OLLI Campers: Lakes Basin

Peer Leaders: Lorna Cunkle & Lorraine Smith

11 AM, Tuesday, August 21, 2018 to 2 PM, Friday, August 24, 2018

The Lakes Basin Recreation Area between Sierra City and Graeagle includes breathtaking scenery and more than 20 natural glacial lakes, most of which are accessible by well-maintained hiking trails. This area is also good for fishing, swimming, kayaking, birding, and photography. Optional hike to the fire lookout on the top of Sierra Buttes’ craggy peaks. Lots of easy waterfall hikes, too.

We have reserved a site at the Lakes Basin Group Campground, which is located in the Plumas National Forest, 9 miles southwest of Graeagle. Our group campsite sits at an elevation of 6,400 feet among fir and aspen trees in a field of granite boulders. Tent camping, small camper vans, and small cabover campers okay. No trailers or RVs. No dogs. We’ll share the cost of the campsite. We’ll have bear boxes, a fire ring, tables, vault toilets, and potable water. The campground is about 120 miles from Chico, a 2.5-hour car ride.

Pre-Trip Meeting (Required): Tuesday, August 14, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Agenda
Carpooling & driving directions (8 vehicles maximum)
What to bring
Food & food storage
Liability waiver & emergency contact information
Pay share of campsite (approx. +/- $25 each, depending on number of campers)

Resources & Additional Information

Trail Guide

*Feather River Country Adventure Trails: 101 Fun Hikes Within the Region of the Feather River Upper Middle Fork, the Lakes Basin, and the North Yuba River* by Tom DeMund. If you can find it, be sure to purchase the 6th (2015) edition. Available in the Lakes Basin area at Bassetts. Amazon has only older editions. We’ll provide photocopies of the pages from this book for the trails we plan to hike.
Photographs

Slideshow, “Lakes Basin and Sierra Buttes,” photos by Lorna Cunkle on YouTube (https://youtu.be/FBIPt_BxMNI) to give you a preview of what we’ll see (lakes, waterfalls, wildflowers, rocky buttes).

Websites

Hikes in the Lakes Basin:
http://www.lakesbasin.com/hikes.html

National Geographic’s Sierra Buttes and Lakes Basin Recreation Area
https://www.sierranevadageotourism.org/content/sierra-buttes-and-lakes-basin-recreation-area/sieBBF19506905EEB744

Maps

Lakes Basin Recreation Area, published by Graeagle Land & Water Co. (available only in the Lakes Basin area, but we will pick up some to have them available at the pre-trip meeting)

Lakes Basin, Sierra Buttes, & Plumas-Eureka State Park, published by the U.S. Forest Service, available for $8 + shipping & handling from the USDA Forest Service’s National Forest Map Store,