



AAC Publications

Snoqualmie Mountain, Northwest Face, Turf Testament

Washington, Cascade Mountains

On March 31, Mark Bunker and I climbed a previously undocumented line on the northwest face of Snoqualmie Mountain (6,278') that we called the Turf Testament. We did not see evidence of past ascents but would not be surprised to learn the route has been climbed previously.

Turf Testament begins in the large right-facing dihedral a few hundred feet uphill of the Slot Couloir's exit. We found two full pitches of rock, turf, and thin ice in the initial dihedral. Moving left at that point, two shorter pitches of connecting dihedrals led to the ridge between the Slot and Crooked couloirs. (Future parties may want to explore steeper variations directly above our second and third pitches.) After a short walk up the ridge, a final chockstone gully led to an exit just left of the summit cornice.

Based on conditions (both the climb and our own), we found the route comparable in difficulty to the nearby Pineapple Express, New York Gully, and all of their variations.

– Rolf Larson

Images



Rolf Larson in the lower portion of the Slot Couloir, approaching the base of Turf Testament on Snoqualmie Mountain.



The northwest face of Washington's Snoqualmie Mountain, showing known routes. Pineapple Express (IV 5.8 M6 WI3+ R) is in orange, New York Gully (III 5.8 WI3 M5) is in red, and LA Express (III 5.8 WI3 M5) is in yellow. Turf Testament begins out of sight in the Slot Couloir and then follows the dotted red line on the left side of the face. Several other variations and direct starts exist.

Article Details

Author	Rolf Larson
Publication	AAJ
Volume	61
Issue	93
Page	0
Copyright Date	2019
Article Type	Climbs and expeditions