

Gothic Basin – Trail

Date Saturday July 30, 2016

Meeting Time: 8:00 AM

Meeting Place: Brickyard Park and Ride Bothel WA.
15530 Juanita-Woodinville Way NE, Bothel

Secondary Meet: Frontier Village, Burger King, Lake Stevens.
8:45 AM.

Leader: Mark Elkin (425-417-8350)

Difficulty Rating: Black (22 points)

Hike Length: 9.2 miles up and back

Elevation Gain: 2840 ft

Trailhead Pass: Northwest Forest

Registration on www.snojoke.org required.



Hike description: A seemingly flat long trail along the Sauk River and then up Weeden Creek. Then, a series of switchbacks that get progressively steeper. There are about 3 impressive waterfalls that the trail crosses below. Some of these stream crossings are a bit steep. Finally near the top, there are some steep sections with big steps. It is, in fact, a trail, but it was put in by miners who seemed to be in a hurry. Crossing over the ridge into Gothic basin reveals a nearly treeless alpine area of rock and usually snow. There are two alpine lakes which we can visit. The hike is strenuous and short sections of the trail require use of hands. Assuming that there isn't any snow, boots or trail runners should work fine. Extra water, sunscreen, hat, and a jacket recommended.

We can get together in either Lake Stevens or Granite Falls after the hike for dinner.

<http://www.wta.org/go-hiking/hikes/gothic-basin>

Directions: Take Hwy 92 to its end in Granite Falls. At the T intersection near the east end of town, turn left onto the Mountain Loop Highway. Follow this road 11 miles to the Verlot Ranger Station for maps, permits, and latest trail information. 19.3 miles past the ranger station is Barlow Pass and the end of paved road. Here you will find a large parking lot on the left (north) side of the road.

Parking is available both on the road and at a Forest Service trailhead parking lot near the end of the paved road. Restrooms are available here as well.