station using the bomber horizontal slot just right of the route start. Great holds along the crack take you left of the long roof and up scruffy rock to a rap station. New anchor. Rack: nuts, CDs to 3.5".

*Rick Cox, Don Skuratoff '83 TRAD*



## Middle Ground

MAIN WALLS (EAST AND WEST), YELLOW WALLS, GOMER LEDGE, LOWER GOMER

After the alpine feel of the walls of Ziona and Macho, the features on Cedar Mountain change. On the other side of the Oyster Shell bulge is the beginning of solid, more slab-like climbing on the Gomer Walls, Yellow Wall and the Main Walls.

The Main Walls are perfect for those wanting a day of technical 5.10s and 5.11s, with many finishing up with roofs and chimney exits. Yellow Wall has a great mix of trad and sport. Gomer Ledge attracts confident new leaders, while Lower Gomer gives climbers a taste of the undulating curvature of the West End

### Main Walls

BEST:  
5.11a Rat's Tooth  
5.9 Chain Lightning  
5.10c Black Lung  
5.10b Detour  
5.10a A Kind End  
5.10- Noisy Oyster

### Gomer Walls

BEST:  
5.9 Express Way  
5.9 Squeeze Me In  
5.10a Lord Stanley  
5.10a Space Crack  
5.10b Outer Space  
5.10a Rock Mtn Fever

Yellow Wall  
see page 64





**CROISSANT**



## Wandering Wall

### 1. Stranger In a Strange Land 5.10d B(3) 8m

Located left of where the access trail meets the crag. Expect the old-school angle-iron anchors to be replaced in coming years. *Scott Jeffries '93*

### 2. Galvanic Direct 5.7 B(7) 22m

The ledges, corners and step-ups make this an exciting little climb. An easy start to a crescent shaped corner and large grassy ledge. A bolt protects the final move up and over for a galvanizing finish. Chains. *Lee Shephard '22*

### 3. Alternate Galvanic Direct 5.7 B(2) 4m

Skip the crack and head follow the two bolts above the teaching ground station to the ledge. Finish on Galvanic Direct. *Lee Shephard '22*

### 4. Wizard 5.8 16m B(0)

An easy start with big holds takes you to the ledge. Go left and follow the crack then ramp. Use the Galvanic Direct anchor. *Farley Klotz, Andrew Sauter '92* **TRAD**

### 5. Lichen Corner 5.6 \*\* B(1) 22m

Not so much lichen anymore! Start with the obvious wide wandering crack that continues past the ledge. The original route trended left to a tree station. Now treeless, a single bolt to the right protects the final face moves. A perfect climb for aspiring leaders. The rack: med to small nuts and cams. *Leon Blumer and Eric Rayson '69, Paul Armitage '22* **TRAD**

(NB: Janice McQuilkin holds unofficial record for trad placements (11) on Lichen Corner :)

### 6. Convoluted Dreams\*\* 5.8 B(5) 22m

Same start as Lichen Corner but follow the bolt line. Some puzzling but well protected face moves lead to a final convoluting move just before the anchors. Solid anchor with chains. *Dean Urness '96, Paul Armitage '22*

### 7. Amped Up 5.6 B(0) 22m

Start 15m right of Convoluted Dreams. A ledgy route with big hand holds and a wide shelf make every move electrifying fun. Solid anchor station with chains. *P. Armitage '22* **TOPROPE**

above: *Donaldo Nava, Convoluted Dreams, Jonathan Kettle*

A photograph of a large, layered rock bluff with several people climbing. The rock face is light-colored with horizontal strata. A tall, thin pine tree is in the foreground on the left, and various shrubs and smaller trees are scattered across the slope. The sky is blue with light clouds. The text 'THE SCRUFFY BLUFFS' is overlaid in large white letters on the left side of the image.

# THE SCRUFFY BLUFFS

LONESOME LEDGE  
MUSHROOM BUTTRESS  
SHADY WALL  
GREEN THUMB  
WARMUP WALL  
DEVIL'S FURNACE



## Mushroom Buttress

*Mushroom Buttress is next door to Lonesome and is easily accessed by taking the approach trail past the bushes or via the top of Lonesome.*

**1. A Mother's Love** 5.10b B(4) 11m  
 Small holds to the low ledge, then bouldery moves through to big huecos. It's tempting to climb around the arête after the 3rd bolt - but you'd regret it!  
 Chains. *Jeff Giebelhaus, FA Nathan Skof '25. TOP ROPE*

**2. Graveyard Crow** 5.9 B(4) 13m  
 A finger crack starts the route. Mantle onto the ledge and follow the bolts. Set after working a graveyard shift. *Tyler Parenteau '02. TOP ROPE*

**3. Maiden Voyage** 5.8 B(5) 15m  
 The bolted line left of the chimney. Hangers. *Jeff Giebelhaus '25 FA Logan Driedger '25. TOP ROPE*

