



*We are human power in action.
We promote wilderness values.
We preserve and protect our public lands.*

Directors and Anonymous Donor Offer \$15,000 Year-End Challenge

Make a donation and it gets doubled

Did you have fun the last time you were out skiing or snowshoeing? Are you looking forward to more wonderful adventures this winter? Don't take it for granted. There are many interests out there that run counter to your enjoyment of the winter backcountry.

Snowlands Network serves as your eyes and ears watching out for the protection of winter wildlands; Snowlands Network serves as your voice when speaking up for the interests of backcountry skiers, snowshoers, snow-players and other muscle-powered winter recreationists who value quiet, pollution free and safety in their recreation; and Snowlands Network represents you when you can't be at the negotiating table.

For these reasons, the Directors at Snowlands Network urge you to make a generous tax-deductible contribution of \$50, \$100, \$200, or whatever you can afford to the 2009 Year-End Campaign.

As a show of dedication to Snowlands Network, *the organization's volunteer Directors have been joined by an anonymous donor in offering a \$15,000 challenge. Make a donation as part of the 2009 Year-End Campaign, and it will be matched dollar for dollar up to a total of \$15,000.*

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Snowlands-On-Snow Returns for Third Year

Join us for a day on the snow in the backcountry

Snowlands-On-Snow is returning this winter with a brand new schedule of backcountry ski and snowshoe trips. The trips vary in difficulty from beginner to intermediate. This year you will also find a backcountry ski course and an introduction to avalanche safety course taught by Alpine Skills International.

Please don't be disappointed by waiting until the last minute to sign up. This year we

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Rubicon Trail Update

Insisting on real progress is top priority

The Cleanup & Abatement Order (CAO) issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Rubicon Trail is a milestone in addressing water pollution caused by wheeled OHV use. This was a huge win and was reported in depth in the [Summer 2009 issue](#) of the Snowlands Bulletin.

Ending the winter conflict in the Loon Lake Winter Recreation Area, which got Snowlands into this fight, is still paramount in our efforts with respect to the CAO. Four-wheel-drive vehicles tearing up ski and snowshoe trails is not acceptable. Snowlands continues to insist that a winter season closure be adopted for the Rubicon Trail to match the one currently in place on all nearby Forest Service dirt roads.

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President's Corner

Marcus Libkind



It was ironic that my daughter Sophie was applying to colleges as I was writing the article on page three about teaching children to ski; teaching her starting from the age of three was certainly the basis for the article. In less than a year she will be off on her own, and I will only have the memories and maybe a few days in the backcountry with her when she comes home to visit.

Making sure that she had fun on our backcountry ski trips was certainly paramount to many of my trips over the years. But in thinking more about it, I realize that the reasons she grew to love our adventures was not much different than why I — and probably you — love to venture out into a snowy wonderland. In the next few paragraphs I attempt to put a finger on the reasons.

For an adult, as well as a child, the number one reason for heading into the winter backcountry must be that it is pure and simple *fun*. Going hand-in-hand with fun are the *rewards*. I think that all other reasons for enjoying an activity as diverse as backcountry skiing or snowshoeing can be listed under fun and rewards, but it's not clear where to list some of them; maybe some fall under both headings.

Leaving our everyday mechanized world behind certainly makes me happy. I can't place what I feel, but certainly it is wrapped up in the *challenge* of being out on my own and relying on my skills. When I'm out there I feel like an *explorer* although I'm usually in a place where many people have gone before and even I have visited before. But with nature no two days are alike. One day you are climbing with the wind and snow in your face on your way to a backcountry hut and another day you are basking in sunshine and enjoying the ease of traveling over spring snow.

Then when I'm on a ridge top looking down or carving a teleturn through knee-deep powder, I'm filled with *exhilaration*. All along I'm treated to unbelievable *beauty*.

And very important to many is the *social aspect* of the whole experience; you share the highs, the lows and all the stimuli that combine to make every adventure unique. And at the end of the day you feel good about the *physical exercise* you have exerted. The throbbing in your legs and arms is a reminder of the accomplishment of the day.

As we begin a new season of winter adventures, take a moment to take stock of why you enjoy the winter backcountry. I bet that your list will include things that can only be had so long as we have quiet, pollution-free and safe places to recreate. If so, please make a generous year-end donation to Snowlands Network as a show of support to all the volunteers at Snowlands for what they do on your behalf. What they do isn't much fun, but it's really important.

Together we can make a difference!



