

SUMMIT LAKE

Tuesday, September 17, 2026

GENERAL LOCATION: Hwy 80 near Boreal ski resort.

DIFFICULTY: This will be a moderate hike on an in and out trail at 7000 feet elevation.

HIKE DISTANCE: 6 miles

ELEVATION: About 550 feet elevation gain to a maximum of 7,450' **PACE:** Moderate, with frequent stops to observe the geological formations and history

TRAIL CONDITIONS:

Mostly dirt with some rocks and roots – some areas with large granite steps and loose rock.

DESCRIPTION:

We will meander through the heart of Summit Lake where we'll encounter granite rock (pluton) that is 117 million years old and is peppered with xenoliths, (a rock fragment that becomes enveloped in a larger rock). The granite was scoured and polished during the Tioga Glaciation about 20,000 years ago and is part of the much larger Sierra batholith, (an irregularly shaped body of igneous rock that forms deep within the earth's crust). The trail also crosses the Tahoe-Sierra Frontal fault zone that is considered an active Fault which exhibits vertical displacement. We'll hike in wooded areas, cross a lush meadow and arrive at a beautiful Summit Lake, where we'll have our lunch/snack and then return on the same trail.

TRAVEL TIME / DISTANCE: One hour and 15 minutes; 7.5 miles. A donation of \$12 is suggested. Directions will be provided for drivers.

HIKE LEADER : Marilyn McCullough **SWEEP:** Tess Devenish or Susan Mulloy

SPECIAL NOTES:

FACILITIES: Pit toilets at the trailhead.

PREPARATION FOR HIKE:

1. Bring a copy of your ID (driver's license), health card, and an emergency contact phone number with you when you hike.
2. If you have any health issues, please consider your condition before hiking.
3. Always bring 2 pairs of shoes, along with a plastic bag to store your muddy/dusty boots after the hike.

4. Bring lunch/snack, water, and hiking boots. Trekking poles are recommended.

QUESTIONS: Call Marilyn McCullough – 916-899-3432

MEETING TIME: 6:45 a.m. row 14 Orchard Creek. **LEAVE TIME** 7:00 a.m.

DIRECTIONS: Take HWY 80 east towards Truckee. Exit #176, Castle Peak/Boreal. Turn right & drive a short distance to stop sign, turn left and drive appx. ½ mile to the parking lot and trail head at the end of the road. Pit restrooms are located in the parking lot.

Or Navigate to: Donner Summit SNO-Park
19455 Bunny Hill Dr, Soda Springs, CA 95728