

Maybe to Smith Peak to Lake Davis

8/13/06 Draft by Toni Morris

Ride Type: Out & back on dirt Plumas National Forest (PNF) road. Difficult due to rough sections of road and steep climbs.
Distance: Total of 12.8 miles, one way, spotting a car at the end, west of Lake Davis
Elevation: Start: 4894; Highest Point: 7688; (Difference of 2794')
Scenery: Smith Peak Lookout; miles of conifers, lush willowed creeks, and grand vistas of Sierra Buttes
Season: May to October (possible mud or snow other months)
Map: Blairsden and Grizzly Valley Quadrangles

Comments:

Directions to Trailhead

Begin ride in Maybe, west of Delleker, on north side of State Route (SR) 70, on good gravel road marked with sign for "Willow Creek Rd", "Smith Peak 9 miles," and Forest Service (FS) "24N12" (opposite Mitchell Lane on south side of Rd).

General Description

Though not single track, this is a challenging ride with some gravel, some rutted dirt and sand, but great vistas. Well worth the 13 miles and spotting a car; or, if you want to lengthen it, return to Maybe by bike instead of spotting a car.

R=right L=left Strt=straight RR=Railroad Rd=Rd E=east W=west N=north S=south

<u>Map Refer</u>	<u>Approx. Mile</u>	<u>Turn</u>	<u>Onto Street/Route</u>	<u>Comment</u>
L	.2	Strt	gravel rd	See dirt rd on left-do not take
	.4	Strt	gravel rd	See dirt rd to right-do not take
	.8	Strt	gravel rd	Short up hill
	.9	Strt	gravel rd	Short loop to right, 23N17Y-do not take
	.9	L	gravel rd	Up hill
	1.0	Strt	gravel rd	See rutted rd to right-do not take

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	1.9	Strt	gravel rd	23N21 on right, which connects to alternate route 23B17Y to make a short loop on dirt road
	2.1	Strt	gravel rd	See dirt rd on left-do not take
	2.4	Strt	gravel rd	See dirt rd on left-do not take
	3.4	Strt	gravel rd	Cross Willow Creek- See rough dirt rd on left-do not take
	3.7	R	gravel rd	Area now lush with willows and more wooded Sign shows 24N12 continues up to "Smith Peak 5", "Lake Davis 7" See sign directing travel to left onto 23N12 toward "S Fork Long Valley 5", "Long Valley Creek 8". Also see smaller dirt rd between the two routes
	4.5	Strt	gravel rd	See rd to left, and soon another-do not take
	4.8	Strt	gravel rd	Steep uphill, and soon see view of Smith Peak Lookout
	6.3	Strt	gravel rd	Stay on road, which bears right, and see Sierra Buttes off to left
	6.8	Strt	dirt	See sign for "Smith Peak Lookout 2", "Lake Davis 24N07 4", and rd in the middle with sign "Freeman Creek 4", "Lake Davis 6"; also sign on left for 23N82-don't take
K	7.7	R	dirt	toward Lookout-see sign for left to 24N07 "Lake Davis 3)"and right for "Smith Peak Lookout 1", 7,688 Ft.
LK	8.8	stop	dirt	Lookout parking-can visit from 9:30 - 6-if not stormy; hike up winding hill
LK1	9.8	Strt	dirt/24N07	Downhill to Lake Davis on 24N07
	10.5	Strt	dirt	See sign to left for 23N88-don't take
	10.9	R	dirt	Good dirt rd; see 23N88 to left, which loops back up
	11.7	Strt	dirt	See left 27N07B-don't take
A1	12.8		dirt/24N07	Onto gravel rd; sign says "Genesee "25" to left; "Portola 6" to right via 24N10; can now access the lake at various points

Links and Variations

You can reverse direction for an easier ride (blue to pink) and spot a car at SR 70
You could also link with the Clairville Loops rides