

LIQUID SWORDS

Grade: M5+ WI5, 95m

Location: Mount Ingismaldie, Banff National Park AB

Base Elevation & Aspect: ???m, North facing

First Ascent: Merrick Montemurro, Kevin Sevalrud, February 2023

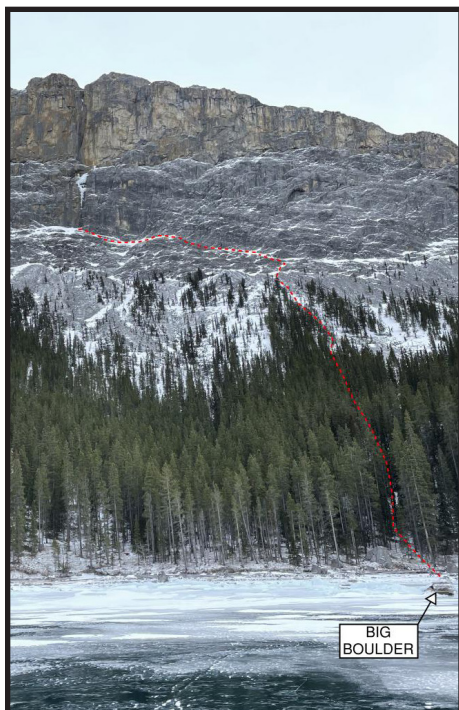
Editor's Note: I have reformatted this from the original post by Merrick on the Facebook group Rockies Ice & Mixed Conditions. All photos, text and any errors are from that post -NB

"Kevin Sevalrud and I climbed what we believe is a new route above lake Minnewanka. We think the route is very high quality and well worth repeating. [The route is] located on a north facing buttress a couple km east of the *Hammer Horror* gully on Mt Ingismaldie."

Approach

Park at the west shore of Lake Minnewanka in the small pullout with the outhouse.

Walk ~3.5k on the frozen lake (micro spikes) to a cove with a large boulder (see photo). Head straight up open forest and talus to the base. Scramble up 3rd class snow/rock and traverse along the wall to the base. Heads up on small pockets of windslab, semi avoidable but would not be wise with new snow & wind.
~1.5-2 hours from the car.



P1: M5+ 35m

Climb the right-trending groove on solid, compact rock past a couple overlaps. Belay at a bolted anchor right of a horizontal crack.

P2: M4 WI5+ 60m

Traverse along the break to the ice, then climb thin ice past a few vertical sections (see topo). At the top, belay off an ice anchor.

Descent

Rap off a V-thread to P1 anchor, then down.

Rack

Nuts, screws, cams #0.2-3 with doubles #0.4-2.
Double 60m ropes.

FA Notes

- On the FA the ice on the steepest portion was delaminated, hollow and runout.
- We were trying to go to the top, climbed a 3rd pitch to a 2 bolt anchor. We couldn't find an obvious line and were out of batteries. There's a single bolt + slung horn below the roof to rap with a single 35m rope if venturing up there and rappelling. 3rd pitch is not as good as first 2.



Liquid Swords

(M5+ / WI5, 95m)

P1: Climb right trending groove on solid compact rock past a couple overlaps. 4 bolts + gear & 1 stubby

P2: Traverse to gain the ice, climb thin ice past a few vertical sections. Can stop before the right traverse but returning to P1 Anchor may be tricky. Belay off screws. 1 bolt + Screws (optional rock gear 0.4 - 1)

Gear: Single Rack (0.2 - 3 + Wires), 10-12 screws (mostly 13cm, 2-3 10cm), 12-14 draws.

