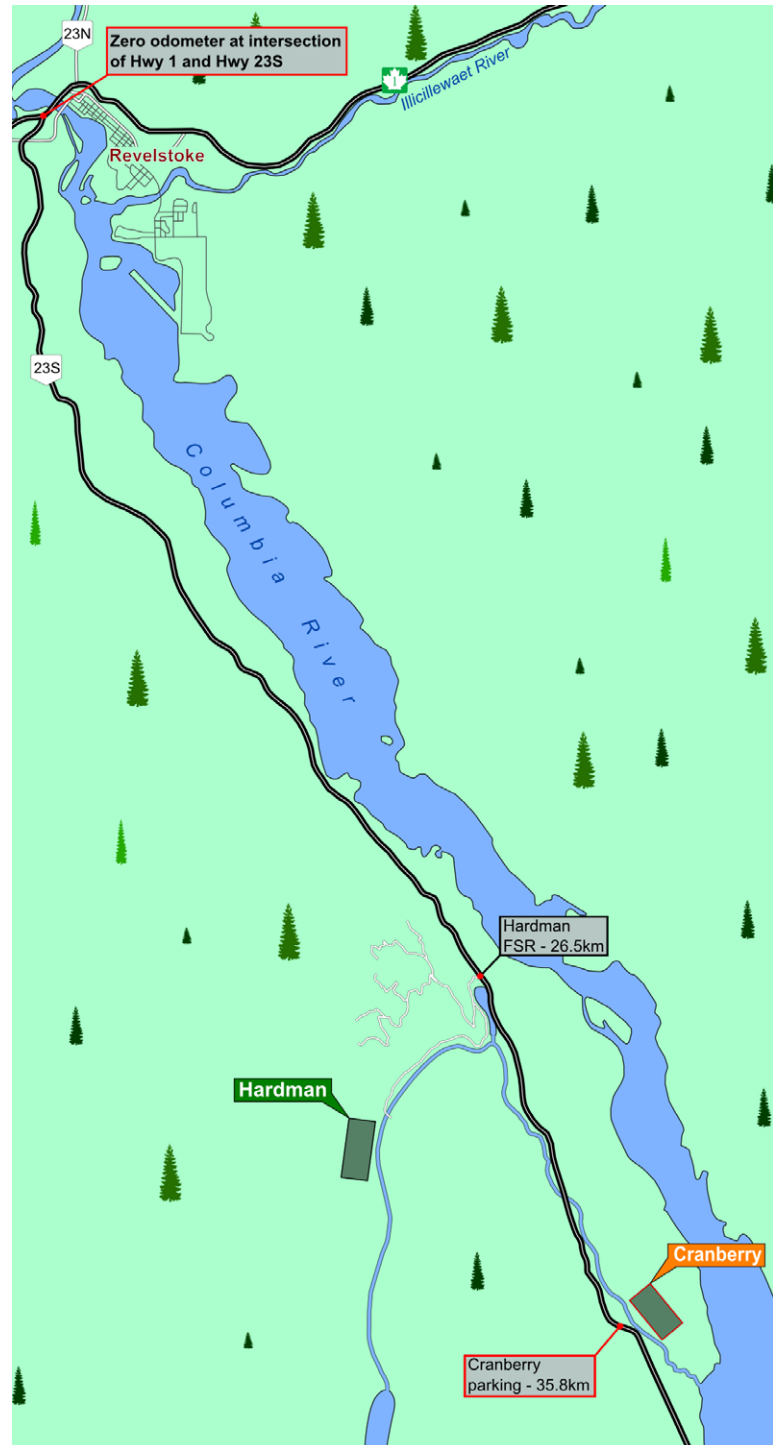


Introduction

The Cranberry Boulders are a group of 60 problems set in a beautiful mossy forest above the Cranberry Creek. The boulders are located approximately 36km south of Revelstoke on Highway 23S. The area was discovered by Nic and Ryan Williams in the spring of 2010. Development occurred soon afterwards by Ben Parsons, Nic Williams, and Ryan Williams. The boulders are thought to be some type of highly metamorphosed limestone. There are problems ranging from V0 to V7 with the moderate grades being particularly well represented and numerous highballs present. Virtually all of the boulders have excellent flat, mossy landings. This is an excellent area to spend a hot summer afternoon, as the boulders are all in the forest and shaded. This is a great place to climb if you enjoy big boulders, good landings, and moderate problems.

Directions

Leave Revelstoke and drive west on the Trans-Canada Highway over the Columbia River. Turn left at the lights onto Highway 23S and zero your odometer. Drive for 35.8km (12.7km past Blanket Creek Bridge and 3.5km past Cranberry Creek Bridge) and park in the second pullout you see on the left side of the road (the first pullout is larger and more obvious, do not park here). Follow the trail off the south end of the pullout down to Cranberry Creek. This is where it gets a bit adventurous: if the water is very low, you can rock hop right where the trail brings you down, but usually this is to sketchy. Instead turn upstream and bushwack for about 100m until the river widens and is shallower and look for a fixed rope. Wade across here then bushwack back downstream to pick up the trail again. You should see The Restroom off to the left as you finish climbing up the second river terrace. If you pass The Restroom without noticing it, you will climb one last terrace and see Slice and Dice on the right. Continuing up the trail will take you up through a talus field and eventually to the base of the Cranberry Bluffs. For further information on the sport climbs on the Cranberry Bluffs see www.revelstokerockclimbing.com



Cranberry Creek is dam controlled and may increase flow dramatically without warning. Use care when crossing, and do not attempt to cross if the water is too high. If you get stuck on the wrong side of the creek at the end of the day, don't do anything sketchy. It is possible to hike about 4km south (upstream) until the highway crosses the creek, then walk or hitch back to your car. It's a slog, but probably preferable to going for a really bumpy swim to the lake.

Using This Guide

Grades

Although many problems in Revelstoke were established four or five years ago, most have not seen many ascents. As a result consensus has not been reached regarding difficulty. You may find some problems easy or hard for the grade, if so please leave a comment on the forum at www.revelstokebouldering.ca to let us know. Hopefully grades will start to settle out as more climbers visit the area. On the boulder pictures, problems are colour coded by difficulty as shown below.

 V0-V2  V3-V5  V6-V8  V9+  Project

Quality

Our guides use stars to denote quality of problem with zero being total garbage and three being classic. Similar to the grading situation, these quality ratings need to settle out as problems receive traffic. Drop a note on the forum if you think we're way off anywhere.

