

Eldred Valley, Amon Rûdh, The Slabs of Nim

Canada, British Columbia, Coast Mountains, Pacific Ranges

In 2018, Will Stanhope and I took a trip into the Eldred Valley in search of unclimbed stone and solace after the loss of a friend. We balked at several options but finally quested up to the difficult-to-access Amon Rûdh. After a multi-hour hike through one of the last stands of old-growth forest in this once pristine valley, we settled in for a sleepless, insect-molested bivy below the wall.

The morning found us scrambling up to the left of The Mormegil (11 pitches, 5.10 C1, Cawley-Guilbault-Hodgson-Richards) on the left side of the wall. We got started with a mix of trickery and bolts and made it a few pitches before running out of bolts and motivation on the baking south-facing wall.

In late July 2020, I returned to the area to attend a grassroots climbers' festival. With Kieran Brownie, Max Fisher, and Emilie Pellerin, along with a crew of friendly locals (who helped us porter gear to the wall!), we cruised through the now-threatened stand of ancient fir and cedar trees back to a more comfortable bivy, complete with mosquito netting. The next morning, our foursome quickly regained the 2018 high point. A total of eight long pitches plus some scrambling brought us to the summit of the formation, where we skinny-dipped in a natural infinity pool carved into the granite. We called our route The Slabs of Nim (385m, 5.11a).

- Paul McSorley, Canada

Images



Emelie Pellerin following pitch two of The Slabs of Nim.



A stream-fed infinity pool in the granite atop Amon Rûdh.



The line of The Slabs of Nim (385m, 5.11a) on Amon Rûdh. The Mormegil (11 pitches, 5.10 C1) begins just to the left of the huge arch formation in left center.

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