

Tuesday, July 14, 1998:

Hike to Hester Lake with Mark. We planned for three days in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, entering from the south. This was destined to be a long day, since we got a late start and the road to the Dingford Creek trailhead was very rough. We got on the trail at 11:30, and both of us were in pretty bad physical shape. After hiking only 3½ miles, we were beat and decided to camp at the Dingford Creek crossing – Hector Lake trail. We are in no hurry and we will have a go at Hector tomorrow. This is our second time here (last time was 2 years ago) and we seem to be destined to not get to Myrtle Lake. That's okay. Well, into the tent for a nap before dinner...

Great dinner – Mark brought sweet and sour pork & green beans. We both enjoyed it very much and hit the hay right after dinner. Good feelings! Lots of bugs.

**Wednesday, July 15:**

We decided to have a very leisurely morning. It was overcast, but very little showers. Not an especially nice day, but on the trail to Hester by 11:30. Very wet hiking, mucky trail. Decided to turn around at about 3200' elevation – Mark's feet were hurting, and I hurt all over. We both agreed that a nice warm shower tonight would be wonderful. Arrived at the car by about 5:30 and into Issaquah for pizza. A very nice hike, we both agreed.

More photos, next page.

