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AMBUSH WALK - 1878 Long Valley Massacre (2.9 miles round trip)

First - stop at the historical sign on Hwy 55, just south of the Hotel NoBo, and read about the event.

Then, go north on Main St. At the Idaho Power substation and just before crossing the North Fork Bridge, turn left on Lake Way. Go up the hill, to the top of the dam. After the restrooms, turn hard right on Vista Point Blvd. Go about ¼ mile to a path on the left and up the hill for 100+ feet to the marker.

On August 19th, 1878, Monday, an Indian Valley resident discovered his horses had been stolen, and found evidence that it had been done by Indians. Following the tracks for several miles, he found the Indians heading for the South Fork of the Salmon River by way of Long Valley. This little band acquainted with Monday, and with Healy (who was a Squaw-Man) and Smith. Groschlose was a young man probably not more than 20 years old. Monday, Healy, Smith, and Groschlose left Indian Valley on Aug. 19th, going by way of the old Indian trail to Long Valley on which the Indians had gone, which crosses the Payette-Weiser River Divide almost due east of Indian Valley. The Indians must have expected pursuit and as soon as they knew they were being followed selected an ideal place for an ambush. This is called the massacre, which took place at a point ¼ mile north of the Falls (or Cascades) on the Payette River near the town of Cascade. The Indians had secreted themselves in some granite rocks near the trail. The first volley of shots killed Monday and Groschlose. Healy dismounted and got behind some rocks.

Smith, who was the last man on the trail, started back, but at almost the same time his mule was killed from under him and he was shot in the hip. Healy evidently held the attention of the Indians and allowed Smith to hide himself in a log jam on the river. After it was dark, he left his hiding place and traveled on foot some 35 miles in all, reaching what is now Old Meadows a day or two later. Two other men, Daniel Crooks of Mt. Idaho, and Brady Wilhelm of Idaho City, miners, were killed the same day by the same Indians, eight miles east of Cascade at what was known as Pearsol Diggings. Soldiers under the command of Major Drum found their bodies after finding those of the three ranchers in the canyon.

The Idaho Sons & Daughters marked the graves of Monday, Healy, and Groschlose in the year 1929, and at the same time placed a marker at the graves of Crooks and Wilhelm. The actual gravesites is downhill from the marker, below Vista Point Blvd. and above Lake Way.

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THE STRAND Take a walk along the Payette

The Strand is a nice, 10+ foot wide, mostly natural surface that runs from **Fischer Pond Park** at the south, to Water's Edge RV Park at the north. The southerly ¾ mile is paved. The entire **Strand** is suitable for walking and bicycles, but it is not legal for motor vehicles. **The Strand** is also an interpretive trail. Be sure to pick up a brochure at either end of the trail, at **Kelly's Whitewater Park**, or the intersection with the **Pine Street Connector**, and learn a bit about our local history.

Fischer Pond Park is a Cascade High School Advanced Biology Class project. From **Fischer Pond** it is 1.2 miles to **KWP**. When the pavement ends, **The Strand** passes by a settling pond from the old Boise Cascade Sawmill. The sawmill area is currently being reclaimed, and in the middle of this stretch is **KWP**. From **KWP** it is another 1.2 miles to Water's Edge RV Park.

½ mile north of **KWP** is a junction with the **Pine Street Connector** - a trail that goes west to the east end of Pine Street. Adjacent to that path is the city storm drain settling pond, and then Leisure Time RV Park. In the river, opposite Leisure Time there are usually large flocks of birds, pelicans, swans, cranes, and ducks that frequent the area.

At the north end of **The Strand**, there is a well marked connector trail to the north end parking area. From there, the driveway goes west to Sawyer Drive.

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CROWN POINT TRAIL 5.6 miles roundtrip for just the trail, or 8.8 miles roundtrip from downtown Cascade

From Cascade, walk, bike, or drive Lake Cascade Parkway, directly across Hwy 55 from the Hotel NoBo, to the lake, then go right on Lake Shore Drive. Van Wyck State Park Campground will be on your left. Cross the dam and continue straight to **Crown Point Campground**. The trail entrance is at the campground entrance. The parking area is small.