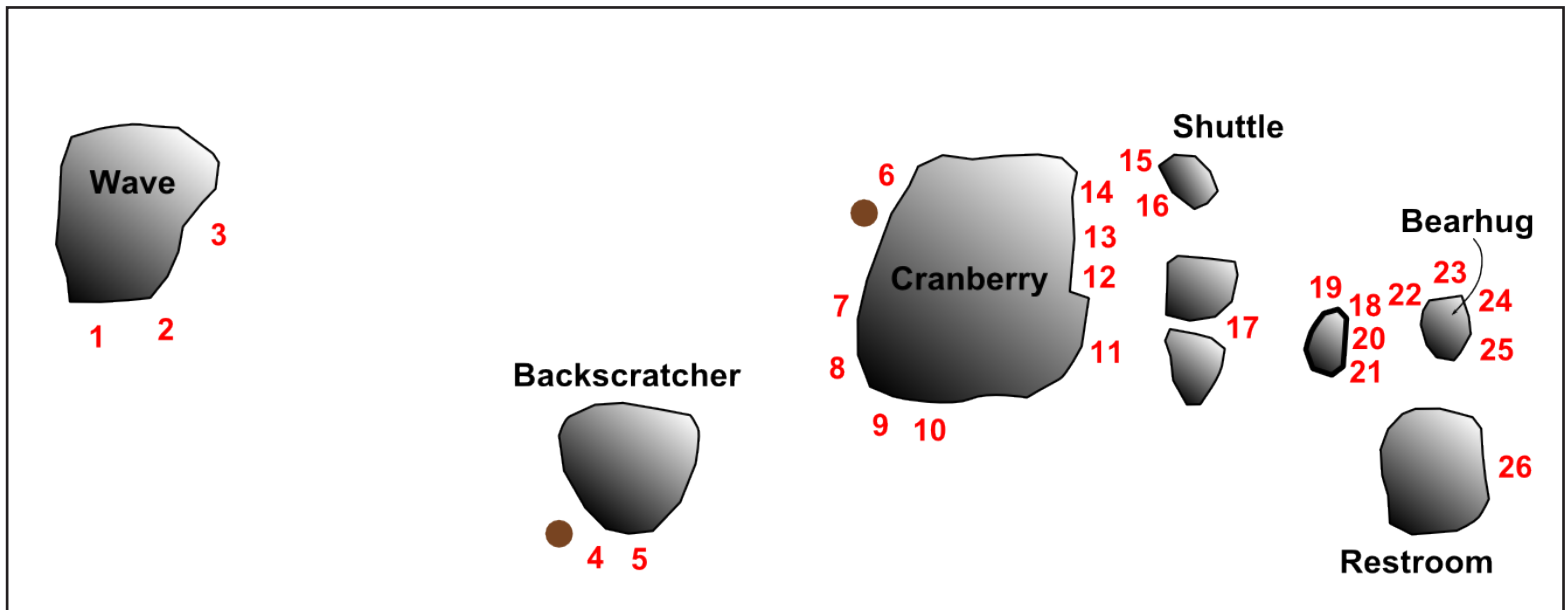
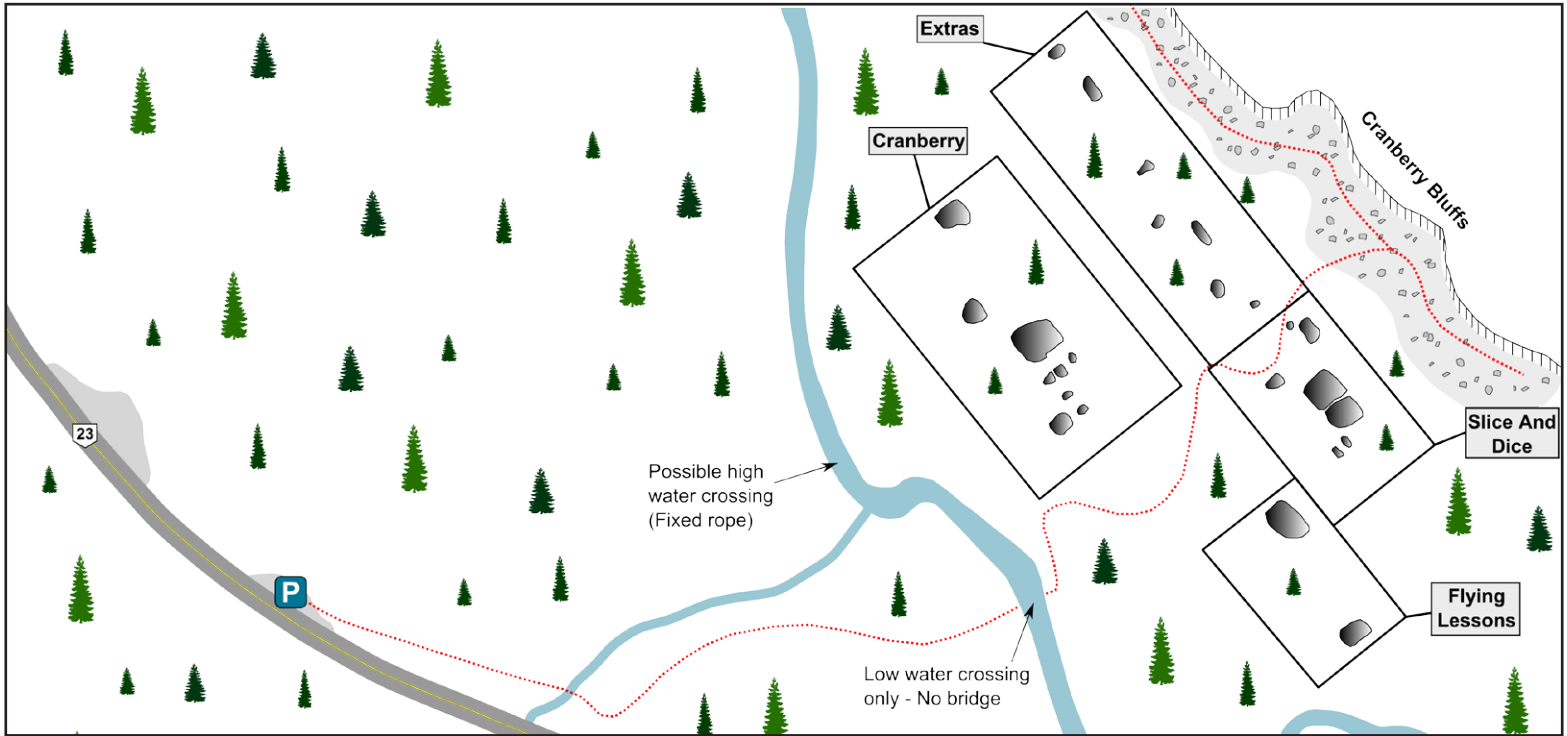
 Awful  Decent  Very good  Classic

Navigation

Each guide will have an overview map directly after the intro that shows the entire zones with parking and main trails, and breaks the boulders down into areas. Each area within the whole zone will have a larger scale map showing the boulders in detail as well as problem numbers. You can use the overview map to locate the area you want to climb in, then the area map to get to specific problems. Once you're at a problem, check the boulder picture and problem description to get a better idea which direction the problem goes in. Almost every boulder has a picture, however there are a few that don't. These are noted in the problem description and you'll just have to find these using the maps alone.



