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Hiking in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, Danny Kost, Danny Kost, 2000, , 68 pages. .

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K2 and the 1939 Tragedy , William Lowell Putnam, Sep 1, 1993, Sports & Recreation, . The story of the 1939 American K2 expedition is well known among mountaineers: world-class German-born climber Fritz Wiessner and Pasang Dawa Lama came within 800 feet of

Alaska A Climbing Guide, Michael Wood, Colby Coombs, Jan 1, 2001, Sports & Recreation, 206 pages. This is the ultimate guidebook for every climber intending to scale the mountains of one of the nation's last best wild places. Alaska: A Climbing Guide offers climbers a range of

Cloud walkers six climbs on major Canadian peaks, Paddy Sherman, 1965, Sports & Recreation, 161 pages. .

Mapper of Mountains M.P. Bridgland in the Canadian Rockies 1902-1930, I. S. MacLaren, 2005, Biography & Autobiography, 295 pages. Dominion Land Surveyor Morrison Parsons Bridgland spent nearly every summer mapping the mountains of Alberta and British Columbia, climbing many of Canada's Rocky Mountains for

Alpine Ski Tours in the Canadian Rockies Summits and Icefields, Chic Scott, Nov 1, 2003, Sports & Recreation, 224 pages. When the first snows fly in November, sit down in front of the fire and dream of endless powder slopes, dazzling icefields and wilderness cabins under the northern lights. What

Snow Sense A Guide to Evaluating Snow Avalanche Hazard, Jill A. Fredston, Douglas S Fesler, Jun 1, 2001, , 116 pages. Book which focuses on teaching backcountry travellers to recognize, evaluate, and avoid avalanche hazards by gathering available key information and clues from the snowpack

The Trekking Peaks of Nepal , Bill O'Connor, Oct 1, 1998, Health & Fitness, 224 pages. Comprehensive guidebook full of opportunities for alpine-style ascents on peaks from 18,330 to 21,830 feet high..

Mountain Bike Adventures in Southwest British Columbia 50 Rides, Greg Maurer, Tomas Vrba, 1999, Sports & Recreation, 206 pages. Southwest British Columbia offers a tremendous opportunity for outstanding mountain bike adventure. This guide provides the information cyclists of all levels need to get out

Baffin Island , Mark Synnott, 2008, Sports & Recreation, 240 pages. Baffin Island, by world-renowned adventurer, filmmaker and writer Mark Synnott, is the first comprehensive guide to Canada's largest island (fifth largest in the world), which

A Guide to Climbing & Hiking in Southwestern British Columbia , Bruce Fairley, Sep 1, 1986, , 385 pages. The definitive guide to hundreds of trails and peaks in the scenic mountains in mainland southwestern British Columbia and on Vancouver Island..

World heritage archaeological sites and urban centres, Unesco, IntesaBci, 2002, , 383 pages. A tour of forty-six of the world's most important archaeological sites uses rich color photography and fascinating text to highlight historical areas worthy of preservation

Ron Kay's guide to Zion National Park everything you always wanted to know about Zion National Park but didn't know who to ask, Ron Kay, Apr 1, 2008, Sports & Recreation, 128 pages. A user-friendly reference by an interpretive park ranger instructs new and returning visitors on a wide array of topics, from trip planning and historical points of interest to

Backcountry Bear Basics The Definitive Guide to Avoiding Unpleasant Encounters, Dave Smith, 2006, Nature, 157 pages. * Practical strategies for avoiding dangerous bear encounters * Debunks commonly held myths about people and bears * Provides tested strategies to help you avoid conflict with

Photographing Yellowstone National Park Where to Find Perfect Shots and How to Take Them, Gustav W. Verderber, Jun 1, 2007, , 87 pages. A resource for everyday visitors addresses topics of concern pertaining to photographing the region's most noteworthy landscapes and wildlife, in an amateur photographer's

A comprehensive hiking guide book for the largest national park in the United States. Contains descriptions for 50 hikes, and a wealth of valuable hints and tips. Wrangell-St. Elias National Park which is located in southcentral Alaska encompasses 13.2 million acres of unsurpassed wilderness. The book also provides information for services available within and around the park including bus services, air taxis and guide services. Also includes contact numbers for visitor information including the national park and local communities.

Danny Kost grew up in southern Indiana, and came to Alaska in 1984 on a two week vacation. During that vacation, he fell in love with Alaska. That first trip was a guided two-week glacier seminar on the Root and Kennicott Glaciers near McCarthy in the heart of Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. The next two years he was in graduate school, but returned to McCarthy to work as an apprentice and assistant guide each summer. In 1987, he became a partner in St. Elias Alpine Guides based in McCarthy and spent the next five seasons guiding hiking and climbing trips within the park. He moved to Alaska full-time in 1989. In 1992, he gave up guiding full-time and returned to engineering and consulting work. However, he has continued to climb, hike and explore the park. He has completed the first ascent of numerous peaks within the park including Mts. Anderson, Tittmann, and The Presidents Chair. Mr. Kost has also hiked and climbed in the eastern, central and western United States, Canada and Switzerland. He splits his time between Anchorage and his cabin in McCarthy. He is currently working on a climbing guide book for the park.

Danny Kost grew up in southern Indiana, and came to Alaska in 1984 on a vacation. During that first trip to Alaska, Danny took a two-week guided glacier seminar on the Root and Kennicott Glaciers near McCarthy with Bob Jacobs, and fell in love with Alaska and Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. He returned the next year as an apprentice guide, and has been exploring the park ever since.

In the years since, Danny has explored much of the park on many hiking and climbing adventures. He considers himself lucky to have been able to make the first ascent of many peaks within the park including Mount Anderson, Mount Leeper, Mount Tittmann, Frederika Mountain, The Presidents Chair, Pyramid Peak, Needle Mountain, Hanagita Peak, and numerous unnamed peaks of over 11,000-feet in elevation. Although he has made ascents on some of the higher peaks within the park, he prefers the lower elevation peaks of 12,000-feet or less. Danny has also made first ascents of several ice climbs within the park. He considers Wrangell-St. Elias home and continues to explore new areas in this vast wilderness each year.

In 2000, Danny finished the first edition of "Hiking in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park"; and in 2004 the second edition was published. It is currently available through the online bookstore of the Alaska Natural History Association. He is now working on a climbing guide to the park, which is turning into another long-range project.

Thankfully, there is Nebesna Road, one of only 2 roads that go into the park. The road itself is rough and potholed but it is worth the time to do the entire road for sightseeing the day before you actually backpack and/or day hike. To decide where to go, your best bet is to get Mr. Kost's book (see above).

When we got back from our overnigher, the next day we did a day hike up the Caribou Creek Trail, one of the few trails that are clearly marked. It started raining heavy again, but thankfully there was a dilapidated hut at the end to hang out in till it stopped. At the end is a beautiful valley but the hike itself was nothing to write home about.

This area is for experienced backpackers only! A real knowledge of topo maps and navigation is crucial. In this park, you cannot expect that you will be rescued or found right away. You should hike with at least one other person. A wise person will leave their itinerary with the ranger station at the beginning of the road. I urge you to go to my Education page and make sure you have all the necessary skills covered.

Warning: Traveling in Alaska's backcountry can be extremely dangerous and can lead to serious injury or death. This website is only intended as an aid and cannot guarantee safety. No trail guide can be completely accurate so hikers must accept and judge for themselves the dangers posed by each trip they choose to undertake. By using this site you accept the risk and sole responsibility for your safety and the safety of those you affect. I urge you to use all available resources to educate yourself on the particular trails you will be on as well as general wilderness safety and first aid.

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