Ptarmigan Ridge – Mt Baker area, August 17th, 2019

Gerard Laman

With eleven BOC members and two guests we traveled to the Mt Baker area in Washington. It was a long wait at the border crossing but the actual check with the custom guard was quick. In Glacier we obtained our Mt Baker area parking permit for each car. The warden there told us that the weather was not too good with low hanging clouds and foggy sections.

We started from the Artist Point parking lot and headed west towards Mt Baker. The trail started in a small wooded section but was soon in the open area. As was predicted by the warden we had several foggy sections but also some clearings that gave us a view of the local mountains, but unfortunately not of Mt Baker, as it was hidden behind the clouds. There were lots of wild flowers to the delight of the hikers in our group. We had to cross several snow sections that required careful footwork. After lunch we followed the same trail back to the parking lot.

After the hike we stopped in Kendall, 16 km West of Glacier, for a quick meal and drink. We all commented that the food was surprisingly good and were happy that we had stopped there.

A thank you to the other drivers, Su-Jane and Carlos.