

## **Back in '18**

Dave Broberg built a cargo hitch rack, attached it to his F250, added a used camper shell, and we drove it to Valdez from Cut Bank. Starting in shorts and light shirts.

Many great sights, plus Dave almost got to play with a bear cub while fishing a small stream in the Yukon!

A few minor repairs, a broken tie-down cable from camper to truck being one, repaired (mainly by Dave) in a very cold rain, we made it to our fishing spot on Prince William Sound.

With a freezer -yes a freezer- in the space a back seat had been, we drove our load of freshly caught, quick frozen salmon to Denali, across the Taiga to Chicken, across rivers, and onto the Dempster Highway, Canada's only road that crosses the arctic circle, we bumped and ground our way to Inuvik (750 km) and on to the newly built and opened (2018) pipeline road to Tuktoyaktuk, on the Bering Sea. Road and highways are easily used, harder to negotiate terms for taking a vehicle to the Arctic!

After a Cheeseburger at Grandma's place -the only place- on the sea, along with a plate of fresh muktuk, we camped our way back to civilization, and a soak in a hot spring, which was most pleasing, both to the body and olfactory senses.

6600 miles and 21 days got us back to Cut Bank, to find it was no longer short sleeves and short pants!

Great trip, which, on subsequent drives to Alaska, I find posters in BC advertising raft trips and excursions in and around Inuvik and "Tuk".  
Progress!

Bernard Fricke Brown