



Ethan Berman making the wild stem to the ice on pitch 2. Photo: Maarten van Haeren

THE UNCONDITIONED

Grade: M6+ WI5+, 95m

Location: Storm Creek Headwall, Kootenay National Park BC

Base Elevation & Aspect: 2450m, Northwest facing

First Ascent: Ethan Berman, Maarten van Haeren, November 10 2023

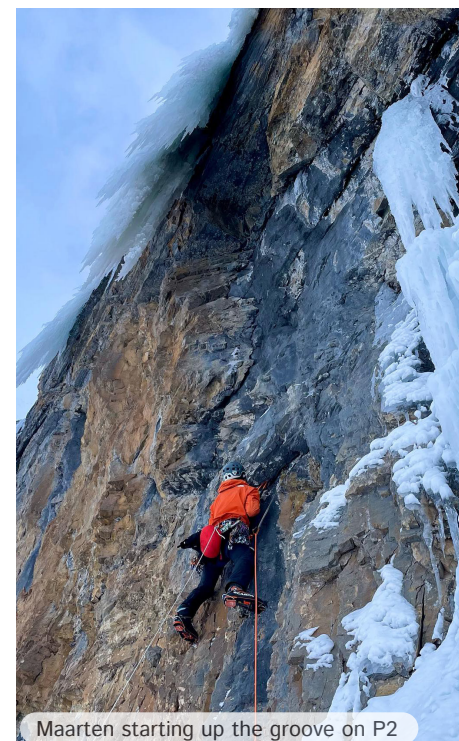
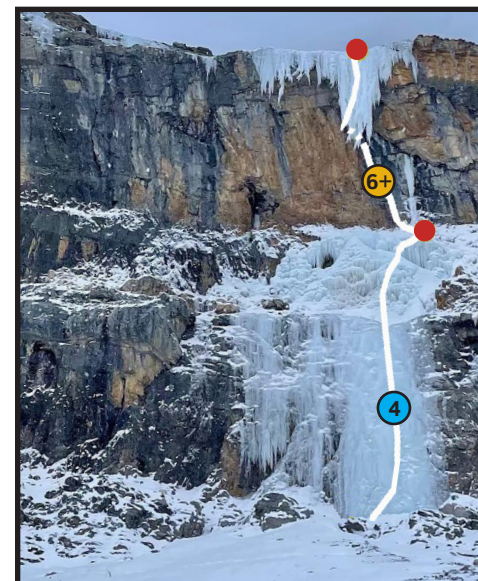
ATES: Complex (3)

Editor's Note: I have reformatted and edited this from the posts by Ethan on his Facebook page and the group Rockies Ice & Mixed Conditions. Photos and text are from those posts -NB

Approach

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

Hike the road to the firebreak, and head uphill to a trail on the left. Follow the trail up and into the Storm Creek drainage. Continue up avalanche slopes to the tree band below the first routes, and keep going up the valley to the prominent buttress at the back. Head rightward up the snow slope to a wide flow of ice left of a set of roofs and below a huge set of daggers dripping from the top of the wall. The route is left of *Splitter Choss* and right of *Cloudburst*. 2.5-3 hours from the road.



Maarten starting up the groove on P2

P1: WI4 60m

Climb the wide flow of ice to a ledge, then continue up a steep cone of mushrooms to a screw belay on the right of a thin column below the headwall.

P2: M6+ WI5+ 35m

Head left off the belay, up a groove to reach a small roof crack after a couple bodylengths. Step left, clip a bolt then mantle onto a ledge to continue up the crack system. Navigate devious slab past 3 bolts to reach the ice, then swing onto the dagger and take it to the top and another ice belay.

Descent

Rappel the route in 2 rappels on V-threads.

Rack

Cams from #0.2-3 with doubles #0.3-0.5, nuts, screws. Single/tag or double ropes.

Editor's Note

- Be aware of the overhead hazard the daggers pose after temperature changes.