



Reach the Peak



A hiker passes through a section of switchbacks supported by new rock retaining walls

The Project

Reach the Peak is a multi-year project to restore and rehabilitate the Lassen Peak trail. The work will maintain the character of the trail while taking steps to improve the visitor experience and accommodate its increasing popularity. Lassen Volcanic National Park, with the help of its partners, is determined to preserve this historic experience for the enjoyment of future generations. Together we can *Reach the Peak*.

2012 Accomplishments

Trail crew members cut and placed over 3,200 cubic feet of stone to build 28 rock retaining walls and 17 stone steps. These carefully constructed retaining walls provide support for switchbacks on the steep, rocky slopes of the middle portion of the trail.

Reach the Peak trail crews relocated approximately 300,000 pounds of rock using an improvised cable and pulley system. Large rocks

were safely relocated while reducing impact on the trail by ground based transportation systems.

Five new interpretive wayside exhibits were produced for installation in 2013. In conjunction with the existing geology waysides, these new exhibits introduce visitors to Lassen plants and animals, the peak's effect on them, and visitors' unique connection to these special resources.

2013 Continuing Progress

With a large portion of reinforcement work complete on the middle section, trail crews can safely begin work on the larger segments of the trail above and below this area. In 2013, efforts will be focused on:

- Completing a small portion of the middle section of the trail above the Grandview area
- Rehabilitating the first 1.2 miles of the trail

- Beginning work to widen the final ascent portion of the trail
- Removing the summit repeater
- Beginning layout of a new crater loop trail
- Installing five new wayside exhibits which interpret wildlife and the geological landscape at the summit area.



A trail crew member shapes stone to construct a retaining wall



A visitor stops at one of Lassen Peak's interpretive wayside exhibits



A trail crew member splits stone for relocation to a lower section of trail



A pulley system allowed for the relocation of large stones deposited by helicopter in 2010.

Hiking Lassen Peak

The Lassen Peak trail begins from the Lassen Peak parking area located 22 miles south of the Loomis Museum and seven miles from the southwest entrance. This steep trail of loose rocks may be snow-covered into early summer. Winter access requires winter backcountry travel knowledge and

equipment. You will likely encounter areas with on-going *Reach the Peak* restoration work.

Length: 5 miles (8 km) round-trip
Elevation gain: 1,957 feet (596 m)
Time: 4-5 hours round-trip

Lassen Peak from Afar

Many hikers have discovered another way to enjoy the splendor of Lassen Peak – from afar. Brokeoff Mountain trail is a worthy rival to the Lassen Peak trail, passing through dense forests and lush meadows to spectacular panoramic views. The sweeping vistas include Mt. Shasta, the rim of ancient Brokeoff Volcano (Mt. Tehama) and

breathtaking Lassen Peak. The trailhead is located 1/4 mile south of the southwest entrance.

Length: 7 miles (11 km) round-trip
Elevation gain: 2,600 feet (792 m)
Time: 6 hours round-trip

Are You Ready to Hike?

Safety is your responsibility. A Lassen Peak trail guide is available on the park website, at the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center and at the Loomis Museum. The trail guide provides important information on preparing for a Lassen Peak hike including trail information, special considerations, and preparedness information.

Trail Etiquette

Help to ensure that everyone enjoys their time on the Lassen Peak trail by offering a few courtesies to your fellow hikers:

- Do not bring pets on trails. Pets are allowed only in paved areas such as campgrounds, parking areas, and the park road.
- Leave all rocks, plants, animals, and artifacts undisturbed for the enjoyment of future users.
- Help protect the trail for future hikers: stay on the trail and do not cut switchbacks.
- Step to the side of the trail to let others pass when appropriate; yield to uphill hikers.

Access to the Trail

The trail will be closed at “Grandview” approximately 1.3 miles from the peak parking area. Closure of the route is possible at any time

throughout the season. To provide limited access to the summit, the trail will be open to the summit on the following dates only:

