

Hayward Lake Reservoir hike

April 10, 2022 – Gerard Laman

On an overcast day nine club members started the hike on the east side of the Hayward Lake-Reservoir. The weather forecast was for a chance of rain but we could see some blue sky so it looked promising. This reservoir is created between the Ruskin and Stave Falls Dams for the winning of electricity. The floating walkway at the south end of the trail is still not repaired and that would have been the return point of the trail. There was a sign at the beginning of our hike that the trail was closed due to a mud slide, but no information was provided where this slide was.

After about one kilometer we crossed the Steelhead River and this gave us a look of the top of Steelhead Falls. We left the main trail and followed the Steelhead River to the bottom of the waterfall. This waterfall is beautiful with about a 25-meter drop.

One of the hikers had the sole of the hiking boot came loose except at the point of the toes. With an old shoelace this was repaired and we continued the hike. After about half an hour the second hiking boot also had also to be repaired in the same way. We saw lots of trilliums on the trail and everything was very bright green with moss, lichen and ferns. There were several big trees that had fallen across the trail and required some careful crossing.

At about four kilometres on the trail, we encountered the big mudslide and the trail was closed with signs and barriers. This was a good location to break for lunch. We reached the parking lot without any further mishaps, except for the same falling trees.

We all had a great hike on a beautiful day without the need of our rain gear.