Mani Arnold reaching through the top of Cranberry Face



The Cranberry Area is the heart of the Cranberry Boulders. Climbing consists of numerous moderate highballs with generally excellent landings. Some boulders such as the Cranberry are quite competent and others are very chossy. Notable lines in the area are Cranberry Face V3, Separator V5, and Bearhug V4. To approach, follow the main trail starting from the south end of the parking area. This will parallel the highway for several hundred metres, then drop down a ridge to Cranberry Creek. If the water is low enough, ford the creek at the trail and climb up the bank on the fixed ladder. Alternately, at high flows, it is possible to walk upstream approximately 200m and use a fixed rope to wade across. From here, scramble up the first steep bank, then head back down stream to pick up the main trail. Continue up one more steep bank, and the Restroom boulder should be visible through the trees about 50m to the left.



Wave



Wave



Backscratcher



Backscratcher

1) Ride the Wave V5 ***

Start sitting at the base of the overhung arete with the left hand on a slopy jug and the right on a marginal crimp. Slap up the center of the arete to an easy topout. FA Ryan Williams '10

2) Project

Start sitting at the base of the slopy lip and follow it up to finish as Ride the Wave.

3) The Wave V3 ***

Start sitting in the small cave on the right hand side of the boulder with both hands on a decent jug. Make several powerful moves up to the lip and roll over onto the slab with some difficulty. Follow the slab up to the top.

4) Backscratcher V4 ***

Start crouching at the base of the tall face and climb left into the small cave. Climb up and out of the cave on small crimps to the top of the boulder. FA: Ryan Williams, '10

5) V0 ***

Start standing at the base of the tall face. Climb straight up the off vertical face to a tall finish. A good beginner highball. FA: Nic Williams, '10

6) V2 ***

Start standing just to the left of the large hemlock tree. Climb the face on a variety of holds to an easy topout.



7) Chuck and Roll V3 ***
Start standing at the base of the overhung face. Move up on jugs to a long move to the lip of the boulder.

8) V1 ***
Start crouching with both hands of the good undercling. Move right to a good sidepull and then to a large rail. Finish up with an easy topout.

9) V0 ***
The left side of the slab.

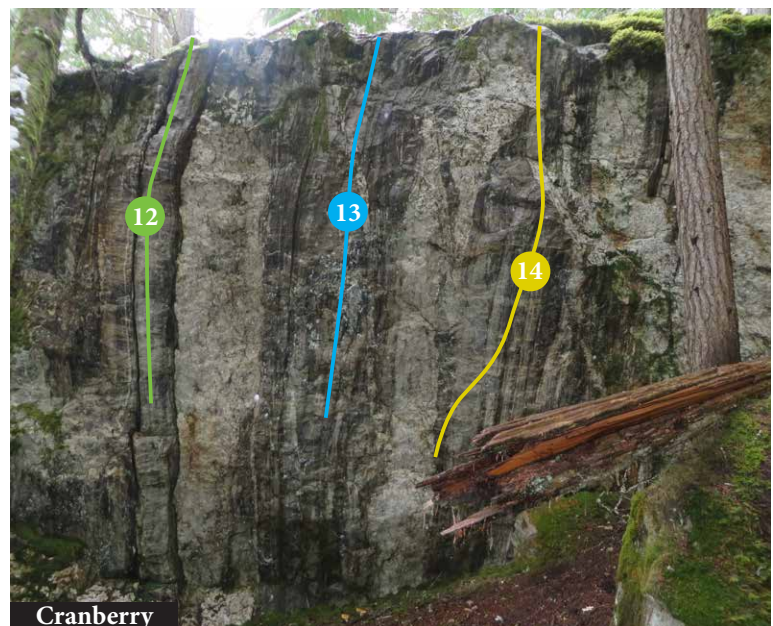
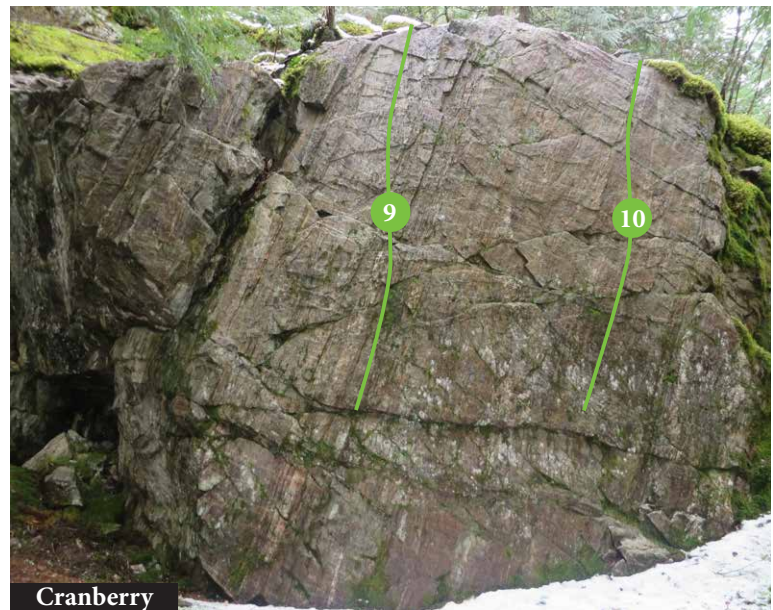
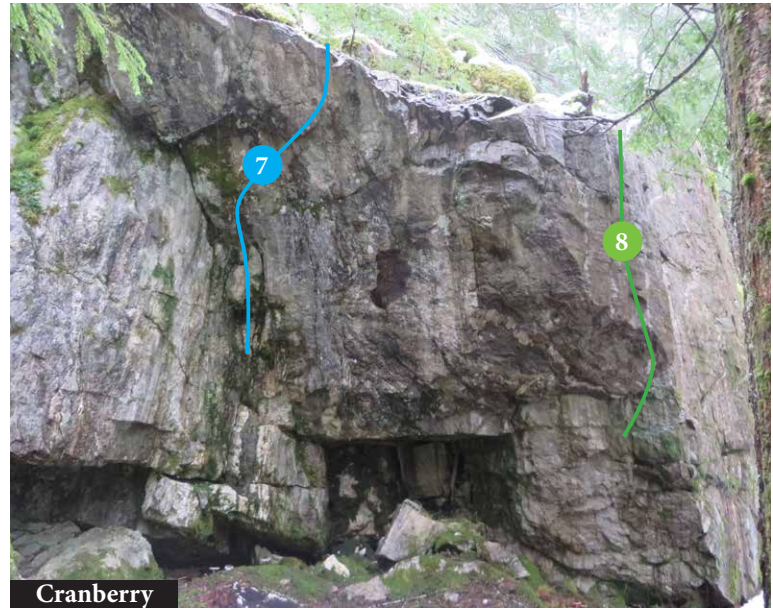
10) V0 ***
The right side of the slab.

