Hello Hikers,

I’m looking forward to our hike to Navaho Pass this Sunday and hope you are too!

Please check out the WTA Hiking Guide description and recent trip reports:

<https://www.wta.org/go-hiking/hikes/navaho-pass>

**Weather**: As of today, the weather forecast for Sunday is for sunny with a high near 71. Here’s the link to the NOAA pinpoint forecast: <https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?textField1=47.3663833333&textField2=-120.802666667#.XS-XHOtKjIU>

I’m looking forward to the sun, but a high of 71 can often feel like the mid-80s on an exposed hike such as this one, so it will be really important to bring sunscreen and stay hydrated.

**Meet**: We’ll meet at **6:00 am** at the **Tibbetts Valley Park parking lot** . This is the outdoor lot south of the Issaquah Transit Station, off of **Newport Rd,** next to a skate board park, with a port-a-potty in the lot. If you are inside a parking structure that has a roof you are in the wrong place! I have a green Subaru outback.

**Directions to Tibbetts Valley parking lot**: I-90 East to Exit 15, WA-900 W/17th Ave NW. Use the right 2 lanes to turn right onto WA-900 W/17th Ave NW. In approximately 0.5 miles, turn left onto Newport Way NW. Turn right into the parking lot. (see map and detailed dircections attached to this message).

**Carpooling**: Carpooling is not required, however parking is limited at the TH so it is strongly encouraged. The Forest Roads have potholes and are rocky in places – if you have an AWD/4WD vehicle please consider driving. We are currently full with 12 people so we're going to need three drivers.

**Drive to the TH:** The drive to the Trailhead from Tibbetts Valley is 95 miles (RT mileage 190 for carpool reimbursement) and a little under 2 hours. Please note that the trip back could be a bit slower since it’s possible we’ll run into traffic on a Sunday afternoon/evening.

**Directions to the Trailhead**:

* Head east on I-90 to **exit 85** for East Cle Elum.
* Cross the freeway on the overpass and turn right onto **Hwy 970**. Cross the Teanaway River bridge, and in seven miles turn left onto **Teanaway Road**.
* Proceed on Teanaway Road for approximately 7 miles, bearing right where it becomes the **North Fork Teanaway Road**.
* Follow the North Fork Teanaway Road for approximately 6 miles to the end of the pavement at **29 Pines Campground**. *We will meet here to re-group before proceeding to the trailhead.*
* Take a slight right onto gravel **Forest Road 9737**. Follow Forest Road 9737 for a little over a mile. At the first junction after crossing the bridge over Stafford Creek, turn right onto **FR-9703,** which is signed for Stafford Creek and drive 2.5 miles to the **Stafford Creek trailhead**. (Note that the Pass can be reached via the much longer Trail 1369, accessed at Standup Creek TH – pass this trailhead on FR 9703 and continue on to the **Stafford Creek TH**).

Here’s a link to Google maps directions:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Tibbetts+Valley+Park,+12th+Avenue+Northwest,+Issaquah,+WA/47.3664,-120.8027/@47.3607513,-121.9784389,9z/am=t/data=!4m9!4m8!1m5!1m1!1s0x54906f71695ff5b7:0xfbfa6e2093ffda9c!2m2!1d-122.0617934!2d47.5402596!1m0!3e0>

**Permits:** Northwest Forest Pass is required.

**The Hike!** The hike is 11.0 miles RT with 3000’ of gain. We’ll start at the **Stafford Creek** trailhead off of FS 9703, on trail 1359. The trail begins in forest and follows Stafford creek, gaining 1900’ in 3.8 miles. At that point we leave the creek and begin switchbacking up, gaining 1000’ in the last 1.7 miles. The hike is exposed and as I mentioned earlier the forecast is for sunny and warm – I recommend a *minimum* of 2 liters. I’ll be carrying 2.5 liters of water, 0.5 liters of electrolyte beverage, and my water filter bottle.

We’ll be sticking to a 1.5 -2.0 mph pace and taking breaks to take in the wildflowers, meadows, and impressive views of Mt Stuart and the Stuart range.This is a wonderful hike that gets rave reviews!

**Gear:**

* Maps: Green Trail, Mt Stuart, WA – No. 209
* 10 essentials
* At least 2 liters of water + electrolytes (either beverage or something like Shot Blocks)
* Sunscreen

**Post-hike meal**: After the hike we’ll stop for a meal at the Cottage Café in Cle Elum:

https://www.cottagecafe.net/Home

Please do not schedule anything for the evening. It’s hard on everyone when one member of the group is stressed about getting back at a specific time.

We do have a couple of folks on the wait-list, so if you need to cancel please do so on the website or let me know as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or need to reach me before the hike please email me at [email] or call me on my cell xxx-xxx-xxxx. If you need to reach me on the morning of the hike please call or text – I have occasionally not received voicemails until several hours after they’ve been left.

See you Sunday!