This trail offers views of **West Mountain, Lake Cascade** and Tamarack Resort. In early to mid summer, snow-covered mountains contrast with the glittering lake. **Pine trees, sagebrush, and a combination of basalt rocks** and decomposing granite line the trail. Strategically placed benches afford stunning views of the fourth-largest lake in Idaho.

You can follow the sandy railbed, which runs along the lake with easy access to the shore. The squawks of osprey and the tap-tap-tap of woodpeckers are often heard. Foxes also reside in the area and you might be treated to their calls. Soft sand on the trail serves as a perfect palette for local wildlife to imprint their paw prints. Wolf, cougar, deer, raccoons, badgers, and black bears travel this rail-trail. Interpretive signs along the trail expand on the flora and fauna in the area. You'll pass through small basalt canyons and decomposing granite rock canyons. It is easy to imagine the old trains chugging through these narrow passageways.

At approximately the ¾ mile point, 100 yards before entering the first cut, look for a path to your right. Take it up the hill for 150 feet to an old road cut. Turn left another 150 feet. On your right will be the largest ponderosa pine in the area. It is 5 feet in diameter and 20 feet in circumference, at the base. If you're lucky you may see a pair of eagles perched at the top.

VARIANT: Continue past the tree on the footpath. This path terminates on Shore Drive and the Crown Point Cemetery. Follow the paved road back down the hill to the parking area for the **Crown Point Trail**.

There are numerous small bays on the latter half of the trail. During the early spring and late summer, beaches and boulder gardens emerge from the reservoir, being lowered for downstream irrigation.

Return the way you came and enjoy the scenery. In addition to hiking, visitors can enjoy boating and fishing. Consider staying the night at the campgrounds around **Lake Cascade**.

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CABARTON and LAKE CASCADE (9 miles roundtrip) Recommended - bike ride

From Cascade, walk or ride south on Main Street to a right turn on Cabarton Road. While cruising along Cabarton, note the RR tracks on the east side of the road. A tourist train runs weekends in the summer, from Cascade to Smith's Ferry and back. At ¾ miles turn right on West Mountain Road. Just over one mile later, continue straight when West Mountain turns left and you will be on Lake-shore Drive with Lake Cascade on your left. You will pass by several State Park campgrounds - Blue Heron is the only one with a paved boat ramp until you get to the City Boat Ramp at Lake Cascade Parkway.

When the golf course is on your left, look north across the lake to where a ridge from the west seems to go into the lake. At the end of this ridge, look for the ski runs at Tamarack. At the golf clubhouse and the Lakeside Restaurant, not the large boat ramp and parking area for Van Wyck State Park and camping area to the north. Just to your right is Lake Cascade Parkway, which has a bike path on the south side. This is your route back to Main Street and the beginning of your trip.

Consider staying the night at the campgrounds around Lake Cascade.

VARIANT: Take a side trip. Check out the "South State Land Hike" in this brochure.

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KELLY'S WHITEWATER PARK (KWP)

From downtown, go south along Main Street to Mill Street. Go east on Mill Street by the **American Legion Post**. Behind the Legion is **Armstrong Park**, which is worth a look. Continue east on Mill Street, crossing the RR tracks. Follow the pavement south past the old Boise Cascade mill office building. When the pavement turns left, follow it. You will be walking into the **KWP** parking area.

Check out the Volleyball court, the horseshoe pits, and the bocce ball courts. The park at **KWP** is a great place to eat or just take a break. The Welcome Center has amphitheatre viewing of the whitewater action, and is available for weddings or other events. There are restrooms and a rotating museum area in the building that is maintained by community volunteers.

From **KWP** go north or south on **The Strand**, which is the path along the river, or return to town the way you came.

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LAKE CASCADE Take a short walk to the lake - 2.5 miles

From downtown, walk north to Lake Cascade Parkway (across from the Hotel NoBo). Take the bike path on the south side of the street to the boat ramp at Van Wyck State Park. From here, go right on Lake Shore Drive or go to the edge of the lake towards the dam (north). At the north end of Van Wyck Park you'll find a path that continues along the lake to the Ridgeview Campground. Cut thru the campground to Lake Shore Drive and continue on across the dam to Lake Way.

