

# *The Taughannock District Local 50-Miler*

Barton – Babcock-Hovey – Sampson and back

This Packet was created to help any troop to accomplish the 50-Miler Award based on a relatively straight-forward local trip.

**Who:** Any scout willing to dedicate themselves to finishing!

**What:** To earn the “50-Miler” award

**When:** You need to set at least a five day/four night schedule to qualify

**Where:** see map for route!

**Why:** To take a more challenging trip  
To earn the 50-Miler award

**Cost: (Per Person)**

**\$9 - Camping at Babcock Hovey (\$70)**

As we write this, we’re not clear that Seneca Waterways Council will permit camping at Babcock-Hovey for much longer. Camping is possible at Sampson State Park – with different fees and requirements

**\$15 – EST Canoe Rental per person**

**\$1 – Camping at Barton**

**\$48 -12 meals at estimated \$4/meal**

**TOTAL per person - \$73**

**Food:** We suggest cooking by patrols with pairs of persons working on cooking/cleaning/fire-water

**Support:**

- It’s a good idea to recognize that your participants may move at different speeds (we’ll call them “ability groups”)
- You need at least 2 adults – but it’s better to have 2 adults per ability group
- Note that the 50 Miler rules do \*not\* require you to carry all your gear – they require you to move from place to place under your own power (meaning “no motors”). You can do this trip without hauling equipment if you recruit adults to move cars full of equipment to meet you at your destination each day.

**SUMMARY of Special Rules- EVERY FAMILY NEEDS TO REVIEW THIS PACKET IN DETAIL!**

- **NOTE – be sure to bring permission slips AND the BadenPowell Over-the-Counter medication form for each scout**

- parents and scouts certify that hikers will have backpacked at LEAST 50 miles of hiking, AND 2 separate bike rides – one of 30 miles, one of 20 miles and at least 3 canoe paddles of 3 hours a piece

- **WEAR SUPPORTIVE FOOTWEAR and be sure to bring an extra pair of shoes!**

- **DO NOT WEAR BRAND NEW SHOES - YOU WILL GET BLISTERS!**

- **bike shorts, gloves and helmet with lights on your bike**

- We travel on the buddy system: you pick a buddy - if they stop or are slow, you stay with them

- we have agreed that bikers will stop at major intersections to maintain eyesight on our group

IF YOU CAN’T KEEP UP we will call backup and you will be pulled off the trail

**Equipment**

- all items on the checklist at Scout Handbook, starting at p. 292 (please note, the Handbook checklist

incorporates other checklists elsewhere in the book ... be sure to use them all)

- PAY ATTENTION TO THE PREDICTED WEATHER
- BRING LAYERS - and try to avoid cotton layers close to the skin!
- you must have AT LEAST **THREE** liters of water bottles (more inside)
- MORALE - you can't make a trip like this without a good attitude. A bad attitude is a drag on everyone.

Bad attitude is just like not keeping up - we will pull you off the trail.

- TEAM EFFORT - we need everyone to help everyone else make it ... think about what that means to you!

## **Plan**

The route we're attaching can be started at any point – so, for example, if bad weather is expected, you can decide to hike in the rain starting from Fosters Pond and then bike the next day (etc.).

You must also do 10 hours of service. Any Boy Scout Camp will have a list of things scouts and scouters can do. We found that it was \*hard\* to volunteer at the State Parks since each scout would need to present Working Papers to be allowed to do any volunteer work (yes, you read that correctly!).

We held a series of meetings over 6 months to develop this plan and set the various trip requirements. You won't need quite that many because we're sharing this plan. What you do need to do is make sure you're holding each other accountable for your physical preparation and your training!

### **Sample SCHEDULE**

(Day 1) –

Start at Barton – prepare to do 2-3 hours of service

**BIKE from Barton to Babcock-Hovey – 20.7 miles**

- spending the night at Babcock-Hovey
- In general, the routes are on little used public roads between the lakes

(Day 2) –

Service at Babcock-Hovey – likely trail maintenance

CANOE from Babcock Hovey to Sampson State Park and back – approximately 5 miles there (10 miles total)

- we found that leaving early on a summer day meant the lake was relatively calm. Even on a relatively still day, the lake gets choppy later as the shore winds kick up as the ground warms
- spending the night at Babcock-Hovey

(Day 3) –

BIKE from Babcock-Hovey to Foster Pond Camping Area (15 miles)

You cannot reserve a spot at Foster Pond – but there are many free camping spots. This is a primitive camp ground – so bring your shovel since there is no latrine! There are fire pits. Bear in mind that this is \*not\* a scout camping area. It is \*relatively\* family friendly, but you may encounter families with alcohol or even very relaxed people with a relaxed sense of enjoying nature (as in Naturists).