Little Lakes Valley

Courtesy of Marcus Libkind



www.SaveOurSnowlands.org

Snowlands Bulletin

The Snowlands Bulletin is published by volunteer-led Snowlands Network, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Snowlands Network
PO Box 2570
Nevada City, CA 95959
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www.SaveOurSnowlands.org

Mission

We promote opportunities for quality human-powered winter recreation and protect winter wildlands. We educate the public and government agencies about winter recreation and environmental issues.

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A Child's Journey Into the Backcountry

By Marcus Libkind

My heart fills with joy when my teenage daughter asks to join me on a backcountry ski adventure. But having successfully raised her to love a less-than-glamorous sport, a sport much less “cool” than resort snowboarding, doesn’t give me a license to claim I have a “patented method” for success. Certainly one point is statistically poor data. Nevertheless my story has value. Repeatedly stated is the underlying premise that the most important of all things you can do is make every experience memorable and generate a desire to return.

Sophie was three years old on her first ski trip. That day she skied about 100 yards. The rest of the day was spent playing in the snow and pulling her in a sled. Each successive year the tours grew longer and more difficult. One spring day at Badger Pass Ski Resort one telemark turn linked to the next, to the next and to the next. The next week Sophie packed her gear into Ostrander Ski Hut in the Yosemite backcountry and skied the ridges in deep powder during a freak spring snowstorm. She was 11 years old and I haven’t been able to keep up with her since.

The lesson is a simple one – a child’s parents play a major role in molding a child’s love for the backcountry. But simply dragging them along on “your” trips is not the road to success. Success requires sacrifices on your part, but in the end the rewards greatly outweigh the sacrifices.

Think of the process as a very long backcountry tour. Thinking in advance about the distance and all the difficulties along the route can be daunting. But taken a short distance at a time, through a patch of dense woods, across a creek or over a difficult ridge, one step at a time brings you piece-wise closer and closer to your goal. Eventually all that remains is to look back in awe of the journey and the accomplishment. The journey is well worth your effort and the accomplishment will make your child a very special person.

Here are eight tips on making the journey with your child a wonderful experience for all.

Plan every trip around your child. It goes without saying that the length and difficulty should be appropriate. The biggest turnoff for a youngster is being pushed beyond their limit, which might not be their physical limit. Over time your trips will become more challenging.

It is okay to ask if a child wants to go farther. If you do, take “no” seriously. The worst thing you can do is belittle them for wanting to turn around. In time they will want to go farther because they can and they know that they can trust your judgment.

Remember that children “don’t tire gradually,” they “hit the wall.” You need to continually assess their level of energy and turn around sufficiently early to make it back to the car with a smile. The last thing you want to happen is for your child to poop-out



Family and friends on tour to Azalea Lake and Flora Lake

Courtesy of Marcus Libkind

with a mile remaining ahead.

Plan fun things to do on your tour. Snacks and lunch are good reasons to stop, but building a snowman and a snowball fight are definitely the best. Let them cream you with a snowball and they will surely have memories of a good trip. This is one time that you don’t want to think like an adult.

Always have contingency plans for your trip. What are you going to do if the weather is poor or something else goes wrong? What else is there to do in the area? This might be a perfect time to treat the family to a few hours of inner-tubing at a downhill ski resort. Many resort areas have great shopping, and hours can be spent looking for the perfect hat “for them.” And sometimes it’s a perfect opportunity for the family to cozy up in front of a fire and enjoy a board game or video together.

Kids don’t deal well with being cold and hot. They also don’t think about the consequences of getting totally wet while playing in the snow.

More often than not, having the right clothes and spare clothes will make or break a trip. Waterproof bibs, gaiters and warm socks are a starting point. Carry at least one spare pair of socks and spare layers for their upper and lower body. Spare gloves and mitts are the most important items you will be carrying – two spare pairs sound like plenty, but consider carrying a third!

Food means energy and warmth. Most children don’t eat a big meal and then exercise for hours on end. They tend to snack, and you need to be prepared for this. Having food and water easy for your child to get is a must. Make sure they have some tasty morsel in their pocket that they can snack on. If your child

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Orion Trail Started and Boundary Trail Improved

Trail crew sees first snowfall of year

The October 3-4, 2009 Orion Trail marking event was cut short by a day when an early snow storm hit on Saturday night leaving two inches of snow at 6500-foot Loon Lake Campground, where volunteers were spending the night. The Orion Trail is a figure-8 loop trail that will add an assortment of opportunities in the Loon Lake area off Highway 50 for skiers and snowshoers when completed.

