

## Hayward Lake Hike

May 13, 2023 – Gerard Laman

Summer came early this Saturday on May 13<sup>th</sup>, with a temperature of about 25 °C and blue sky for our hike at Hayward Lake. This is actually a reservoir that is created between Stave Falls Hydro Dam at the North end and the Ruskin Hydro Dam at the South end.

We started our hike on the East side of the lake on the Reservoir Trail with 10 club members.

Our first destination was the Steelhead Falls. Unfortunately, the trail to the bottom of the falls was blocked due to the destruction of the stairs by a fallen tree. We turned around and continued our hike on the main trail. After about an hour we stopped for a short water break and a group photo. Shortly after we had to climb over or crawl under fallen trees that blocked the trail. And this happened at least four times.

At 11:45am, close to our destination, the trail was blocked again but this time due to a mud slide that had taken out a large section of the trail. We turned around and hiked for about 30 minutes to find a spot for our lunch and this also provided access to the water so that one person could go for a swim. Close to the parking lot we came across the bridge over Brown Creek at about 2pm that was badly damaged due to a fallen tree. We had crossed this same bridge in the morning at about 9:30am and no damage had occurred at that time. We wondered when this tree came down on this near wind-still day and we considered ourselves very lucky. We reached the parking lot warm but happy that we had gone on this hike.