Just across the dam, turn right on Lake Way, an old RR sput. This gets you to Hwy 55 where you can turn right to downtown, or cross the highway to **The Strand**. To get to **The Strand**, cross Hwy 55, jig left then right on Sawyer Drive for ¼ mile and turn left into the driveway just past Water's Edge RV Park. This will take you to the north Strand parking area and then **The Strand**. Take **The Strand** past Leisure time to the **Pine Street Connector** and turn west to get back to town.

Cascade, Idaho Walking & Biking Trails

STAY HERE. PLAY HERE.

Lake Cascade Recreation Area



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CROWN POINT TRAIL - Longer OPTIONS Probably Bicycle is best

The **Crown Point Trail (CPT)** is a repurposed railway bed. As such it is flat and easy to pedal. The following options are for those who wish to bum some calories and “mix up” the views. Mileages are from and to the CPT trailhead. The options are listed in increasing difficulty and distance.

Option 1 (3+ miles)

Ride along the CPT just past the 1.5-mile marker. The trail is quite wide here and there is a noticeable intersecting trail on the right. Follow the right hand trail 200 yards to the road. Turn right and follow the road back to the CPT trailhead.

Option 2 (3.5 miles)

The same as option 1 except when you reach the road, turn left and grind up the hill for 3 tenths of a mile on Sterling Drive to Crown Point Parkway. Turn right on Crown Point Parkway and go 1.6 miles back to the CPT trailhead.

Option 3 (7 miles)

Continue to the end of the CPT and through the gate to Vista Point Drive. Turn right and then right again on Four Seasons for 3 tenths of a mile. Here you'll intersect with Crown Point Parkway. Turn right and follow the road 3.5 miles back to the CPT trailhead.

Option 4 (7 miles)

Ride down the CPT about 1.8 miles. Look for a faded piece of plastic pink tagging on a tree to your right 150 yards past the interpretive trail sign that reads “Become a Nature Detective”. Take the faint trail to your right 200 yards to Crown Point Parkway. You can turn right here - it's 2.4 miles to the CPT trailhead - but you wanted a bit more of a challenge, right? Cross the road to an ATV trail and continue up the gentle draw 6 tenths of a mile to a “T” in the road. Turn right on the old logging road. The logging road through the state forest land ascends another two miles and ends at Laurel Drive. Turn left up a steep hill for 100 yards. It's all downhill from here. At Robbins Drive, continue downhill to your right to Crown Point Parkway. Turn left back down to the **CPT** trailhead.

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STATE LAND

Short Hikes and Bike Rides Around Cascade

A ridge extends both north and south of Cascade. On the crest of that forested ridge are two parcels of land managed by the State of Idaho, one north of town and one to the south. Both parcels are a short distance from the center of town and offer the walker and hiker both solitude and some nice views of the area.

SOUTH STATE LAND HIKE (2 miles round trip)

From Main Street, head south to Cabarton Road (Just south of Armstrong Park). Turn right on Cabarton Road for about 2 miles to Ponderosa Lane. Turn right on Ponderosa and travel 500 feet to a large pine tree on your right. There is a pullout there for parking. Just beyond the tree is a lightly used ATV track that provides the entrance to this hike. The ATV track follows an aspen-filled draw. In 5 minutes the trail turns right around a bedroom-sized granite boulder and ascends the ridge. Another 5 minutes brings you to a flat spot. Take a minute to catch your breath and notice the pine tree on your right growing through the boulders. At this point the trail follows the contours of the ridge for another 10-12 minutes before making a 5-minute steep ascent to the ridge top. Here you'll get nice “through-the-trees” views of Collier Peak, Snowbank Mtn., Lake Cascade, and the mountains to the south and east. There are also a number of flat rocks making it a perfect place to enjoy lunch or a snack. Enjoy the hike back down. It won't take as long!

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NORTH STATE LAND HIKES

The Osprey Nest (2 miles round trip)

From Main Street, head north out of town across the North Fork of the Payette Bridge. Just beyond Warm Lake Hwy, you'll see the Catholic Church. Just beyond the church is Vista Point Blvd. Turn left and travel 2 tenths of a mile to a wide spot in the road and park in front of a (usually) opened green gate.