The hearty crew of eight marked one-and-a-half miles of new trail on Saturday. Brush, sometimes chest deep, made the going difficult and slow, but they persevered. Fortunately, the winter snowfall makes travel through the area easy. The goal is to complete the trail marking either this winter or next summer. Stay tuned for more on this.



Shane installs new blue diamond

Courtesy of Monte Hendricks

By October 17, the date of the Boundary Trail maintenance project, most of the snow from two weeks prior was gone. On this crisp Saturday morning 19 volunteers met at Carson Pass ready

for work. With six ladder-teams and two people brandishing pole saws, the crew was able to completely remark the Boundary Trail. Once difficult to follow through trees that are at times dense, now the trail is well marked. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Snowlands Network, P.O. Box 2570, Nevada City, CA 95959 to receive a Highway 88 Trail Guide that includes the location of the Boundary Trail.



Tim and David head back after busy day marking Orion Trail

Courtesy of Nancy Platt

Rich and Nancy Platt from El Dorado Nordic Ski Patrol lead the volunteers on the Orion Trail, and Monte and Julie Hendricks from the Ski Patrol lead the volunteers on the Boundary Trail. The other volunteers were:

- Bernadette Balics
- Ken Condreva
- Heather Dooley
- Mike Dooley
- Jim Gibson (both events)
- Janet Hoffmann
- Shane Horton (both events)
- Kevin Hudnall
- Susan Kotler
- Marcus Libkind (both events)
- Lupine (the pooch)
- Bob Mason
- David McQuate (both events)
- Dianne Miller
- Susan Minneman
- Barry Morgan
- Crystal Rowland
- Mike Servino
- Karen Theisen
- Dallas Vaughn

\$15,000 Year-End Challenge

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Our efforts on your behalf are challenged both by economic short-falls in the nonprofit sector, and as the Forest Service and other agencies continue to avoid dealing with clear conflicts between those who cherish the opportunity to travel through snow country in solitude and those who claim the right to spread noise, pollution and devastation throughout our public lands.

Your year-end donation right now will help tremendously to overcome these challenges!

Help us meet the Challenge! Make your year-end donation by December 31 and it will be doubled. Don't miss this opportunity.

Don't Forget Your Company's Matching Donation Program

Join other Snowlands Network members in making their donations go further through their company's matching gift programs. Hewlett Packard, Adobe Systems and Sun Microsystems are a few of the companies that will match employee donations. Make your donation to Snowlands Network go further by taking advantage of these programs.

A Child's Journey

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is carrying their own pack, have them carry their own food and water. Outfit them with a hydrator so that they can sip whenever they want. Most important, cater to their palette; bring foods that you know they like and will want to eat. This is also an opportunity to have them participate in the trip planning – have them plan their own food for the day.

Providing your child with good quality skis, boots, bindings and poles may be the single most important step you can take to ensure that they have a wonderful trip and ensure that their skill level grows with each new trip. Unfortunately, time and again I see children on inappropriate equipment while their parents have the best of everything.

The number one mistake parents make is taking their children out with skis that are the wrong size – usually too long. You can't expect a child to have fun on skis that are a foot too long. I doubt that you would enjoy a ski trip on 215 cm skis if you should be on 190s. Boots that are too small lead to sore and cold feet while boots that are too large reduces a child's control of their skis.

It is easy to find short skis for children that are suitable for touring on modest terrain during their early years. As your child's ski ability increases you may be challenged by the task of finding metal-edged skis for them if they require less than 160 or 170 cm. Be aware that most of the shorter skis on the market are very wide and designed for adult weights.