11) Cedar V1 ***
Climb the short face to the left of #12 from a stand. (*Not pictured*).

12) Two Timer V1 ***
Climb the double cracks from a stand. This is an excellent moderate highball. FA: Nic Williams, '10

13) Cranberry Face V3 ***
Start standing at the center of the black band of rock to the right of Two Timer on two poor crimps and climb the tall face.

14) Separator V5 ***
Start sitting about 2m to the right of Cranberry Face on small, low crimps. Make a long move up into a thin gaston with the right hand and cross into a very poor sloper with the left. Ditch out right to the large rail and continue up to an easy topout.





Nic Williams on Bearhug

15) Space Shuttle V3 ★☆☆

Start sitting at the base of the small cave and make a long move to a jug on the lip of the boulder. Finish up with a tricky mantle.

16) Shuttle Traverse V4 ★☆☆

Start sitting with both hands on the lip of the boulder. Traverse the lip and finish as for Space Shuttle.

17) Choss Arete V2 ☆☆☆

Start standing at the base of the obvious arete and follow it up to the top. As the name suggests, the rock quality on this boulder is poor.

18) V0 ☆☆☆

Start sitting at the base of the north arete and climb up to an easy topout.

19) V4 ☆☆☆

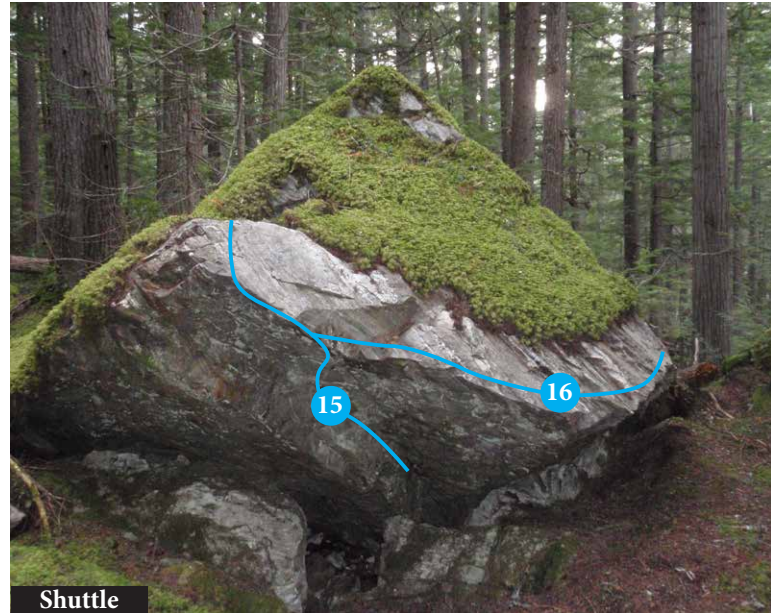
Start sitting near the center of the face with the left hand on an undercling and the right on a marginal sidepull. Move up to a rail and then trend right into the easy arete.

20) Geometry V5 ★☆☆

Start as for #19 but move left into a marginal finger pocket and up the center of the face.

21) V0 ☆☆☆

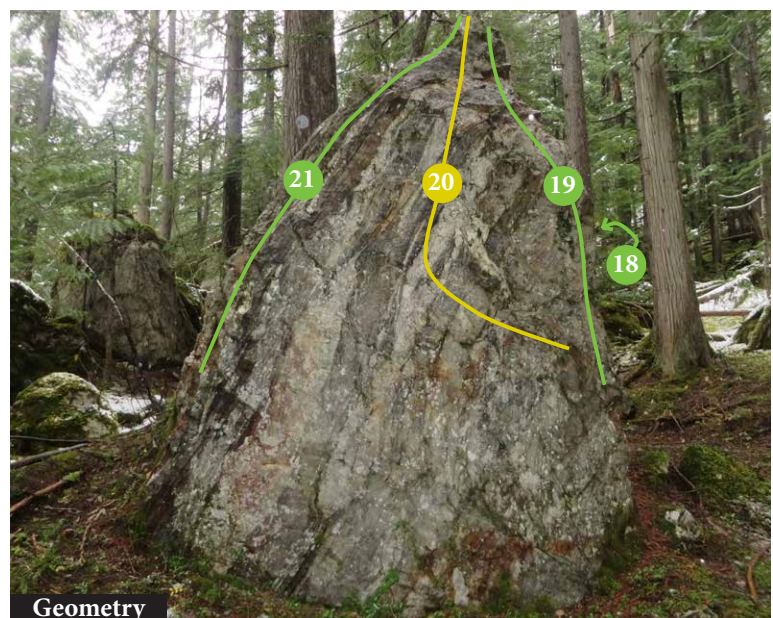
Start crouching and climb the obvious left arete.



