Beaver Meadow



Beaver Meadow Hike is a long hike requiring 3 - 4 hours to do comfortably. The hike itself is quite mild within ascent and descent. Starting from the dining hall front entrance, follow the road behind chalet towards and past the bathhouse. Cross over the small creek by the Teachers Cabin and then continue on the dirt road over second larger creek.

After crossing bridge, look immediately to your left for the trail heading up past Sai Condo. This is the same trail as Boulder Creek Falls trail. After going past Sai Condo and Boundary Tent, look for a trail veering off right from the main trail which goes up Boulder Creek Falls. It is not well marked but after about 50 yards of walking west through flat grassy area canopied by pines you will see where an old mining road goes up along the hillside. Follow this road/trail around bend of hill and then the trail become quite distinct.

The trail goes through many different types of forest, sometimes being mixed Douglas fir /pine with almost wetland marshy areas below, then mixed pine/aspen, and dense side hill Lodgepole pine. The pine beetle did a huge amount of damage to the Lodgepole pine in 2008-10, so in many areas you will see the forest regenerating with new growth.

The trail runs along the side of the hill in primarily Lodgepole pine and Douglas fir for a distance with an incredible view of Sleeping Giant on the northern horizon. After this section, the trail continues through flat areas and a couple reasonably strenuous short ascents along a wetland area and stream frequented by wildlife.

The trail at this time has been cleared to about half way up the hillside with a wonderful sit spot (bench) overlooking the Helena Valley below and to the north. Come back next year as we should have it cleared all the way to Beaver Meadow. Stay tuned!