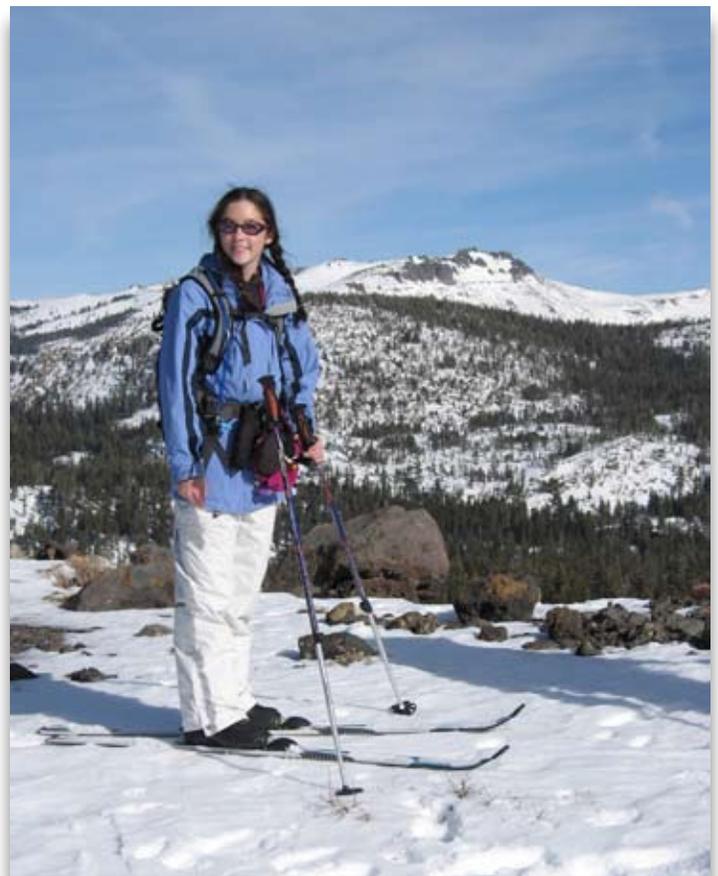
My solution to outfitting Sophie with 120 cm metal-edged

skis with plenty of side-cut was to purchase the correct size downhill skis and router-in a no-wax pattern. Doing this is a lot of work, but putting out the time and energy will allow your child to reach a new plateau in their skiing ability. Visit www.backcountryskitours.com/pages/general/router_skis.htm for details on how to router a no-wax pattern.

You might be lucky and get a couple of years of use out of your child's skis or boots before they have to be replaced. Look for slightly used equipment to hold down expenses. You might also be able to rent equipment, but from experience I know that my daughter thrived knowing that she had her own equipment just like her parents.

Downhill skiing is good practice. Downhill skiing can be an important tool in a child's progression from beginner backcountry skier to carving turns in the backcountry. Downhill skiing gives a child the opportunity to learn how to control their speed and basic turns that can be transferred to the backcountry. There will be an obvious right time for them to begin to practice telemark turns at the resort; it's the ideal place for them to learn by mimicking your turns.

Ski often. The more often they ski, the better your child will ski. The better your child skis, the more fun they will have. The more fun they have, the more they will want to ski with you. Close your eyes and imagine you and your child reveling in the snow on your favorite tour. It's worth every sacrifice you have to make!



Along route from Tragedy Springs to Plasse on Highway 88
Courtesy of Marcus Libkind

Snowlands-On-Snow

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have set strict limits on the number of participants on each trip.

We hope that you will join us this year on the snow. All trips are free unless otherwise noted. You will receive more detailed information upon signing up.

Saturday, December 12, 2009

Snowshoe exploration of Nancy Lake loop

Intermediate, 5 miles round trip, +1000/-1000 feet

Location: At Kingvale on Interstate 80 west of Donner Summit

Secluded Nancy Lake, set beneath a granite cliff, is the destination, but the highlight will be the exploration of an alternate return route that will ascend Peak 7053. This trip will be rescheduled if there is inadequate snow. Limit: 10 participants. Leader: Marcus Libkind, malibkind@snowlands.org or 925-455-5816.

Saturday, January 9, 2010

Ski to Faith Valley

Beginner-intermediate, 3-4 miles round trip, +350/-350 feet

Location: Hope Valley on Highway 88

Enjoy skiing through trees and descending a small hill into Faith Valley, where you are treated to beautiful views. A wonderful introduction to skiing beyond groomed trails and roads. Limit: 5. Leader: Linda Stewart, llstew@yahoo.com or 775-315-0974.

Saturday, January 16, 2010

ASI XCD Backcountry course

Location: Meets near Donner Summit

This is a custom version of the popular ASI one day backcountry ski course for people who have skied a little in the



Snowlands tour near Anderson Ridge on Highway 88

Courtesy of Marcus Libkind

backcountry but desire some formal instruction to help them progress. The full day follows a lesson/tour format in which you will ski from Donner Pass Road to Donner Pass on I-80 via a delightful route. Along the way you will receive instruction on the techniques described at www.alpineskills.com/bc_xcd.html. For the course to proceed at the reduced rate of \$124 with equipment or \$105 without equipment (regular \$149 and \$130) there must be six participants signed up by January 6, the go-or-no-go date. Leader: ASI, tony@alpineskills.com or 530-582-9170. To sign up contact Snowlands Network, aglabe@snowlands.org or 530-265-6424.

