

The Somass-Sproat-Stamp-Ash Rivers Road Tour Update

We are three sleeps away from our road tour of fishing access points on the Stamp River system. At a later date we could schedule 3 -5 km walk or fish-outs from several of these points or drift from one point to another point.

This past week we did a test run to check out the road conditions and to assure that new gates were not installed on old access points etc. The good news is the forestry roads are in excellent shape, the best I have seen them in. The bad news is they are in great shape because of the high use logging truck activity over a portion of the roads we were planning on taking. In talking to Island Timberlands, they highly recommend that, since we are travelling in "Convoy" to try and go on the weekends. Therefore, we have developed a "Plan B" in the event logging truck activity is fierce on Wednesday.

Plan A involves heading west from the PetroCan in Port Alberni to Great Central Lake. On the way we will stop and walk at Stops 1) to 8) summarized below. At Great Central Lake we leave the pavement and enter Ash Main forestry road with stops at 9) to 12). Then north and back east on Comox Main to pavement at Beaver Creek Road. Then west to sites 13) and 14) before heading back east and south to sites 15) to 18) and back to Port Alberni for late lunch/dinner.

Stop No.	Name	Latitude	Longitude
1)	Paper Mill Dam:	49°16'32.61"N	124°51'21.19"W
2)	Paper Mill Native Park	49°16'24.51"N	124°51'28.74"W
3)	Somass Park	49°17'5.93"N	124°52'6.18"W
4)	Sproat R #1	49°17'24.65"N	124°54'21.48"W
5)	Sproat Falls	49°17'24.93"N	124°54'5.68"W
6)	Cedar Mill	49°18'52.33"N	124°54'1.89"W
7)	Robertson Creek Hatchery	49°20'15.93"N	124°58'55.22"W
8)	Forebay Stamp River	49°19'26.62"N	124°59'35.23"W
9)	Stamp R. Launch Site	49°20'6.63"N	124°59'37.57"W
10)	Ash-Stamp Confluence	49°21'40.71"N	124°58'44.02"W
11)	Ash River Launch Site	49°22'11.53"N	124°59'12.56"W
12)	Ash River Bridge	49°23'43.15"N	125° 4'34.88"W
13)	Trail Head to Monies Pool	49°22'4.83"N	124°58'5.51"W
14)	Angler's Trail parking lot	49°22'3.32"N	124°57'53.72"W
15)	Stamp Falls Prov Park	49°19'57.07"N	124°55'8.81"W
16)	Stamp Falls Pool	49°19'51.22"N	124°54'50.76"W
17)	Trail head to Fall's Pool	49°19'52.05"N	124°54'32.47"W
18)	Shooting Range	49°18'38.39"N	124°53'33.12"W

If logging truck activity is high on Ash Main, Plan B takes effect, where, we will forgo sites 10) to 12) and double back to Port Alberni to head north on Beaver Creek Road to take in sites 13) to 18).

Nanaimo members would meet at **Save on Foods** north end to carpool at **0715 hr**, then meet me at **the Mid Island Co-Op Whiskey Creek Gas** station on hw 4 (which is 6.75 km west of Coombs or 7.5 km south and west of the Hw 19-Hw 4 connector located south of Qualicum Beach). Wear appropriate footwear as we will be doing short hikes on fisherperson trails time permitting. The trail into the Ash/Stamp confluence has a small creek flowing over it so rubber boots would be good if you can't hop-step and jump as I can or did. Bring a day lunch and we will plan a late lunch or early supper in Port Alberni. Please email me if you have any questions (drbm@shaw.ca).