

BENICIA BOY SCOUT TROOP 8

Desolation Wilderness Backpacking

Friday, June 26 – Monday, June 29, 2015



Phipps Peak



Boy Scouts of America – Troop 8
**HAT Desolation Wilderness
Backpacking**

June 26 – 29, 2015

Outing Information

Schedule:

Pack Inspection	Wednesday, June 24, 7:00 p
Forms Due Date	Friday, June 26 (at check-in)
Check-in	Friday, June 26, 10:00 am
Return	Monday, June 29, Afternoon
Meeting Place	Benicia Community Center 401 East K Street

Contacts:

Trip Organizer	Asa Goldsmith, Trek SPL Email: ajgsonic@gmail.com 707-649-2222
Supervising Adult	David Kensiski, HAT Advisor Email: david@kensiski.org 707-747-9663
Quartermaster	Jim Butts Email: buttsjo@yahoo.com 707-297-6029

Description: This is a three-night backpacking trip to Desolation Wilderness near Lake Tahoe. We will travel by car to the DL Bliss State Park and camp Friday night to begin acclimating to the altitude. On Saturday, we will shuttle one vehicle to the Eagle Falls trailhead at Emerald Bay, then drive to the Meeks Bay trailhead to begin our trek.

Saturday

- 0.0 Meeks Bay Trailhead (6200)
- 2.3 Wilderness Boundary (6720)
- 4.4 Lake Genevieve (7400)
- 4.8 Crag Lake (7440)
- 6.5 Stony Ridge Lake (7800)

Sunday

- 0.0 Stony Ridge Lake (7800)
- 2.3 Phipps Pass (8800)
- 3.3 South of Phipps Peak (8800)
 - < 1 mile r/t cross country to Phipps Peak (9234)
- 5.8 Middle Velma Lake (7900)

Monday

- 0.0 Middle Velama (7900)
- 1.2 Junction Dicks Pass trail (8200)
- 1.9 Junction Bay View trail (8200)
- 4.5 Eagle Falls trailhead (6600)

Upon return to Emerald Bay we will retrieve the car we left at the Meeks Bay trailhead and drive home.

Note: Our wilderness permit limits our party to a maximum of 10 people. As this is a Philmont preparation hike, priority will be given to members of the Philmont crew. Remaining spots will be opened to other scouts meeting HAT requirements.

US Forest Service Website, Desolation Wilderness:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/eldorado/specialplaces/?cid=fsbdev7_019062

Organizing: We will practice Philmont trekking guidelines. In particular, we will operate as a single crew, bunk two people per tent (i.e. no solo tents), carry 4 liters of water, and pack only the gear necessary for the trek. Refer to your “Philmont 2015 Guidebook to Adventure.”

Packing: This is a Philmont shakedown hike and scouts should pack as they would for Philmont. Each Scout should pack his own backpack. Consult the “Guidebook to Adventure” starting on page 18. The packing list in this document is also included for your reference, but the Guidebook has the official list.

We will hold a mandatory meeting at 7:00pm on Wednesday, June 24th for pack inspection and troop gear distribution. You are expected to bring your fully loaded pack to this meeting.

Electronic devices: The use of smart phones is permitted on this trek, but you are on your honor to ensure that it is being utilized in a manner that only enhances the wilderness experience and does not detract from the adventure. Apps that help wilderness learning such as astronomy, animal tracks/scat/calls, the BSA Handbook, or GPS tracking applications are acceptable. Texting and phone calls must be reserved for emergencies. *Gaming apps and electronic games are strictly forbidden.*

Meals: Scouts will provide and prepare their own individual meals. The troop will provide stoves and pots for boiling water. Scouts are encouraged to bring meals that require only water for preparation. Lightweight backpacking meals are available from either REI or Any Mountain and are strongly recommended. Instant Oatmeal, dry cereal, Pop Tarts, trail mix are other good options.

Scouts should plan the following meals:

- Friday snacks, dinner
- Saturday breakfast, snacks and lunch (on the trail), dinner
- Sunday breakfast, snacks and lunch (on the trail), dinner
- Monday breakfast, snacks (on the trail)

We will be stopping for lunch on the Friday drive up and again on the drive home Monday. Scouts should bring enough cash to purchase these meals. (\$7 - \$10 each meal).