**4. Jack Knife** 5.8 B(4) 14m  
 Follow the chimney in the center of the wall. Named after Kelowna Olympic diver, Dr. George Athans. *Jeff Giebelhaus, FA Gary Athans, '25. TOP ROPE*

**5. Swan Dive** 5.9 B(3) 14m  
 Follow the chossy ramp to a pedestal, and make your way to the chains. *Gary Athans '25, FA Jeff Giebelhaus '25. TOP ROPE*



*page 43 and above: Nathan Skof getting first ascent on A Mother's Love, 5.10b. Logan Driedger*

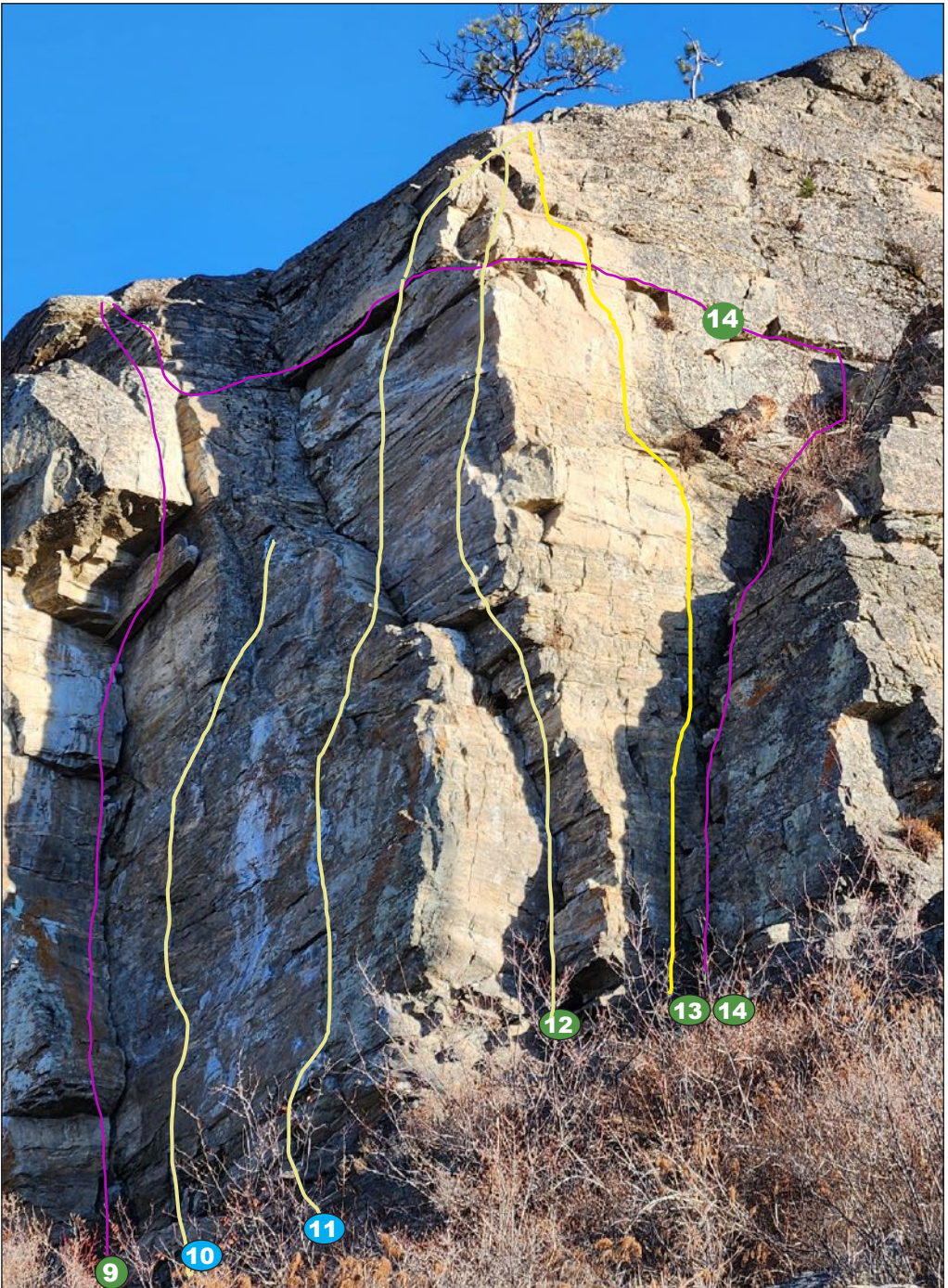
# THE LONELY CRAGS

LONELY BOY  
LONELY GIRL  
LONE PINE  
HALL OF THIEVES  
LONELY ISLAND  
HIDEAWAY

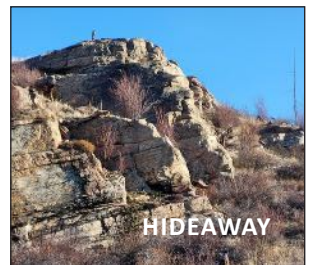
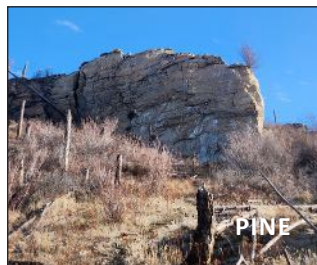
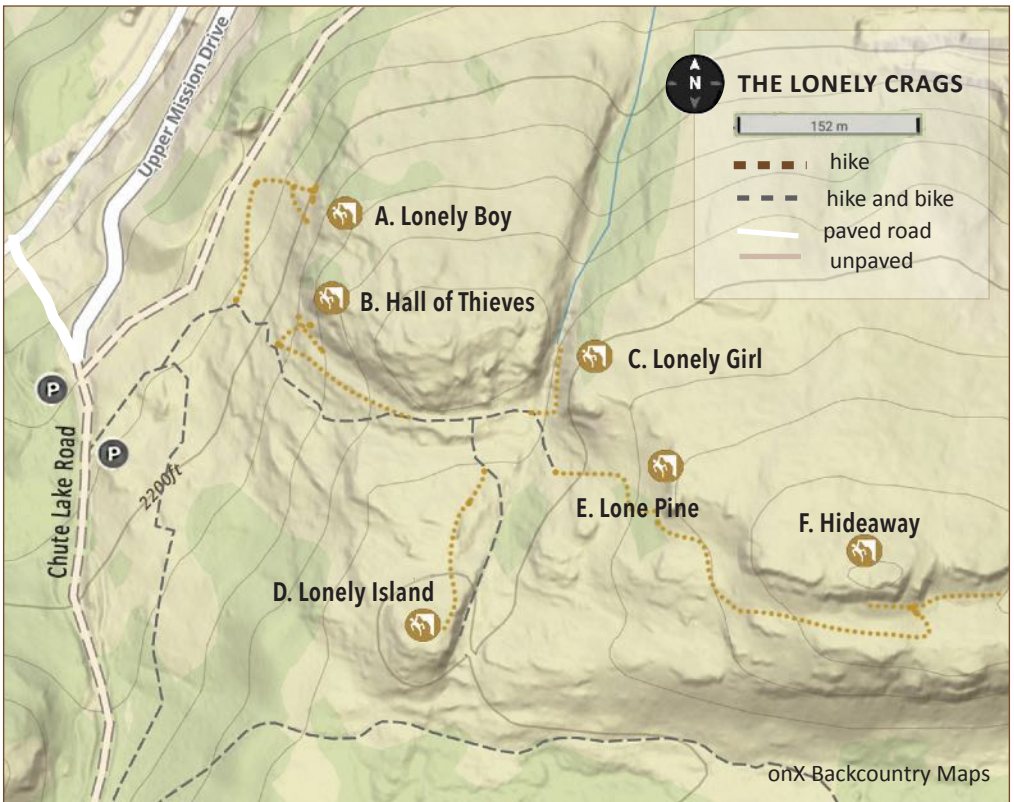
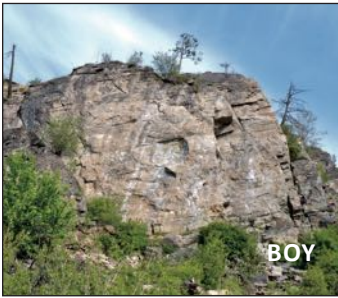




**LONELY BOY**



*Note: Photos for the wall tops are often taken during the winter, when the leaves are no longer blocking routes and starts. HM*





BY CHRIS MADOR

# JOHNS' BOULDERS

APPROACH ROCK

BIG BLOCKS

TRAIL SIDE / CROISSANT BOULDERS

BAKERS BLOCK





## Pika Boulder

QFG9+CPG Kelowna, British Columbia

*Directly in front of Buckle up Bluff and next to the trail up to the summit, This centre crack boulder and its distinct paper airplane like roof is Impossible to miss. Ika is home to Pikaboo, one of the best V2s in the Okanagan.*

### 1. Pikaboo V2

A must-do problem. Start low in the cave alcove (avoiding the Pika droppings) and make big moves out through the roof, then up and over.

### 2. Entre V5

Slightly more esoteric than Pikaboo. Start below the roof further to the right and make tricky moves up and out through the roofs.

### 3. The Floor is Pika V3

Starting on the far right, traverse the horizontal break all the way to the left. Then head up using anything you can.

*above: Rohan Ikebuchi on Entre, V5. HM*



**THE LAIR**