

EQUIPMENT LIST FOR THE KING TRENCH ROUTE ON MT. LOGAN

Ski Gear

We were a team of two on tele gear and two on alpine gear. The Intuition liners, or other thermo foam liner, for the boots are highly recommended. We also all had overboots made by 40 Below. Poles that won't collapse. And skins that stick. The Black Diamond/Ascension skins never failed. The other brand skins were a daily problem. Bindings are a weak point in any set up. Steve's Diamar bindings completely blew apart and that was almost the end of the expedition for him, but Sean's amazing repair kit kept things together.

Tents

We had a North Face VE25, a MEC Nunatak and a Black Diamond Mega Mid. I would not leave home without the Mega Mid. We cooked great meals, played cards, got away from tent mates, entertained, had great parties and never wore our down jackets because of the Mega Mid. One night all four of us slept in the North Face which would be terrible in the Nunatak, which has the better vestibule for cooking and the poles held up better in the 100km/hr+ winds we had. Too bad they weigh so damn much.

Really plan how you are going to anchor your tent for very strong winds. We had a few small (25 cm sq.), light pieces of plywood with cord attached that we buried in the snow, much easier to get out than stuff sacks. I'm sure there is a wealth of ideas on how to hold onto your tent. One night it took all four of us to get one tent set up, three holding on and one setting poles, due to very high winds. Anchor everything.

Hardware

Crampons, glacier ice axe, carabiners, maybe some pulleys depending on your crevasse rescue plan. A couple of snow pickets, a couple of ice screws.

Ropes

We had too much rope, 2 x 60m 9.8mm, that was because I insisted and we really were wishing for some lighter shorter sections. A couple of prusiks, some cord for sled rigging. A bit of webbing for anchors.

Pulk

Still up for debate on what the best rig is. I like a light plastic sled made by Torpedo and rigged with rope and a bit of bungy cord to the backpack. The Canadian-Swiss Team had beautiful pulks, but heavier for putting on your pack for fun ski descents between hauls.

Backpack (70+ liters) and large duffle bag for sled hauling or cache

Wands and GPS and Maps

There is no need to go wandering the whole route, that is obnoxious. Just use wands to mark your caches and make sure your GPS is working, or that you can see where you are going. We had great maps and air photos because Steve works for the Yukon Geological Survey. The standard 1:50,000 are alright.

Sleeping Bag (-30 celsius minimum rating), Thermarest, Closed Cell Foam Mat. Marmot sold us some beauties for a good price. You need both types of sleeping mats for sure.

Hard shell jacket (with hood) and pants (Patagonia's built-in gaiter is excellent)

Down parka and maybe insulated pants

Soft shell pants

Fleece or wool sweater/jacket

Thermal underwear top and bottom mid weight

Thermal underwear top and bottom expedition weight

Regular underwear

Socks, 3 or 4 pairs that fit well with your ski boots

Tent Booties and luxury item: Neo overboots

Expedition Mitts: OR Alti Mitt is amazing, you will feel invincible

Gloves: silk or polypro liner glove

Warm Hat, Sun Hat

Balaclava

Glacier Glasses (new and wear them all the time), Goggles

Sunscreen, lip screen, the best you can find

Toothbrush, paste, hand wipes, and whatever you need (eg: fingernail clippers, hair brush)

Pee Bottle, wide mouth Nalgene works fine for men or women