

COSMIK DEBRIS

Grade: M7 WI6, 175m

Location: Stanley Headwall, Kootenay National Park BC

Base Elevation & Aspect: 2000m, North facing

First Ascent: Jon Walsh, Michelle Kadatz, Raphael Slawinski, March 2017

ATES: Complex (3)

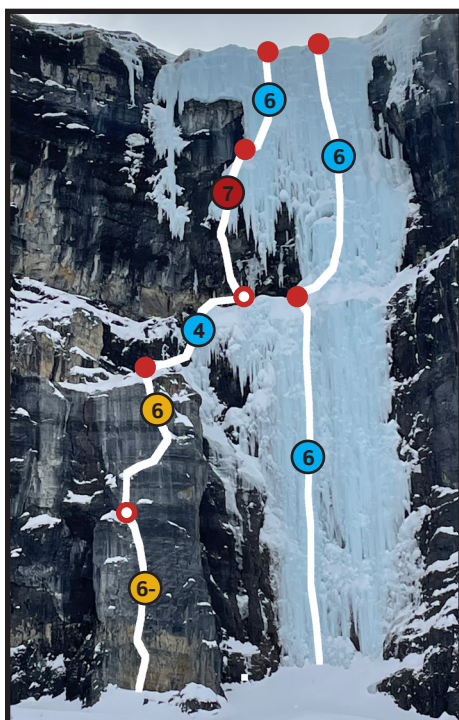
Editor's Note: I have reformatted this from the original posts by Jon on the Gravsports-Ice forums and personal communication. All photos, text and errors are from those posts -NB

"For many years, I had noticed a crack running up the rock pillar to the right of *Rhamnusia*, and always thought of attempting it. When it ends, an obvious (to me) foot rail trends right to some corners before arriving at the halfway ledge of *Nemesis*."

Approach

As for *Nemesis*. Park at the Stanley Glacier parking lot off of Highway 93S.

Hike or ski up the Stanley Glacier trail to the hanging valley below the Headwall. Continue up towards the back of the valley, passing avalanche paths on the left and the ice of *Suffer Machine* on the right. Continue above treeline, aiming for *Nemesis*, the next big flow of ice. Left of the ice, a crack splits the wide rock pillar. Belay at its base, 1.5-2 hours from the road.



P1: M6- 35m

Head up low-angle rock for 10m, then pull a bulge to a stance below a small roof. Climb through the roof, pass two pitons, and continue up the finger crack to a snow ledge. Step left to the bolted anchor at the top of *Rhamnusia*.

P2: M6 45m

Head up to reach a crack 10m above the belay, and traverse right past 5 bolts across the face to reach a corner. Follow this to a snow ledge, and go 10m up and slightly left on the snow to a gear belay in cracks. Rope drag is a concern on this pitch.

P3: WI4 30m

As for P3 of *Rhamnusia*, this can form either as a mixed or pure ice pitch. Climb either a WI4 flow or a M3 ice-choked chimney to a higher snow ledge. Belay off bolts.

P4: M7 35m

Halfway between the bolts of *Rhamnusia* and *Aquadisiac*, find an obvious left-facing corner. Climb the corner past bolts and fixed pitons to pull onto a dagger. Climb up and belay in an ice cave.

P5: WI6 30m

Take 30m of steep ice to the top of *Nemesis*.

Descent

Rappel *Nemesis* in 2x 60m or 4x 30m rappels.

Rack

Double set of cams to #3, single #4. Nuts, handful of knifeblade pitons. Ice screws.

FA Notes

- [The route is] a fun variation of moderate difficulty, the rock quality is mostly excellent, and I recommend it. I think it should be good to go every year as the first two pitches don't need/have ice on them.
- The route name is a reference to the incredible amount of avalanche debris on the approach, which ran way below the climb.

Jon Walsh on P1 of *Rhamnusia* (not described, left of P1 of *Cosmik Debris*). Photo: Michelle Kadatz

