



ECHO BAY
OWL WALL—CENTRE

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Although Loving Cup and Fight The Fire are described as two-pitch climbs, they are best enjoyed as long, single pitches. The mid-station anchors for all climbs on Owl Wall Centre are there to facilitate lowering/rappelling with 60 or 70-metre ropes. For maximum enjoyment, an 80-metre will reach the ground from the top anchors of all three of these climbs. And of course you can always do them as two-pitch climbs if the 45m pitches are too long for you.

What length rope are you using?

60-Metre

With a 60-metre rope, you'll need to belay the second climber from the top anchors then do two rappels. One rappel from the top anchor then one from the mid anchor.

70-Metre

With a 70-Metre rope, the leader can climb these three routes in a single pitch to the top anchor then lower down to the mid-station and belay the second climber from there (top-rope style). Once the second climber reaches the top, they can be lowered to the ground and the leader then does only one rappel from the mid-station. Of course you can always belay from the top too, the view is amazing!

80-Metre

So you've got an 80-metre rope, lucky you! With an 80-metre rope, you can climb these three routes in a single pitch then lower to the ground from the top anchor. Make sure your rope hasn't been chopped as an 80-metre just makes it.

1. Loving Cup

10d | Sport

In 1-Pitch • 10d | 45m | 20 Draws + Anchors

In 2-Pitches • 2p (10c, 10d) | 11 Draws + Anchors

Douglas Sproul, May 2018

Pitch 1 (10c, 26m, 11 Bolts + Anchor)

An easy start leads to a large ledge where the good climbing begins. Pull the first overhang which is easier than it looks and into the first difficult section for a few bolts, working the corner and arete, great climbing! Above the corner, the angle eases and at 26m, the 1st anchor will be on your right in an alcove. Either belay from here to do the climb in two pitches or skip the anchor and continue to the top.

Pitch 2 (10d, 19m, 9 Bolts + Anchor)

Pull the small overhang directly off the belay and into some nice, easier face climbing. The difficulty gradually increases the closer to the anchor you get, the ever present; 'Echo Bay sting-in-the-tail'. The last few bolts is the crux of the climb. Amazing rock, holds, movement and position, you'll be laybacking & stemming the upper section, looking across your shoulder to the view of the mighty Columbia River, just awesome!

Combining Pitch 1 & 2 = 45m, 20 Draws + Anchors

A 70m rope will reach the top anchor (45m) where the leader can then be lowered to the 1st anchor (an additional 19m/Total: 45+19=64m) if they prefer to belay from there although the view from the top is spectacular. An **80m rope** will just reach the ground from the top anchor. Tie a knot in the end of your rope BEFORE trying!

2. Fight The Fire *(Renamed - Formerly known as "Wilson")*

11b | Sport

In 1-Pitch • 11b | 45m | 20 Draws + Anchors *Long slings required if combining pitch 1 & 2

In 2-Pitches • 2p | 11b, 11b | 12 Draws + Anchors

Douglas Sproul, October 2018

Pitch 1 (11b, 27m, 12 Bolts + Anchor)

Another easy start leads into the large block/corner on Loving Cup. After pulling over the block, traverse slightly right then up and into the corner system to the right of the Loving Cup corner. Sweet climbing through the corner. The difficulty eases as it nears the mid-station anchor. Either belay from here to do the climb in two pitches or skip the anchor and continue to the top.

Pitch 2 (11b, 18m, 8 Bolts + Anchor)

Climb up and left, passing an overhang on its left side. The route joins Loving Cup for a couple moves here. It is believed to be possible to ascend a more aesthetic, direct line, without traversing left at the overhang. The bolt-ing works for either option. It was just too cold last fall when the route was being built. Have at it! This would raise the difficulty significantly. After the overhang, the climbing varies between sidepulls, underclings, pockets and slabby holds on great rock. And as always at Echo Bay, there's a bit of a sting-in-the-tail.

Combining Pitch 1 & 2 = 45m, 20 Draws + Anchors

A 70m rope will reach the top anchor (45m) where the leader can then be lowered to the 1st anchor (an additional 18m/Total: 45+18=63m) if they prefer to belay from there although the view from the top is spectacular.

3. Feed The Flame

12a-Unconfirmed | Sport | 40m | 22 Draws *x3 long slings = best but optional

Douglas Sproul, June 2019

12a grade is unconfirmed, awaiting consensus. The 2nd and 10th clips are there so this climb would not receive an R rating (Runout). Experienced climbers can either skip them or un-clip them after next bolt is clipped for less rope drag. Rope drag is also manageable if all you have are shorter draws, it works without the 3 long slings but it works better with them.

Climb the slab to the first small corner to another slab. Aim left at the roof and pull into the corner that leads to the left side of the square block. Pull over the block on its left side. There's a bolt here to protect the traverse to the next bolt, unclip it after you get the next bolt clipped to reduce rope drag.

Climb some easier ground to the steep headwall where the difficulties increase. The crux is where the headwall breaks over to the face above. A couple of crucial knee-bars will make this section easier. After the crux, the climb continues on superb rock with mind-bending movement, an awesome finish! And of course, it has a sting-in-the -tail.

Lower 10m to the mid-station anchor. Rappel or lower (30m) from there.

3a. Closed Project - Feed The Flame Variation

4. Closed Project

5. Closed Project

6. Stoke Roasted

12c | Sport | 27m | 13 Draws

Douglas Sproul, July 2018

Can be done with a 60m rope but be certain that it's a full 60m and it hasn't been chopped. The lower off deposits the climber well below the landing pad. Tie a knot in the end of your rope if it's a 60m. If back-cleaning, it's a clean swing. Schwing!

First four bolts are 5.7-5.10 climbing. After that, the difficulty increases as you ascend. Bolts 5-9 consists of 5.10 to 5.11 climbing with a couple tricky spots that take some thinking to unlock. At bolt 10, the climb utilizes the arete on stellar holds/sequences to gain the roof.

At the roof, it works back a bit left to finish on balancy moves utilizing small pockets, knee-bars, a shitty side-pull and delicate movement. Barn-doory to exit the crux. And just when you go to pull the roll-over to the anchor and you're thinking it's gonna get easier, it doesn't: The classic Echo Bay sting-in-the-tail! Bolts 10 to the anchor is 5.12 climbing with the crux being at 11-13.