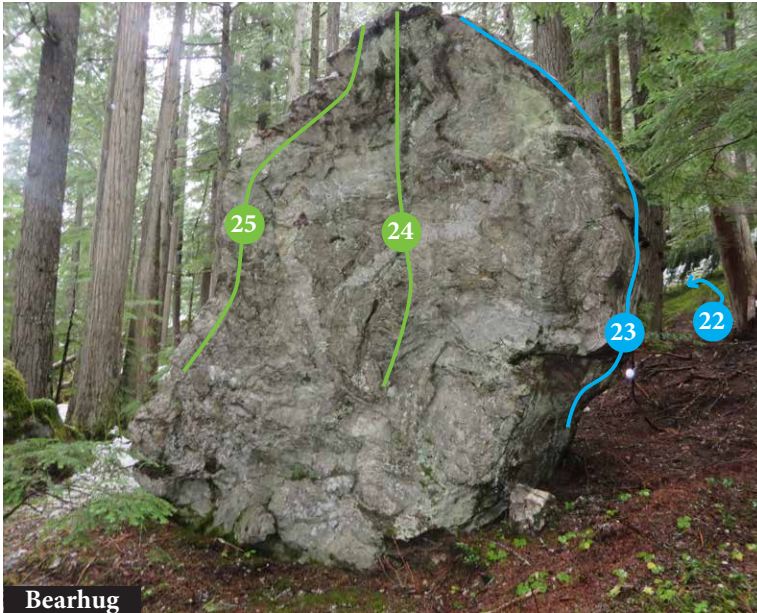
Shuttle



Choss



Geometry



Bearhug



Restroom



Ryan Williams - Cranberry Face

22) V3 ***

Start sitting on small crimps and climb up the technical face. This climb is much harder and more awkward than it first appears.

23) Bearhug V4 ****

Start sitting at the base of the rounded face on a good, very low rail. Slap up the opposing aretes to a insecure step onto the upper slab. FA: Nic Williams, '10

24) V0 ***

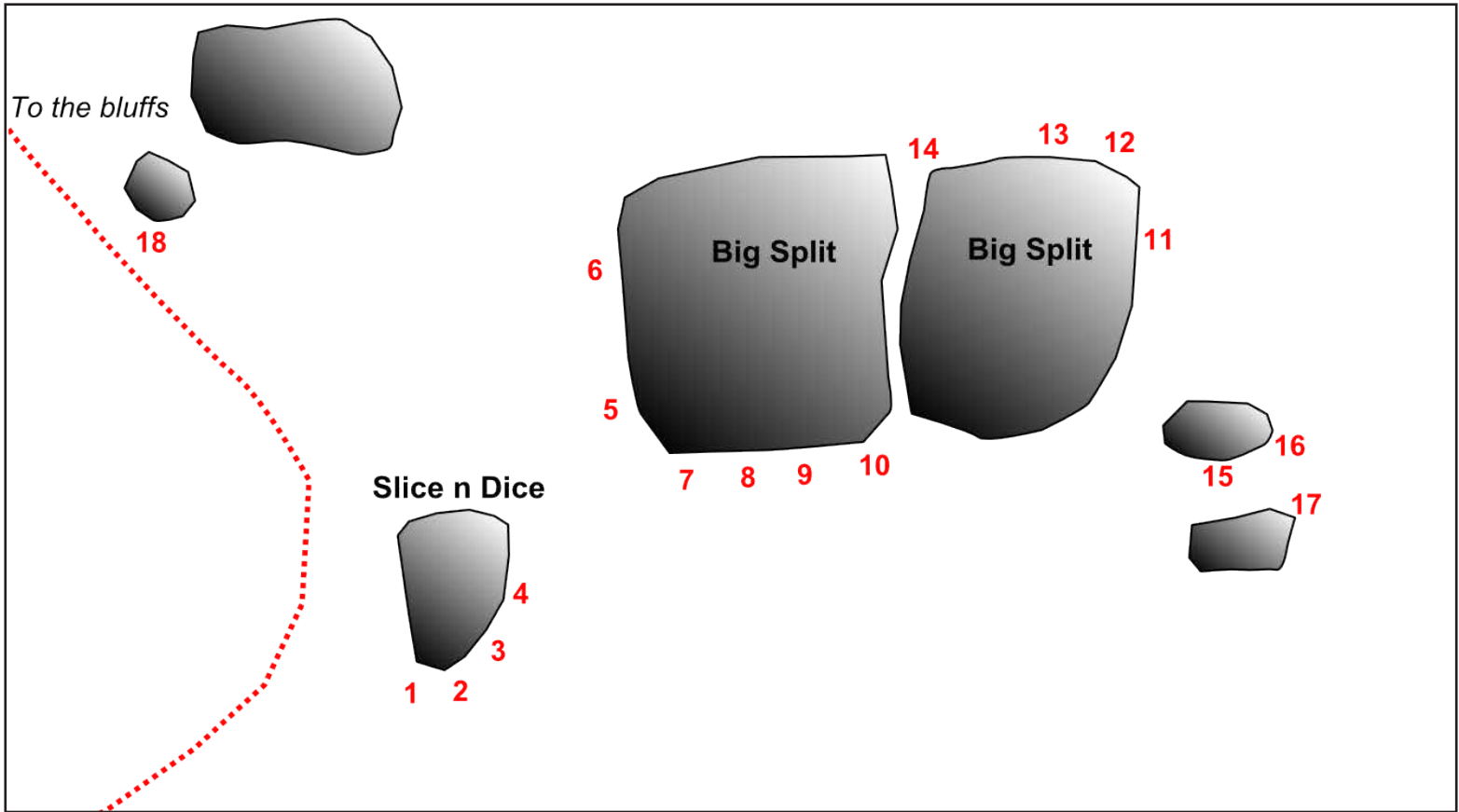
Start crouching near the center of the face on a good rail. Climb up the face to an easy topout. There are many variations on this face, all easy and fun.

25) V0- ***

Start crouching at the base of the obvious left arete and follow it up to the top.

