

Faye-Luther Trail

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This trail starts out in Douglas County, Nevada, but quickly enters Alpine County. Alpine County helped fund the completion of the environmental studies needed to upgrade the existing trails and enter them into BLM/USFS trail system. This project that is currently ongoing through the efforts of the Carson Valley Trails Association. This project includes relocating non-sustainable trails, adding new loop trails, and building a connector trail to the Job's Peak Ranch trail which was opened in November 2006. The latter, to be complete in 2008, will connect the two trailheads and offer 3.5 miles of hiking with panoramic views of the Carson Valley.

The existing Faye-Luther Trail System has trails with varied abilities. There are several loops suitable for a stroll and, beyond those, there is a steep main trail that continues 4 miles up the Faye-Luther Canyon. The USFS long-term plan includes an extension beyond this end point that will continue up and over the ridge and connect to the Horse Thief Trail and to the Tahoe Rim Trail at Armstrong Pass.

The 2.4-acre Faye-Luther Trailhead, a popular gateway into the rugged Carson Range, is located at the south end of Foothill Road. The trail is intended not only for hikers and horse owners, but also for a broad range of non-motorized uses. These include backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, and biking. The hike is considered moderately strenuous after the first mile, offering breathtaking views of Carson Valley. A doggie bag receptacle is available just beyond the entrance to the trail and your attention to this matter is appreciated.

To reach the trailhead from Alpine County, take Highway 88 north into Carson Valley and turn left at Fairview Road, which turns into Foothill Road. Drive 1.75 miles to the trailhead on the left. A detailed map can be found on the Friends of Hope Valley web site, <http://www.hopevalleyca.com/>, or at the Carson Valley Trails web site, <http://www.carsonvalleytrails.org/FayeLutherTrailMap.pdf>

