

# FIRST ASCENT

said she had more stamina than he did in the rugged backcountry where they spent so much of their time.

On Waddington, the Mundays took their climbing marriage to new heights, but beyond the big peak, the entire range has proven fertile ground for Northwest climbers and skiers for eight decades. During the early era, pioneering climbers warmed by Eddie Bauer down pushed into deep, rugged terrain to earn backbreaking first ascents. Pete Schoening and John Dudra completed the first ascent of Mt. Saugstad in 1951. Then Schoening, Dick McGowan and a team of ten completed the first ascent of a new route on King Peak in 1952. In 1953 McGowan went back to complete the first ascent of Mt. Cook. Sharpening skills and testing limits, these missions served as a catalyst to help launch their climbs during the golden age of Himalayan mountaineering.

More than just the inspiration for one era of firsts, the Coast Range has existed as a personal testing ground for generations of climbers and has remained the crown jewel of Canadian ski mountaineering. The approaches are still challenging, the peaks are still rugged, the terrain is still heavily glaciated, and the weather is still brutal. The hazards still exist and the isolation has remained. So even now the Waddington massif sees only five to ten groups a season who come to climb and ski the classic routes. Yet for the millions of Seattle and Vancouver residents who live within striking distance, these peaks represent a serious challenge and welcome refuge that remain defiantly untamed.

Not all regions have a similar range, but the rugged, wild places in each of our backyards help maintain passion for adventure. From the moment he opened his first outdoor shop in Seattle, our founder shared that same drive, as did the decades of mountaineers and explorers who warmed themselves with Bauer down. Nine decades later, our brand still stands for adventure. Objectives shift and styles change, but at Eddie Bauer, the roots of who we are remain firmly planted in the terrain of our own Northwest backyard, and adventure is our constant. That truth drives our brand forward into the next decade of exploration. Why, you ask? Because it's there.



## 36 GEAR OF THE YEAR

### THE ALCHEMIST AND THE KATABATIC EARN SERIOUS RECOGNITION

When our brand began building gear again in recent years, the industry was skeptical, even though Eddie Bauer has a distinguished history of constructing world-class gear. By harnessing the expertise of some of the world's most accomplished guides, Eddie Bauer First Ascent forged an entire line of packs, tents and sleeping bags that stacks up against the best brands in the outdoors. It wasn't an easy task: our Katabatic alone took three years of testing and development to get right. The result was worth the wait, and the proof is in the accolades we've accumulated, including two Gear of the Year awards in the same season.

### OUR CREED

To give you such outstanding quality, value, service and guarantee that we may be worthy of your high esteem.™

### OUR GUARANTEE

Every item we sell will give you complete satisfaction or you may return it for a full refund.™

## 20 ALL-ACCESS RIDING

### BIG LINES BY ANY AVAILABLE MEANS

First Ascent ski team approaches via skintrack, snowmobile, snowcat and heli



## 22 WASHINGTON NINES

### KYLE MILLER RIDES THE NONVOLCANIC 10

Splitboard descents of Washington's most rugged peaks and long trips deep into the heart of the North Cascades

## 28 WORKWEAR PARTNERS

### OPERATIONAL TOUGHNESS

New line of First Ascent mountain workwear gets put to the test at three backcountry skiing outfits



## 34 KAYAK GREENLAND

### RUNNING THE ARCTIC OUTFLOW

Stokesberry and Korbulic charge 37-degree water and first descents in Norway and Greenland's fjords

## 46 SUN VALLEY ADAPTIVE SPORTS

### INSPIRATION THROUGH THE OUTDOORS

First Ascent guides Peter Whittaker, Reggie Crist and Zach Crist help enable adaptive participation



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and check it out!

