

Climb Prospectus
Broken Top - NW Ridge
<http://www.summitpost.org/broken-top/150574>

Date: TBD Aug/Sept?

Provisional Leader: Mike Buren, 503.559.3003, steppebrother@gmail.com.

Assistant: TBD

Observing Leader: Bryon Snapp, 503.304.8596, bryon.snapp@yahoo.com.

Participants:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

Alternates:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Driving Directions: *Taken partly from Sullivan's hiking guidebook.*

About 4 hours from Salem to the trailhead not including stops.

Leave Salem on Hwy 22 and then Hwy 20 toward Sisters and Bend. At Bend take the Cascade Lakes National Scenic Byway (Hwy 46/372) toward Mt Bachelor. ***Do not take the advice of a gps-type navigator which may want to take you out of Bend on a different route.*** After about 22 miles out of Bend pass Mt Bachelor Ski area and proceed another 4.4 miles to a sign for Green Lakes Trailhead. Turn right, the trailhead starts at the far end of the parking loop. Leader will try to arrange carpooling about a week prior to the outing.

Proposed Route: NW Ridge via Fall Creek Trail.

In order to get a well-rested early start, some may want to car camp near the trailhead the night of September 8th. There are several FS campgrounds in the area. Water could be obtained from several locations along the trail either from Fall Creek or the Green Lakes though you will want to filter so come prepared. Don't count on tap water being available at the trailhead.

Basic trail geography as follows:

Parking and start of hike:	5,440 ft
Junction with trail to Moraine Lake:	6,000 ft @ 2.0 miles in
Junction with Broken Top Tr (to crater):	6,550 ft @ 4.2 miles in (in sight of 1 st Green Lk)
Junction with climbers trail:	6,580 ft @ 4.7 miles in (at largest Green Lk)
NW ridge saddle:	7,880 ft @ 5.7 miles in
Summit:	9,175 ft @ 6.2 miles and about 6 hours

Round trip total:	12.4 miles
Max. Elevation gain:	3,735 ft (from trailhead)

The trail proceeds through forest along the creek and finally gains a basin within which lie several lakes (Green Lakes) where we will be near timberline. At that point we will leave the Fall Creek Trail and proceed East on the climbers trail to gain the saddle of the NW ridge which will lead us directly to the summit pinnacle.

Summit Pinnacle:

This is an alpine hike with a steep exposed summit pinnacle. Though other parties often do not rope up, we will rope up. The pinnacle is easy (4th and low 5th class) scrambling, though the exposure is large. We will put on harness on at the base of the pinnacle. The leader and assistants will then fix ropes on the pinnacle. The first obstacle is a 15 ft “step” which is low 5th class rock climbing. Part of the scramble on the pinnacle consists of loose outward sloping cinders/gravel in which a slip or trip could send one over the edge if climbing without a rope.

Skills needed for the pinnacle are basic and were completed during the Chemeketan Climb School. These include very easy rock climbing while sliding a prusik knot upward on a fixed line, traversing a fixed line, short rappelling with fireman’s belay or down climb with prussic on a fixed line for protection.

Return:

After returning to the base of the pinnacle we will proceed back toward the saddle where we will bail off the ridge onto scree for our descent back to the Green Lakes basin. We will return the same way we came in.

Map Resources:

Participants are encouraged to go here () for a geo-referenced map of the region. The leader will also send out a geo-referenced map of the climb from the lakes to the summit pinnacle. These can be loaded on participants gps-enabled devices for real-time positioning.

Itinerary

TBD: Pre climb meeting or call-in at the Ike Box.

TBD: Those leaving the day prior to the climb leave Salem (carpool). Meet up at Salem motor pool lot at 3pm. Stop briefly for eats. Arrive at a campground near the trailhead about 8-9pm. Set up camp.

TBD: Summit Day. Those not car camping near the trailhead will leave the motor pool parking lot by 2:30am (extra time needed for stops). Meet up at parking lot with campers at about 6:30 to gear up. Leave trailhead at 7 am. Summit about 1 pm. Back to trailhead about 5 pm.

Required Equipment:

- Ten essentials (maps *see included geo-referenced maps for gps-enabled devices*, compass, whistle, personal first-aid, food, water, sun screen, sunglasses, matches/candle/fire starter, head lamp)
- Lunch and snacks
- Mosquito repellent??
- Light-weight hiking boots or approach shoes. Rock shoes not needed.
- Gaiters are optional but will keep scree/dust out of your socks
- Extra socks if you tend to soak them (prevents blisters)
- Three liters of water at start of climb
- Windproof jacket and pants
- Lightweight gloves or mittens
- Fleece or wool cap
- Sun hat (optional)
- Bring a warm layer to put on under your wind shell if weather changes (no cotton).
- Trekking poles are optional but make the climb less tiring
- Climbing equipment; harness, helmet, 2 prussic cords, personal protection, two locking carabiners, and belay device. (Bryan, need to talk about this) Crampons, mountaineering boots and ice axe *are not needed*.

Group climbing gear will be needed for the summit pinnacle. Gear will be divided among the participants to share the load. Come prepared to lash a rope on your pack or stuff it inside.

Comments:

Be prepared for wind on the summit ridge. If the weather forecast is questionable, the leader will make the decision on whether to go or not on Thursday night or Friday morning at the latest. If you have any questions, please give Leader a call or send an email. For questions about trail conditions the Bend and Fort Rock Ranger District may be helpful (541-383-4000).

Emergency Contact:

Deschutes County Sheriff's Office 541-693-6911.

In-Town Contact: Lisa Buren 503-931-6580 cell. Friends and family can call the in-town contact to get updates on group if things don't go according to plan.