

TD 4 Wheeler's Club News

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In September, the Tahoe Donner 4 Wheelers took on one of our more challenging trail runs. It's called the Gold Lake – Snake Lake trail. To get there we headed up Highway 89 to Sierraville and turn left on highway 49. A few miles from Sierra City you reach the town of Bassett and turn right on Gold Lake Road.

As we started heading up Gold Lake Road, we had a magnificent view of the Sierra Buttes. If you haven't been up there, you need to go. It's beautiful and has a fire outlook on top that you can hike to. There is also a very picturesque lodge and restaurant at the edge of Sardine Lake with beautiful views of the jagged peaks.

A few miles up Gold Lake road we turned left towards the boat launch area for Gold Lake. We all aired our tires down and got ready for the tuff terrain ahead. Just to the south of the boat launch area the 4-wheel drive road begins. It was challenging right from the start with big rocks to climb and ravines to cross. We traveled around the lake for a few miles and then started to climb high into the mountains surrounding Gold Lake.

As we went up we passed Summit Lake and eventually found ourselves on a ridge looking down on Gold Lake. It was a perfect place to stop for our picnic lunch on a sunny day with temperatures in the mid 70s. After our lunch we started heading toward the toughest part of the trail, Snake Lake Hill. The hill is very steep with big rocks and very loose dirt. Not only do you have to negotiate the steep hill, but you also have to navigate between two trees half way down.

We all made it down the hill safely but not without some challenges. We did a lot of spotting and had to use a winch to help one of the vehicles get down the hill, but even a stock Jeep made it down with only a few bumps to the underside. We were all glad to have the hill behind us and waved at the Snake in the Lake as we went by.

After the Lake we headed east through gold country, past Lake Hawley and several of the abandon mines on the way to Plumas Eureka State Park. We aired back up at the park headquarters and headed to Graeagle and then on to Sierraville. It was dinner time when we hit Sierraville and we couldn't pass up an opportunity to stop at one of our favorite Mexican restaurants, Los Dos Hermanos. It was a very fun day of 4 wheeling!

If you would like to join the fun and explore the backroads with us, learn more about our Club at our website, TD4wheelers.com or send us an email at td4wheelers@gmail.com.