Sunday, January 17, 2010

Snowshoe in Castle Peak Valley

Beginner-intermediate, 2-4 miles, +400/-400 feet

Location: Donner Summit on Interstate 80

Combine a learning experience with a four-hour snowshoe tour in the Castle Peak recreation area. Noted snowshoe expert, and REI Outdoor School Instructor, Cathy Anderson-Myers will teach you off-trail snowshoe techniques and give you avalanche safety and navigation tips as she guides you through the area. This is a snow-learning experience for all ages. Snowshoes are available on a first come first serve basis at sign up, but you are encouraged to bring your own. A SnoPark permit is required to park at the trailhead. Donation: \$15. Limit: 15 participants. Leader: Cathy Anderson-Myers. Contact: Snowlands Network, aglabe@snowlands.org or 530-265-6424.

Saturday, January 23, 2010

Ski to Duck Lake

Beginner-intermediate, 7 miles round trip, +500/-500 feet

Location: End of plowed Highway 4 east of Bear Valley

After skiing Highway 4 to the east end of Lake Alpine, a short uphill and downhill leads to a wilderness loop around Duck Lake with views of the Dardanelles, Bull Run Peak and Wheeler Ridge. Be aware that the route begins with sharing the highway with snowmobiles. Limit: 6 participants. Leader: Kathy Kohberger, kohkoh@sbcglobal.net or 650-738-0841.

Saturday, January 30, 2010

AIARE Introduction to Avalanches course (open to skiers and snowshoers)

Location: Meets at Donner Summit

This one day AIARE-approved avalanche course is presented by Alpine Skills Institute, a supporter of Snowlands Network's mission. The standard course described at www.alpineskills.com/avalanche_awareness.html will be tailored to backcountry skiers and snowshoers who want to leave the security of rolling terrain to enjoy more adventure. Participants must supply their own metal-edged ski equipment or snowshoes. For the course to proceed at the reduced rate of \$116 (regular \$139) there must be six participants signed up by January 20, the go-or-no-go date. Leader: ASI, tony@alpineskills.com or 530-582-9170. To sign up contact Snowlands Network, aglabe@snowlands.org or 530-265-6424.

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Snowlands-On-Snow

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Saturday, February 6, 2010

**Snowshoe Horsethief Canyon Road and Willow Creek
Beginner, 4 miles round trip, +600/-600 feet
Location: Hope Valley at the junction of highways 88
and 89 (Picketts Junction)**

This mellow tour in the heart of Hope Valley climbs on Horsethief Road and returns to the trailhead via Willow Creek. Enjoy a variety of terrain and a great view of Hope Valley plus learn about the local history. The tour can be extended if the group desires. Limit: 12 participants. Leader: Barry Morgan, barry-morgan@sbcglobal.net or 775-883-8628.

Saturday, February 20, 2010

**Ski exploration north of the Mt. Rose Highway
Intermediate, up to 8 miles round trip
Location: Mt. Rose Highway at Tahoe Meadows**

The goal may be the Galena drainage or Relay Ridge, or maybe even Rose Knob; the leader will pick the exact destination depending on weather and snow conditions. This is an amazing area where Snowlands has labored successfully to ensure that parts are designated non-motorized in winter. The leader will show you where snowmobiles are permitted and not, and show you how to record and report illegal snowmobile use. Limit: 6 participants. Leader: Jeff Erdoes. To sign up contact Snowlands Network, aglabe@snowlands.org or 530-265-6424.

Saturday, February 27, 2010

**Ski circumnavigation of Tamarack Peak
Intermediate, 6 miles round trip, +900/-900 feet
Location: Mt. Rose Highway at Tahoe Meadows**

Circumnavigating Tamarack Peak takes you through interesting terrain and affords outstanding vistas including Washoe Valley far below and Mount Rose towering above. The tour includes a beautiful and gentle climb to the headwaters of the Galena drainage. The tour is divided 50-50 between off-road and on-road travel. Limit: 8 participants. Leader: Marcus Libkind, malibkind@snowlands.org or 925-455-5816.

Sunday, February 28, 2010

**Snowshoe exploration of Tamarack Peak
Intermediate, 5 miles round trip, +1100/-1100 feet
Location: Mt. Rose Highway at Tahoe Meadows**

This exploratory tour will traverse Tamarack Peak along ridges that are narrow at times. The terrain is steep, but the views should be outrageous. The tour is divided 50-50 between off-road and on-road travel. Limit: 8 participants. Leader: Marcus Libkind, malibkind@snowlands.org or 925-455-5816.