Drinking Water: All crew members must carry 4 liters of drinking water. While this seems a lot for Sierra backpacking, this is a training trek for Philmont and will be following their guidelines. Integrated drinking systems (aka CamelBaks) and refillable water bottles are good choices. The troop will provide filtration systems for refilling water bottles in the back-country. The troop's water filters are designed to screw directly to "Nalgene" style wide-mouth water bottles for easy filling.

Sleeping: We will sleep two crew to a tent or in the open on the ground. We will attempt to provide a practical separation between Scouts and the adults. That is, the Boy Scouts will pitch their tents together, and the adults will pitch their tents at a reasonable distance away from the boys. Scouts may decide for themselves whether to sleep in a tent or on the open ground, but all tents must be shared.

Troop Equipment: The troop has a few tents and backpacks that are available for Scouts to borrow for the weekend. If desired to obtain equipment, please contact the Quartermaster Patty Butts (707-297-6029) as soon as possible to make arrangements.

Advancement Opportunity: Outings are ideal opportunities to work on advancement requirements. The older Scouts will teach, test, and sign-off for the younger Scouts.

Forms: Please complete, sign, and return the following forms to trip organizer on the day of departure:

Each Scout must return these forms, completed and signed:

1. Parent Consent / Permission Form

Each adult must return these forms, completed and signed:

1. Copy of their Youth Protection Training Certificate
 2. Drivers License / Automobile Information Form
- (Hard copies are not required if already on file with troop.)

Cost: The cost for this trip is \$25 per non-driver and covers all wilderness permits, campground fees and gas reimbursement for drivers. It does **not** include meals. Scouts

need to purchase and bring their own meals.

Please deliver payment on the day of departure. Checks should be made payable to "BSA Troop 8".

The Boy-Led Troop: Empowering boys to be leaders is the core of Scouting. Scouts learn by doing, and what they do is lead their patrols and their troop. The boys themselves develop a troop's program, then take responsibility for figuring out how they will achieve their goals. Virtually no other youth program provides a similar opportunity, where a young man takes responsibility for five to ten to thirty boys, and through the struggle of leadership, he grows in mental clarity and character in the process.

Boys enter the Boy Scouts as squirrely kids, and exit as accomplished, competent, and respected young men. From an adult's perspective, watching the planning process of a Scout event, a process executed by youth, will look fraught with mis-steps, half-communications, hesitations, and questionable decisions. And, at times, situations will have the appearance of a lack of supervision. Please exercise your calm patience to allow their learning process to occur, giving them wide latitude to make mistakes, correct and learn from them. The Scout leaders (Senior Patrol Leader) review the plans with the Scoutmaster (or Assistant Scoutmaster) prior to the event or meeting, and then they take charge of the. After the event, they meet again with the Scoutmaster to reflect on their success, effectiveness, and on the experience they provided for the rest of the Scouts. Then, they see what can be improved for next time. Please remember, that in Boy Scouts, the adults are not the leaders. The Senior Patrol Leader and the Patrol Leaders are the leaders. Therefore, the adults must, as much as possible, defer all "leading" to the Scouts who are the leaders. You, as a parent, will see many "opportunities for improvement" among the boys' methods. Please feel free to bring these to the attention of the Scoutmaster. Then he will encourage the Scout leader (or in some cases, insist) that they make the adjustments for better results.

Desolation Wilderness

Backpacking Checklist

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack | <input type="checkbox"/> Tent, fly & footprint |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack rain cover | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping pad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compass & map | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking shorts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matches | <input type="checkbox"/> Short sleeve shirt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket knife or multi-tool | <input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirt & pants (sweats) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Thermal underwear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses | <input type="checkbox"/> Underwear |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Socks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight or headlamp | <input type="checkbox"/> Swim suit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bear bag & hanging line (50') | <input type="checkbox"/> Hat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trash bags | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking boots |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper and small trowel | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof rain shell (windbreaker) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Mosquito net |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal first aid kit (include moleskin!) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunblock, chapstick (SPF-15) | <u>Food for Trek:</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellant (Deet) | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail mix & snacks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletries (toothbrush, paste, personal meds, eye care, etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday breakfast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small towel | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday trail lunch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biodegradable soap | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday dinner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baby / talcum powder | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday breakfast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary wipes | <input type="checkbox"/> Money for two fast food stops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle/camelback (4 liters) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water filter * | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpacking stove * | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel * | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking pot & spoon | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eating utensils (cup, bowl, spoon) | |

This list is for convenience only. Please consult your "Philmont 2015 Guidebook to Adventure", page 18, for the official packing list.