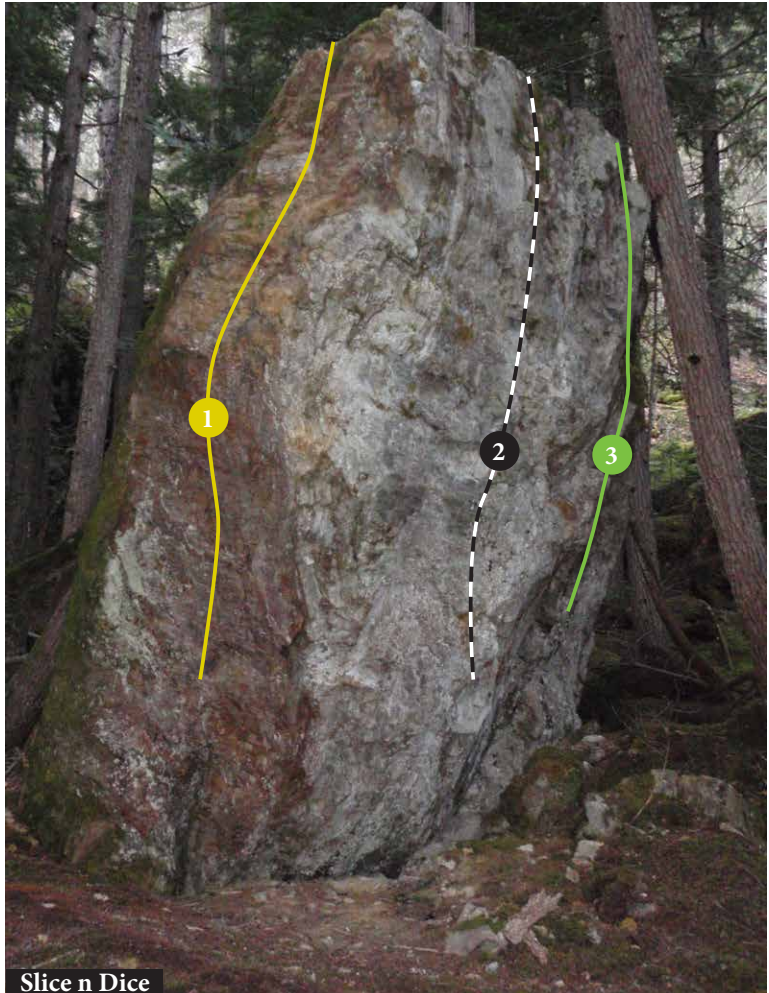
26) Restroom V3 ***

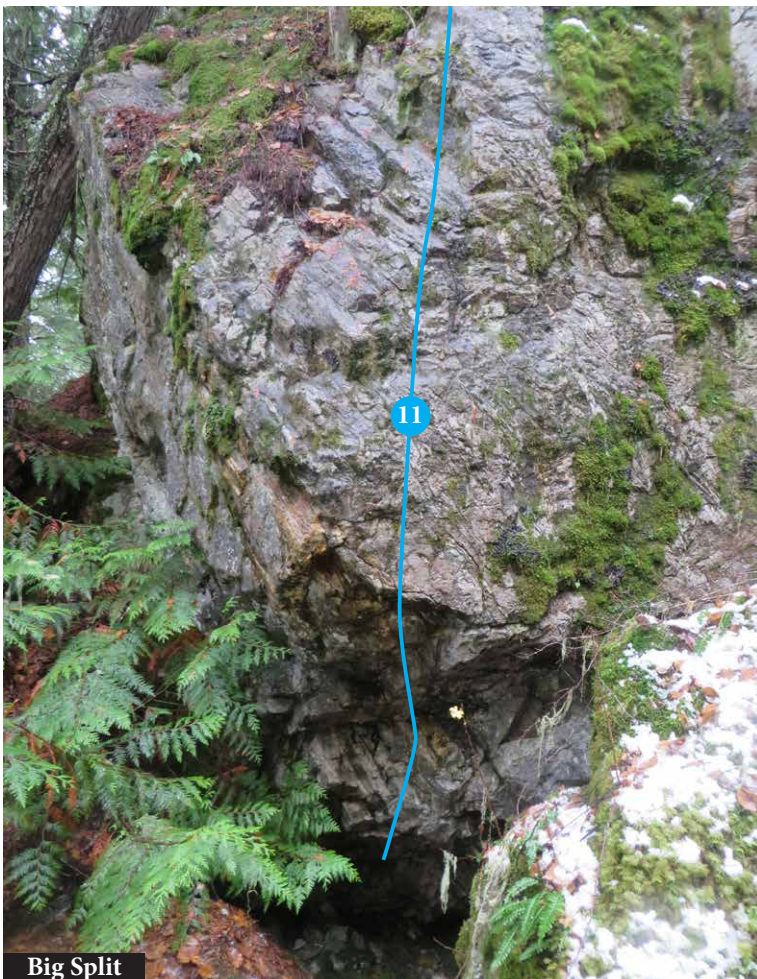
Start standing near the center of the face with both hands on positive crimps. Make a long move left to a slanted rail and then climb straight up to big ledge. Finish up with a balancy topout. The line has good movement but the rock quality is a bit dicey. Be aware of the potential for rock breakage near the top of the problem. FA: Ryan Williams, '10



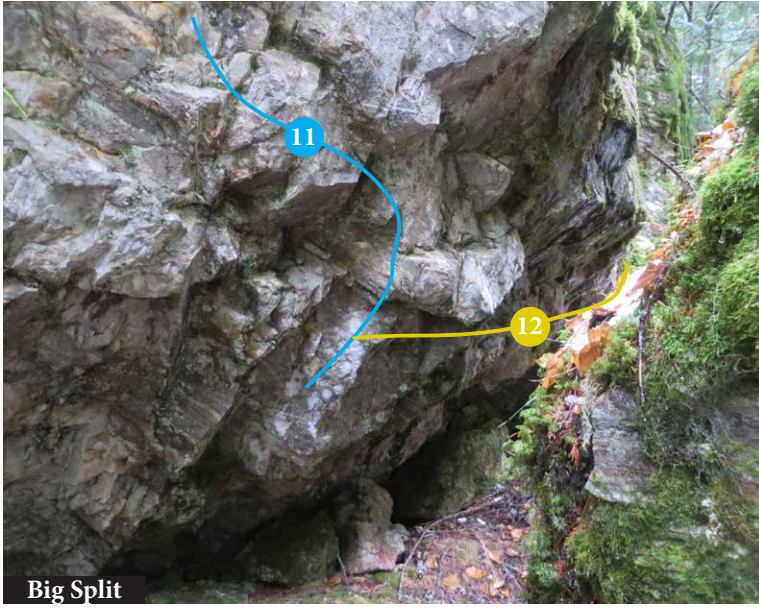
The Slice and Dice Area is located at the base of the transition from forest to open talus at the base of the Cranberry Bluffs. The area is relatively small and in general the problems are not particularly exciting, however, Slice and Dice V5 is well worth a visit. There are a lot of unfinished projects on the Big Split boulder as well if you're looking for FA's. To approach: continue on the main trail past Cranberry area on the left. The trail climbs up a steep bank, and Slice And Dice and Big Split boulders will be on the right at the top of the bank.