This trail climbs to a series of false summits on the ridge. Each one presents its own charms, but the final summit is

NORTH STATE LAND HIKES (continued) worth the grunt. You'll know when you arrive! The trail starts just to your left inside the gate. Follow the ATV track up a steep grade (Note: ATV riders are not very subtle. They tend to go straight up the hill. At least it shortens the route somewhat!). The trail flattens out in a few minutes. You'll repeat this “stair-stepping process three more times, at one point walking through a white quartz vein that looks like a field of snowballs. Notice at each of these false summits there are a number of large granite boulders. Rock climbers who like bouldering problems will find jam cracks, open books, chimneys, and a variety of face climbs in these rock formations. The smmit is apparently where the osprey nest was once situated and gives the best view from mid valley of Lake Cascade, the West Mountains, and the East Mountains. Bring lunch and spend some time.

High Ridge Loop (3 miles)

Take Main Street north. At the Idaho Power substation and just before crossing the North Fork Bridge, turn left on Lake Way. For a couple hundred yards, this road follows the original railroad bed that was in existence before the dam was build. Continue up the hill past the dam and turn right on Crown Point Parkway, a winding gravel road. At 2.5 miles you'll come to Grandma Creek Road on your left. There is a generous turnout there on your left with plenty of room to park.

Across the street is another ATV track that you could probably get your car through, but you're here to walk, right? Take the ATV track up the draw for about 100 yards. A smaller ATV track takes off to your right. Take it and continue walking for another 3 tenths of a mile. It terminates at an old logging road. Cross the road, and climb the embankment opposite, and begin to make your way through open forest on the shoulder of the ridge. If you're observant, you will soon pick out an old path, more of an indentation now. If you don't see it, don't worry. Just stay on the shoulder of the ridge and always continue up hill. It's easy walking. Continue for another 3 tenths of a mile to the summit. You'll know you are there because you'll be in front of a series of granite boulders. Here, you'll intersect with a more visible trail. Take it to the left around the granite complex and follow it for close a mile. This trail goes along the ridge from point to point so expect both ups and downs. The views are great and you'll likely be all alone. This single track terminates at an old logging road. It's all downhill from here. Turn left. You'll pass two roads on your right. At 6 tenths of a mile you'll come to a third road. Take it to your right and enjoy another 6 tenths of a mile through a pretty little draw to your car at the head of Grandma Creek Road.

Low Loop (1.2 miles)

Follow the instructions to Grandma Creek Road found in the High Ridge Loop Hike. Again, enter the ATV track across the road from where you are parked. Continue 100 yards to the first ATV track on your right. Take 3 tenths of a mile to a logging road. Turn left for another 3 tenths of a mile to the first ATV track on your right. Take this trail 6 tenths of a mile back to your car. This is a good trail for kids. It's wide so families can walk together and most of the trip is downhill.

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EAGLE NEST (It's a mountain) Elev. 7646 (5+ hours)

Leave Cascade going north on Hwy 55 to a right turn on Warm Lake Road. Continue about 2+ miles across th valley and park at the old weigh station on your right. You'll see the **Eagle Nest Trailhead** across the road. The trail begins through an open field then enters aspen groves and finally the ponderosa forest. At times you'll be on an old logging road. But most of the time the trail will be on a single track. It continues uphill for 4.5 miles and intersects with Eagle Nest Road. If you cross the road and continue on the trail it will take you near the summit of **Eagle Nest**. However the trail bypasses the summit and continues north. To reach the summit you'll have to bushwhack your way to the top. The top is punctuated by clusters of boulders and it does provide an eagle eye view of the area.

Mountain bikers with the technical skills who like the **Eagle Nest Trail** usually get a motor vehicle to ride to the place where the trail crosses Eagle Nest Road and take the trail back downhill to Warm Lake Road. Hikers can do the same. look for some good huckleberry patches about midway down the trail.

NOTE: This trail is sometimes (legally) used by motorcyclists.