* These items are troop gear

BOY SCOUT TROOP 8
Boy Scouts of America, Benicia, CA 94510

PARENT CONSENT/PERMISSION FORM

Name of Scout _____

Description of Activity: HAT Desolation Wilderness Backpacking

Depart: Friday, June 26, 2015, 10:00am, Community Center

Return: Monday, June 29, 2015, late afternoon, Community Center

In consideration of the benefits to be derived, and in view of the fact that Boy Scouts of America is an educational organization, membership in which is voluntary, and having full confidence that every precaution will be taken to ensure the safety and well being of my son(s)/ward(s) during this activity or trip, I hereby agree to his (their) participation and waive all claims against the leaders of this activity or trip, officers, agents, and representatives of the Boy Scouts of America.

In case of Emergency, I understand every effort will be made to contact me. In an event that I cannot be reached, I hereby give my permission to the physician selected by the adult leader in charge to secure proper treatment, which may include dentistry, hospitalization, anesthesia, surgery, or injections of medication for the above mentioned Scout at the nearest hospital or doctor/dentist.

In the event of an emergency, or need for medical treatment, the troop unit leader of the activity has my permission to obtain medical treatment for the above-mentioned Scout at the nearest hospital or doctor, at my expense, if our doctor is not readily available, and as restricted on the Emergency Data Sheet on file with the Troop, or as indicated below.

Parent's Signature _____

Parent's Name _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ **Date:** _____

In case of emergency, I can be reached at any time during this activity at the following phone numbers:

(____) _____ or (____) _____

Name of family doctor _____

Family doctor's telephone number (____) _____

This Scout is highly sensitive or allergic to _____

What, if any, medication is this Scout taking? _____

Special instructions for this medication _____

Please advise the trek leader of any special medical needs. The trek leader reserves the final authority to carry and administer this medication.

Please use the space below for additional medical information the activity leader should be aware of.

Medical Insurance Information:

Company _____

Policy Number _____

Control No. _____

Other _____

Note: A mandatory "shake down" meeting may be held at the discretion of the trek leader. Any scout not attending the meeting will not be allowed on the trek, unless prior arrangements are made with the trek leader.

Desolation Wilderness

1 0 1 MILE





Drive 169 miles, 2 h 57 min

Directions from **Interstate 780** to **D.L. Bliss State Park**

○ Interstate 780

Benicia, CA 94510

Take **I-680 N** and **I-80 E** to **US-50 E** in Sacramento

59.8 mi / 53 min

- ↑ 1. Head **southeast** on **I-780**
0.4 mi
- ↘ 2. Take exit **7A** to merge onto **I-680 N** toward **Fairfield/Sacramento**
12.8 mi
- ↘ 3. Take exit **71A** toward **I-80 E/Sacramento**
0.4 mi
- ↑ 4. Merge onto **I-80 E**
29.0 mi
- ↙ 5. Keep **left** at the fork to stay on **I-80 E**
12.1 mi
- ↙ 6. Keep **left** at the fork to continue on **I-80BUS E/US-50 E/Capital City Freeway**, follow signs for **Interstate 80 Business/Sacramento/South Lake Tahoe**
5.2 mi

Continue on **US-50 E**. Drive to **Lester Beach Rd** in El Dorado County

109 mi / 2 h 4 min

- ↑ 7. Continue onto **US-50 E**
98.2 mi
- ↑ 8. Continue onto **CA-89 N/Emerald Bay Rd**
10.8 mi
- ↘ 9. Turn **right** onto **Lester Beach Rd**
0.2 mi

⦿ D.L. Bliss State Park

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.