Saturday, March 13, 2010

**Ski to Matrimony Ridge
Intermediate, 4 miles round trip, +800/-800 feet
Location: At Kingvale on Interstate 80 west of Donner Summit**



Snowlands tour near Tragedy Springs on Highway 88

Courtesy of Marcus Libkind

Bring something to sit on and a lunch for a break atop Matrimony Ridge, where we will enjoy the view of Devils Peak framed by the Matrimony Tree. Other views include the canyon of the North Fork of the American River and Castle Peak. The tour begins in a forested area and the terrain opens up as you approach the granite plateau. Limit: 10 participants. Leader: Curtis Oldenburg, curto435@gmail.com.

Sunday, March 21, 2010

**Ski Forestdale Meadow and Pass with option to
Summit City**

**Intermediate, 6-9 miles round trip, up to +2000/-2000 feet
Location: Red Lake east of Carson Pass on Highway 88**

This challenging tour first goes to Forestdale Creek, then around the east side of Peak 9016 to Forestdale Pass. Time permitting, descend to the site of historic Summit City and then climb back up. The return from the pass is via the classic run down into Forestdale Meadow. Expect great views along the way. This trip is more than 6 hours in length. Limit: 10 participants. Leader: Steve Hibbs, timemachines@gbis.com or 530-694-1045.

Saturday, March 27, 2010

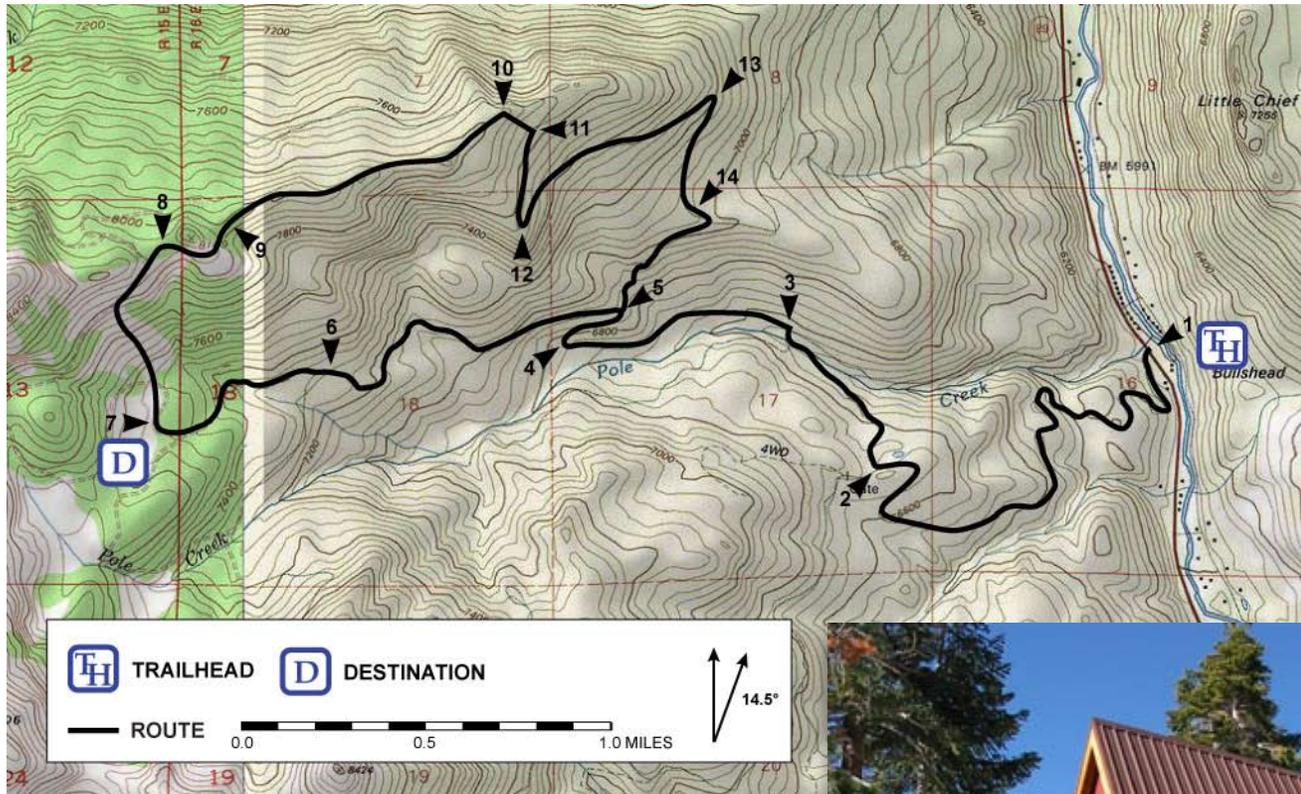
**Ski from Carson Pass to Meiss Lake
Intermediate, 7 miles round trip, +850/-850 feet
Location: Meiss Lake SnoPark just west of Carson Pass on
Highway 88**