- 1) **Slice And Dice V5** ***
Start sitting at the base of the obvious arete with the left hand on a thin sidepull and the right on a good pinch. Slap up the blunt arete on a variety of crimps and cool pockets to an easy finish.
- 2) **Project**
Start sitting at the base of the face and head up on a variety of small holds.
- 3) **V2** ***
Start sitting just to the left of the small hemlock tree. Head up on large rails to an easy topout.
- 4) **V1** ***
Start standing on the right hand side of the off vertical face. Traverse left and finish as for #5.





- Big Split**
- 5) V1 ♦♦♦
Start standing at the base of the obvious face on the left side of the boulder. Climb up on small crimps to an easy topout.
 - 6) Project
Start sitting with both hands on a large rail low on the boulder. Climb up the slightly overhung face to a low angle upper slab.
 - 7) Project
Start sitting as for #6 but trend right off the start along a line of small crimps and then head up.
 - 8) Project
Start sitting on the right hand side of the face and climb to the top.
 - 9) Project
Climb the tall arete on the left hand side of the split in the boulder (*Not Pictured*).
 - 10) Project
Start crouching low in the small cave and climb up on small crimps. (*Not pictured*).
 - 11) V4 ♦♦♦♦
Sit start on a large rail down in the cave. Move up past several positive blocks to thin holds pulling onto the arête. Continue over the lip to easier terrain
 - 12) Crawler V7 ♦♦♦♦♦
Use the same start as #11. Traverse right while staying low in the cave. When the holds run out make a large move up through the roof to a positive crimp. Mantle and climb up the easy hand crack to the top.
 - 13) V0 ♦♦♦
Climb the obvious hand crack from a stand.
 - 14) V0 ♦♦♦
Climb the short, very featured face from a sit start. A number of variations are possible – all easy (*not pictured*).



Big Split



Big Split

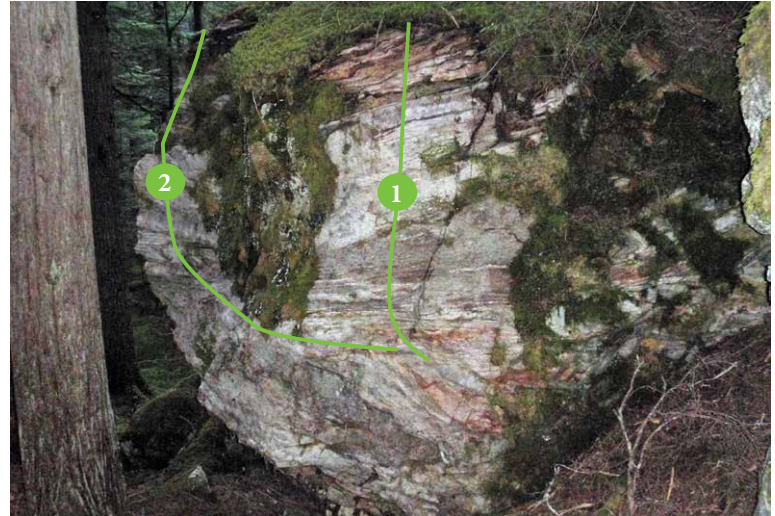
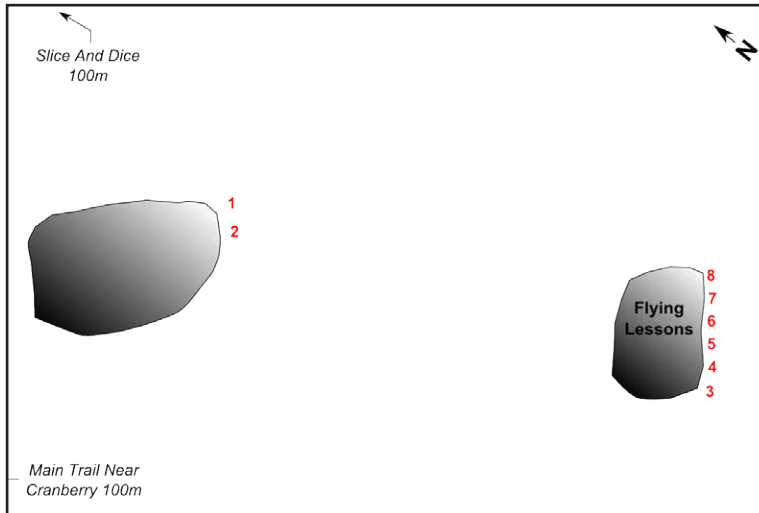


Point

15) V2 ●●●
Start sitting on a good rail. Make a long balancey move up to another good rail and top out easily above.

16) V1 ●●●
Climb the arete opposite #14 from a sit start (not pictured).

17) The Point V3 ●●●
Sit start under the overhanging prow. Move right to gain the lip and climb this out to the point to roll over.



Flying Lessons is a small area but the namesake boulder is by far the nicest rock in the Cranberry. Don't miss No Fly Zone V6 or the always entertaining Flying Lessons V1. Flying Lessons area is located approximately 100m southeast of Slice and Dice. To get there, drop down one terrace from Big Split boulder and continue south (downstream) until the large boulder containing climbs #1 and #2 is found. About 100m beyond this is the fantastic Flying Lessons boulder. There is no trail but as long as you stay on the flat terrace continue downstream it's hard to miss.

1) V0 ^{○○○}

Sit start on the obvious rail and climb straight up to a slopy topout.

2) V2 ^{○○○}

Same start as #1 but move left on slopers to an easy finish up the arete

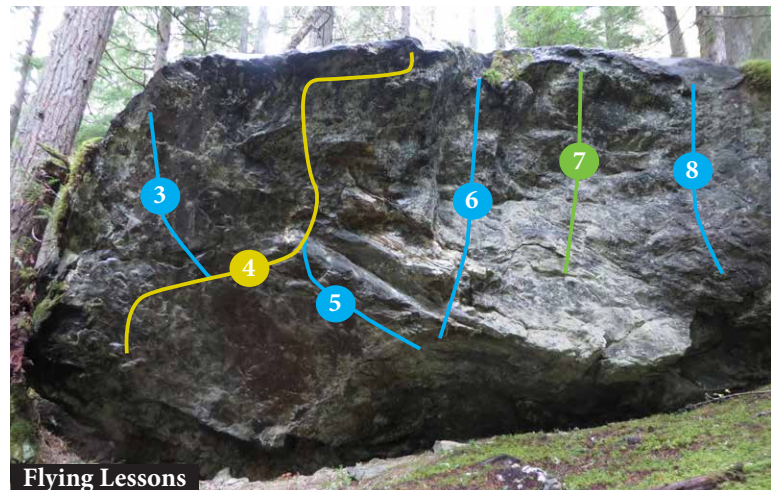
The downhill face of this boulder remains undeveloped and may produce a couple good highballs with a bit of effort.

