

## Swasey Recreation Area/Mule Mtn. Loop

## Parking lot is in the Swasey Recreation Area off Swasey Drive

Swasey Recreation Area/Mule Mtn. Loop Strava https://www.strava.com/segments/13721654

- PM 0.0 Challenge trail starts at the north end of the Lower Swasey Parking Lot. Note that in a short distance the trail turns onto a gravel road.
- PM 0.1 the gravel road will fork...follow the directional signs and stay right.
- PM 0.3 the gravel road ends in clearing. A single track trail starts out of the north end of the clearing, proceed on this trail.
- PM 0.45 intersection with the Wintu Trail (note the signs). Stay right and follow the Wintu Trail up the hill to the north.
- PM 0.6 intersection with a short trail that takes you to Swasey Drive. Stay left on the Wintu Trail (might want a quick breather before a short, steep climb).
- PM 1.8 intersection with trail leading towards Meiner's Trail take a right up the hill on the trail towards Meiner's Trail (Wintu Trail continues to the left...don't go that way).
- PM 2.3 Creek Crossing at Meiners Trail the trail crosses a creek and then intersects with the Meiner's Trail. Take the Meiner's Trail up the hill (to the right).
- PM 2.4 Meiner's Trail Picnic Tables keep on the Meiner's Trail straight ahead.
- PM 2.65 Intersection with the trail up the Escalator take a right and head up the Escalator (Meiner's Trail continues to the left).
- PM 5.1 Top of the Escalator (note the picnic table) lot of choices here as this is the intersection of 5 trails. Take the second trail to the right (first to the right leads down into Whiskeytown Park) and head up the hill and around Mule Mountain.
- PM 5.6 top of the ridge nice views of Igo area, take a minute and keep going.
- PM 7.3 Black Bear Pass another picnic table and lots of trail choices. The first one to the left leads to Mule Mountain Summit...take this trail and start the climb.
- PM 7.95 top of the ridge note that there are some trails along the ridge, don't take these stay on the most heavily traveled trail leading to the Summit. Two more switchbacks and you are there.
- PM 8.35 top of Mule Mountain enjoy the 360 degree view, note the USFS monument in the rock on the east side of the Summit. Relax before some great decent...you have earned it!

PM 9.45 – back at Black Bear Pass. Take the first trail to the left and continue down the hill.

PM 10.4 back to the picnic table at the Top of the Escalator (and the Terminator) – take the first trail to right and continue downhill on the Terminator (also a portion of Mule Mountain Trail on BLM's maps, which leads all the way back to the parking lot)).

PM 11.7 – intersection of a few trails and a creek (headwaters of Olney Creek for you locals) – stay right at the first trail intersection, cross the creek, and stay left at the second trail intersection (Mule Mountain Trail on BLM maps).

PM 12.65 – intersection with a ditch trail– at the four way intersection just up a short climb past another creek crossing, take a right back into a ditch trail (Mule Mountain Trail).

PM 12.9 – 3 way trail intersection – stay right at the trail intersection (Mule Mountain Trail).

PM 13.05 – intersection with a dirt fire road – take a right onto the dirt road (Mule Mountain Trail).

PM 13.55 – the dirt fire road turns into a single track trail – continue on the trail, soon this will turn into a ditch trail (Mule Mountain Trail).

PM 13.95 – another small creek crossing (just before Delano Drive) – cross the creek, stay right at the trail intersection and again stay right into another ditch trail before you get to Delano Drive

PM 14.1 – trail intersection with Delano Drive – cross Delano Drive and stay in the ditch trail (Mule Mountain Trail) – the end is nearly in sight.

PM 14.5 – Lower Swasey Parking Lot – mission accomplished, well done!