The tour to Meiss Lake begins with a climb to a saddle from which the tour descends into the Upper Truckee River drainage and the lake. The return requires climbing back over the saddle, but the scenery makes it all worth while. To the south is Thimble Peak, Round Top and Elephants Back. Meiss Meadow is surrounded by volcanic rock. This trip is more than 6 hours in length. A SnoPark permit is required to park at the trailhead. Limit: 4 participants. Leader: Linda Stewart, llstew@yahoo.com or 775-315-0974.

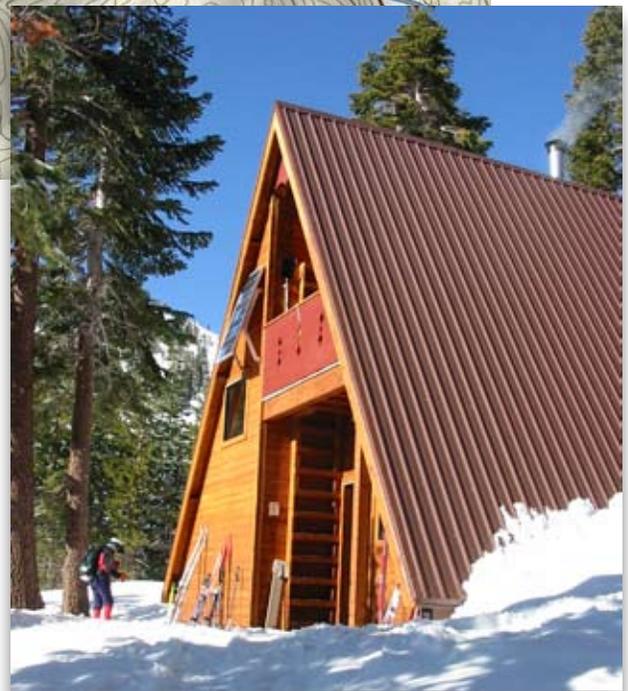
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New Bradley Hut and Loop

Although many people know of Bradley Hut, few know how to turn it into a loop that includes a magnificent section along a



Difficulty: Intermediate to hut and intermediate-advanced for loop
Length: 9.4 miles round trip to hut and 11.2 miles round trip for loop
Starting Elevation: 6000 feet
Cumulative Elevation Change: +1850, -1850 round trip to hut and +2350, -2350 round trip for loop
Navigation: Road to hut, and road and map for loop
Time: Full day or spend a night or two at the hut
Season: Late December through mid-April
Snowmobiles: Not permitted
USGS Topo: 7.5' series, Tahoe City, Granite Chief
Start: Highway 89 at the intersection with the Pole Creek road, 6.2 miles south of Interstate 80, 7.5 miles north of Tahoe City, and immediately south of Pole Creek.



New Bradley Hut
Courtesy of Dick Simpson

This tour description is provided courtesy of www.BackcountrySkiTours.com here you can find an elevation profile and GPS waypoint data for the tour

The "new" hut, which replaces the original Bradley Hut in Five Lakes Basin near Alpine Meadows, makes a great destination for lunch before returning to the trailhead or as a comfortable shelter for an overnight stay. Spending a night or two at the hut affords time to ski or snowshoe in the meadows, bowls and

ridges that surround the hut. But do not ski under the corniced ridges in the area and be aware that many of the nearby slopes are avalanche prone.

While a good road makes navigation to the hut relatively easy, the tour to the hut is a very steady uphill climb except for one short downhill to Pole Creek. The 1700 feet of climbing can make for a long slog if you are breaking trail.

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Snowlands-On-Snow

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Saturday, April 10, 2010

Ski to the headwaters of Forestdale Creek

Intermediate, 8 miles round trip, +1400,-1400 feet

Location: Red Lake east of Carson Pass on Highway 88

The route winds on and near Forestdale Road through rolling terrain and across the Forestdale Creek bridge. Beyond, the route climbs steadily up to the divide overlooking the entire Forestdale drainage with Round Top, Elephants Back and other features creating the boundaries of the canyon. The leader will show you where snowmobiles are permitted and not, and show you how to record and report illegal snowmobile use. Limit: 6 participants.

Leader: Jeff Erdoes. To sign up contact Snowlands Network, aglabe@snowlands.org or 530-265-6424.

Rubicon Trail Update

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The responsible parties in the CAO included both El Dorado County and the Forest Service. The Forest Service has petitioned the State Water Quality Control Board asking to be removed from the order. The timetable and date of a hearing or decision date is unknown. Until that is resolved the Eldorado National Forest is working to comply with the order. The Water Quality Control Board has given El Dorado County and the Eldorado National Forest specific dates for reports and plans to be in place.

From Snowlands Network's standpoint, our work is to stay involved, monitor and continue to insist on real progress. This requires massive amounts of time and effort both in attending meetings and making field trips.

New Bradley Hut and Loop

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Once you reach the hut you can return via the road or create an outstanding but more difficult loop by ascending a ridge and then descending along it for part of the return. The section along the ridge offers a wonderful change from the roads to the hut and is full of magnificent vistas before rejoining the road that was skied to the hut. There are also excellent opportunities along the ridge to drop your pack and enjoy yo-yoing on open slopes if you are on skis.

Bradley Hut is owned and operated by the Sierra Club, but is open to the general public for use. The hut sleeps 15 on the upstairs wooden floor with cooking and eating space downstairs along with a wood heating stove. Make reservations to stay overnight at this Sierra Club hut by contacting:

Clair Tappaan Lodge

P.O. Box 36, Norden, CA 95724

530-426-3632 (phone), 800-679-6775 (toll free)

www.sierraclub.org/outings/lodges/huts/bradley

As one might expect, reservations for weekends and holidays

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Join Us!

Our success depends on you! Join and support us today. Also, please tell your friends about Snowlands Network. Together we can save and protect our snowlands.

Sign up here or join online: www.SaveOurSnowlands.org

\$30 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other _____

Got Bumper Stickers?



Help support Snowlands and share our **Wild About Snowlands** message with friends! From bumpers to snowboards to school notebooks, our bold sticker is a striking statement. It measures 7-1/4" x 3-3/4" and has a bright blue mountain slope with black lettering.

One for \$5 Five for \$15

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New Bradley Hut and Loop

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are difficult to obtain, but openings abound if you can visit this wonderful location mid-week.

From the trailhead (1) [numbers in parentheses correspond to numbers on map] follow the convoluted snow-covered road for 1.9 miles until you reach a road junction (2) where you continue north (straight) on the main road and descend for 0.5 mile to a bridge (3) at Pole Creek.

Cross the bridge and turn west (left) and follow the road for 0.8 mile until you reach a road junction (5) at the second of two 180-degree turns. You will return on the road from the north if you make the loop tour described here.

Continue to the hut by heading west for 0.9 mile until you come to a distinct open area (6). The topographic map shows a road junction in this clearing, but it is very unlikely that you will see it.

Climb on the road to the west (straight) for 0.6 mile until you reach Bradley Hut (7). In the clearing you left behind, do not take the road south (left) if it is visible. Also, there is another road junction 0.1 mile before reaching the hut. It is unlikely that you will see the junction, but if you do, continue straight ahead on the north (right) fork.

To complete the loop, climb north from the hut for 0.5 until you reach the saddle (8) to the west of Peak 8149. This section

may be unsafe when unstable snow conditions exist.

Continue east, skirting Peak 8149 on its south side, then loop north for a total of 0.2 mile until you reach the ridge (9) of which Peak 8149 is a part. As an alternative you can ski east from the saddle (8) over Peak 8149 to reach mileage point 9, but even in mid-winter you are likely to face exposed rocks along that route.

Now for the fun; descend east along the ridge for 0.9 mile until you reach the location on the ridge where it becomes noticeably more steep (10). Along the ridge there are excellent opportunities to enjoy slopes descending to the north.

Descend southeast (left) for 0.1 mile until you intersect a road (11). Be aware that the road is hard to see where it crosses an open section — look for the road where it enters the trees.

Turn south (right) onto the road and follow it for a total of 1.2 miles until the terrain becomes flat and more open, and you are on a broad ridge (14). In this section you will make two very sharp turns, first to the left and then to the right.

Cross the broad ridge and descend to the southwest on the road for a total of 0.4 mile until you intersect the road you traveled to Bradley Hut (5). In the flat area on the broad ridge you may have to look hard to determine where the road is located.

Finally, retrace the original route for 3.2 miles back to the trailhead (1).