

## **Chain Lakes Trail, Mt Baker Wilderness Park - WA**

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 – Gerard Laman

On early Saturday morning nine BOC members drove to Mt Baker for our Chain Likes hike. We arrived sometime after 9am at the Artist Point parking lot which was the trailhead for our hike. It was still cold but the forecast was for a sunny and warm day. The parking lot was almost filled this early in the day.

At about 10:30am we reached the Mazama Lake where we stopped for a short water break. This lake is not part of the Chain Lakes that are farther on the trail. After about 50 minutes we reached the Chain Lakes with the Iceberg Lake on our right and the Hayes Lake on our left. The Arbuthnot Lake was farther on the left but unfortunately out of sight. We also stopped to pick some blueberries.

It was time to start our ascent to the saddle of the trail which is between Mazama Dome and Table Mountain. We stopped for lunch at the summit of the trail and enjoined the view of Mount Shuksan to the east and Mount Baker to the west. Unfortunately, the peak of Mount Baker was still shrouded in the clouds.

After lunch we retraced our steps back to the parking lot. The weather had indeed improved and it was very warm on our return hike. It was a very satisfactory hike for us all.

Thanks to the drivers, Jacques and Amit

Photos by Gerard and a friendly stranger for the groups photo.