

# Snow slows Totem Rally 2006



Ron Sorem photos

Glenn Wallace and R. Dale Kraushaar glide through the night at Helena Lake. They finished second overall.

**BY RON SOREM**  
*Contributing editor*

CACHE CREEK, B.C. — The West Coast Rally Association and Rallymaster Richard Lynch presented the 2006 Totem Rally Nov. 18 and 19, the final round of the Pacific Coast Challenge Rally Championship and final round of the BC TSD Rally Championship.

Twenty-five cars left Cache Creek under overcast skies, expecting gravel, frost, slush, snow and iced ruts. Five more crews volunteered to keep track of participants.

The 89-km Big Bar Regularity ran northwesterly before turning south along Jesmond Road with a gradual rise-and-fall and a couple of tight 90 turns toward Kelly Lake and into Clinton.

At the start of 77-km Meadow Lake Regularity, Car 24 was missing, causing concern and delay for control crews and Sweep. Eventually the car showed up with a bent front control arm. The run through Meadow Lake, and on to Dog Creek, was filled with ups and downs, sweeping corners, an occasional downed tree partially blocking, then a right at crossroads, speed change down, and “rough” for the first 5 km. This was deep snow now, although the double-90-

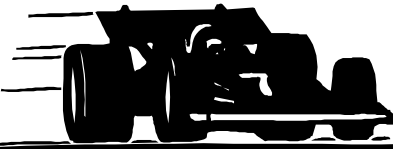
left failed to collect anyone this year. The first “big” tree took up most of the road, the snow deeper, the ruts a bit more troubling.

Helena Lake Regularity covered 72 km with the first 11 km climbing to re-join Meadow Lake at Gustafsen, to repeat the rough section, the double-90-left and the blocking tree, before a right on Tatton FSR and some great challenges in icy corners en route to Lac La Hache. Eventual winners, Car 2, Eric Horst and Steve Willey, in Eric’s “not a Subaru” ‘89 BMW 325iX, mastered the slippy conditions and schooled the field, taking a mere one point in the section. The rest of the front-runner pack accumulated 9- to 12- to 16-points.

Spokin Lake Regularity, covered 68 kms and claimed Car 25, only 2 kms into the section — substantially “off” — three flat tires and only one spare. No radio communication could cover the entire section, so Sweep continued through the course, now very late. The outbound control crew volunteered two spares and followed the limping Legacy, reverse course to Lac La Hache for repairs. Good thing Sweep continued, because he found Car 19 at 22.01 kms. Navigator reported they had “slid 60-plus feet” before entering a culvert.

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