

Shoreline, WA 98133

(206) 363-0859

## 8/1 PRATT LAKE BACK SIDE ACCESS TRAIL

This trail up the Pratt Lake drainage is a beautiful trail walk for those who love river valley ambles. This hiking route to the lake was abandoned years ago because of the much shorter access from the Snoqualmie Pass trailhead which was only six miles in instead of more than a dozen. This however makes this old trail more quiet than most in this area. The Pratt River connector trail was built back in 2012 from the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River bridge. Prior to this you had to ford (read that swim across) the mighty Middle Fork Snoqualmie River. The new trail connector is a beautifully built WTA project built partly by some of the same people that built the famous Kendall Katwalk on the PCT east of Snoqualmie Pass back in the 1970's. The connector follows the Snoqualmie for about three miles before taking a left hand turn up the Pratt River Valley which it follows for another seven or eight miles. The total elevation gain is only about a thousand feet but that does not limit the wonderful waterfalls, and lovely green pools, along the way, which may tempt the hiker to dangle their tired feet in the current. There are several other options from this trailhead for any interested in a little more elevation gain. Almost immediately south of the bridge over the Middle Fork is the Stegosaurus Butte trail which climbs almost 1,000' in about three quarters of a mile, for immediate vistas of the Taylor River/Snoqualmie junction area. Just past this junction is another which takes you to Rainy Lake which entails 2,700' gain in a 12 mile round trip, on a very quiet and little used (and little maintained) trail. Lots of options here! Provided: transit, maps. Date 8/1 Cost \$51

\*Summer 2020 Covid-19 Precautions: We will be limiting participation to 50% capacity on trips this summer. The transit van will be sterilized before and after each trip we do. The corona virus is mostly spread during prolonged indoor contact rarely in the outdoors, so travel distances will be limited to a maximum of 1:15 hr. Masks will be required on all participants, and hand washing before entering the vehicle. All personal gear will be kept in the back not in the seating area, and we will try to keep extraneous stops to a minimum. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available for those who need it. Please do not come if you feel sick in any way: dry cough, fatigue, nausea, loss of smell/taste, sore throat, headache, temperature, etc. A full refund will be provided for any who have symptoms or have had any recent contact with the virus. (Please see update on back)



MAIL THE FORM BELOW WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP & DONATION To: One World Outing Club; 14810 Linden Ave. N.; Shoreline, WA 98133 Annual Membership is \$20 (www.outingclub.org)

Name:		Trip Title:	Enclosed \$:,
Address:			
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I the above signed understand that there are risks and hazards involved in active sports including the activities I will be participating in with One World Outing Club. I accept these risks as my responsibility and agree to release One World Outing Club, their representatives, guides, and associates from any liability for accidents or injuries which may occur during or traveling to and from said activities.

Current Covid-19 situation and trip logistics modifications to accommodate:

I originally anticipated that by the first of August we would have the Coronavirus largely contained in our area or at least on the tail end of the decline curve. This has not happened here as it has in much of Europe and Canada. It appears to be infecting younger people 20-40 as much as the older (more wary) generations this time around. Washington State Governor Insley is now stopping the reopening plan, recommending gatherings of no more than 10 people (down from 50), and advocating face masks be worn by everyone.

Because of the continuing risk I no longer think that it is a good idea to run our summer as hoped, in particular the car pooling part gathered together in the club van. For now we will try to keep the schedule we have but everyone will have to drive themselves separately. I will put the driving directions and rough trail map on the back of the trip sheets on the web for anyone who is interested in the destinations. On the Outing Club trips we do I will be requiring face masks whenever people are hiking or sitting together even outdoors. While normal breathing in close proximity for short periods may not infect others, even if you are asymptomatic positive, heavy breathing like when exerting yourself coughing or sneezing can infect others quite easily.

Please feel free to print out the directions and do these trips on your own schedule. This is encouraged as most of these destinations were picked specifically because they are often less traveled places, and perhaps even quieter on midweek days, they are also fairly close to home and pretty easy drives. Those who come with the club I would ask that you sign up as I will be limiting the participation numbers to conform with state recommendations (and will ask half price \$25/hike to help keep the Club running through this unusual time).

Pratt River Hike Logistics (Northwest Forest Pass, or America the Beautiful pass required (available online)

Driving Directions: Because of the road work on the Taylor River Road over the last half dozen years this is a very nice drive up the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River northeast of North Bend. To get to the trailhead take the Kens Truck Town exit (Exit 34) off of I-90 east bound. Turn north and drive past the gas station and truck stop to where 468th Ave SE bends west. Turn right on SE Middle Fork Rd. and follow it for about 11 and a half miles to the Middle Fork trailhead parking area just before the

pavement ends. Park here and cross the river on the steel and wood bridge and turn right. If you turn left this is the much more popular Middle Fork trail and does not give you access to Rainy Lake or Stegosaurus Butte.