3) Flying for Dummies V4 ^{○○○}

Start on two small crimps and make a powerful move to good jug. Move right to two slopy sidepulls and dyno to the lip on the left. FA: Nic Williams '10

4) No Fly Zone V6 ^{○○○}

Start sitting on the same small crimps as #3 and climb up and right. Continue traversing across to the slopy rail and then climb straight up to the lip. FA: Ryan Williams '10



5) Beta Version V3 ^{○○○}

Start sitting near centre of the boulder on a large rail. Traverse left on the rail until it runs out and then move up on positive crimps. Hit the slopy lip and mantle to the right. FA: Ben Parsons '10

6) V3 ^{○○○}

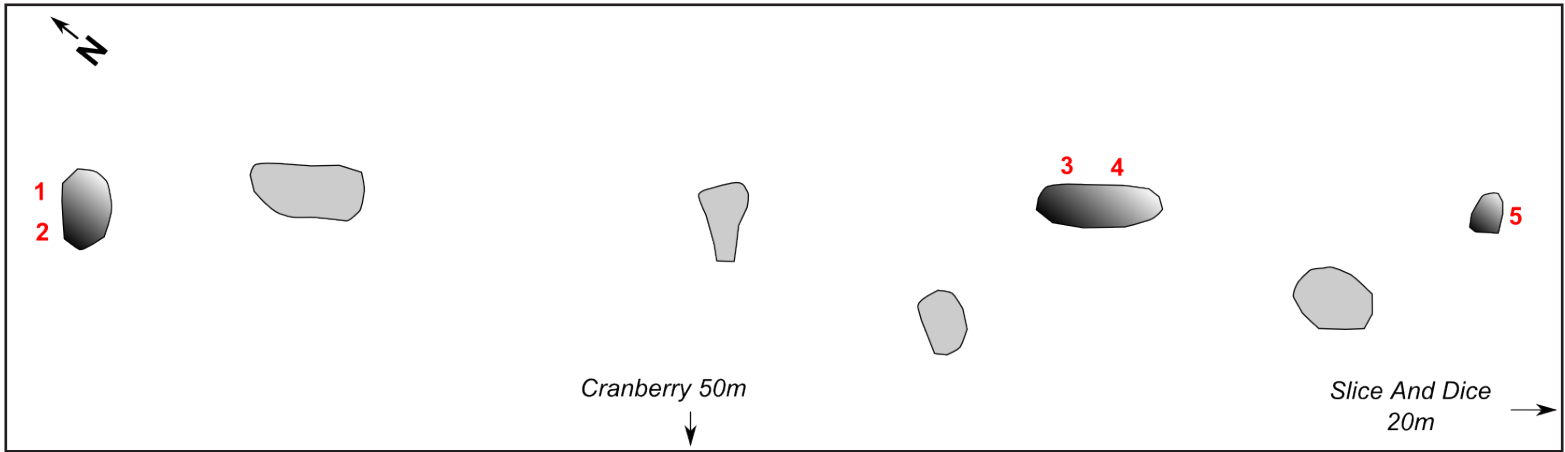
Use the same start as Beta Version and climb straight up the faint arête ending with the same mantle.

7) Flying Lessons V1 ^{○○○}

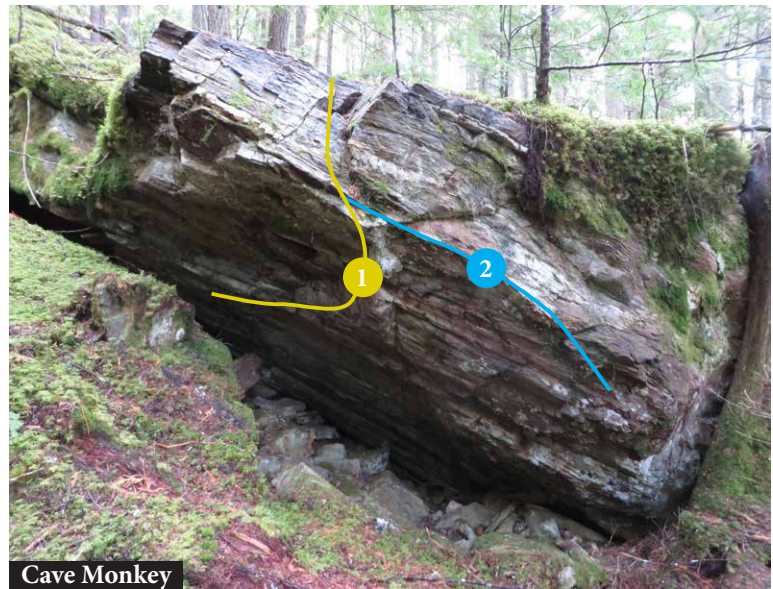
Start standing on the large ledge with your hands on a huge jug. Dyno to the upper lip do a full value mantle. Try sticking the move with only one hand for bonus points.

8) V3 ^{○○○}

SDS on small crimps and climb straight up on small holds. Looks a lot better than it is unfortunately the movement is awkward and the holds painful.



As the name suggests, the Extras Area is basically a grab bag of scattered boulders that don't logically fit in with the other areas. The area extends to the left of the main trail from Slice And Dice just below the talus from Cranberry Bluffs. Cave Monkey V6 is a fun cave line that's worth the walk, and there are still some boulders that have not been developed at all. To approach from Slice and Dice, turn left off the main trail. The Extras boulders are scattered along the flat terrace just into the forest from the talus from 20m to about 100m from Slice and Dice.



Cave Monkey

1) Cave Monkey V6 ●●●

Sit start on the left side on the small cave. Traverse right on small crimps and then throw to the slopy lip. Finish up with an easy mantle. FA: Ryan Williams '11

2) V4 ●●●

Sit start on the small arête on the right side of the boulder. Move up to the lip and then traverse the slopy lip to the obvious notch. Finish up with an easy mantle. FA: Ryan Williams '11

The next two lines are located on short uphill face of a boulder about 30m north (upstream) of #5. Neither are very good so don't worry if you can't find them.

3) V2 ○○○

Climb the right side of the short face from a sit. (Not pictured).

4) V2 ○○○

Sit start and climb the left side of the face. (Not pictured).

5) Project

Climb short triangular face on very small crimps and the slopy edges from a sitting start.