(Day 4)

HIKE from Foster Pond to Barton (12.8 miles)

- There are several trails you can use – We suggest the Interloken Trail north which cuts across an active cow pasture – the cows will be curious, but not bothersome!
- there's a great place to stop for ice cream at the corner of Route 96 and Seneca Road

(Day 5)

Service at Barton –

Total mileage – 58 miles

## **Equipment**

There is a higher level of risk in a hike/campout of this sort. Every person is expected to have reviewed their equipment carefully and to have considered “backups” for items in case things break. You can start with the basic packing lists you use already from the Scout Handbook, the troop or other sources. Some notes are important

- moleskin - everyone should bring their own
- extra insoles - a blown insole means a blistered foot
- duct tape - cures a lot! Carry some.
- rope - particularly parachute cord

(NOTE –scouts need to have the Baden-Powell OTC form signed by a parent to give the following)

- TYLENOL AND MOTRIN - we highly recommend you have enough for 2 full doses of each for each day with a doctor’s slip so you can use it to keep the aches and pains to a minimum
- BUG REPELLANT and sunscreen

TROOP EQUIPMENT – Dan is picking up

- cooking utensils
- a large first aid kit with basic wraps to help twisted ankles get to pull out points
- extra tent
- a lightweight troop tarp
- water jug
- lanterns
- bike repair kit and pump

### Menu Basics

Discuss the menu with the group ahead of time to ensure you’ve accounted for allergies and food preferences  
ALL lunches should be “no cook” meals – count on preparing them in the morning.  
Dinners are intended to be the more complicated meals of the day

### Hygiene Basics

- **Washing hands is a must** – you’ll be sweating a lot, maybe wearing sunscreen and/or bug spray, getting dirty etc. The easiest way to get intestinal bugs is to eat with dirty hands - pack a small bottle of hand sanitizer, but remember soap and water do better!
- TICK CHECKS - every night, especially if on the trail, all your hairlines
- stay hydrated - drink at least a liter every morning and afternoon

### Trail Work

Remember – moving is not enough. Each person has to do 10 hours of work to get this distinction.

### Water

We recommend carrying at least 3 liters per person – start with full bottles at the start of each day – it’s hard to find water along the way. Be aware that Foster’s Pond has no clean water source – so either your gear van has to bring water or you’ll need a water purifier.

### Leave No Trace

- set camp in areas where others have already camped or where you can do so with minimal damage
- avoid contact with wildlife
- practice good bike/hike etiquette - single file, staying on trail/road, using low voices and staying well grouped

### Discipline

Scouts generally have good experience working together. This kind of trip, however, demands clarity of expectation.

- Expect everyone will help the group by doing the job they are asked when they are asked to do it.
- Expect everyone to give their full attention to the job they are doing and to do their best to finish the job.
- Expect everyone to ask questions when they have them, but don’t use questions to delay the task.
- Expect everyone will respond to emergencies by doing any reasonable task requested without questions.

## Safety

We will be hiking/biking/canoeing both as buddies and as a group. You need to keep your buddy in sight at all times. When canoeing, you need to keep \*all\* boats in sight at all times. You need to keep the rest of the group in sight at all times. This procedure is for everyone's safety - if someone gets hurt we know about it right away.

Because it is possible we might be on a trail/road when a storm hits, please review basic lightning safety. Do NOT get under trees. If you can't find hard shelter, space as far as you can - up to 100 feet - and get to low ground. If lightning is in the area, space out about 100 feet apart and lie down on the ground - being wet is better than being struck.

No running ... pretty obvious.

As always "THINK TWICE, ACT ONCE"

Required trainings for all adults and scouts:

- Youth Protection Training
- Hazardous Weather
- Safety Afloat

It's a good idea to identify one adult and one scout who can talk to the group about safety in each mode of hiking, biking and canoeing.

## *Award Requirements*

*The 50-Miler Award is presented to each qualifying individual for satisfactory participation in an approved trip. In order to qualify for the award, the group of which the individual is a member must fulfill all of the following requirements:*

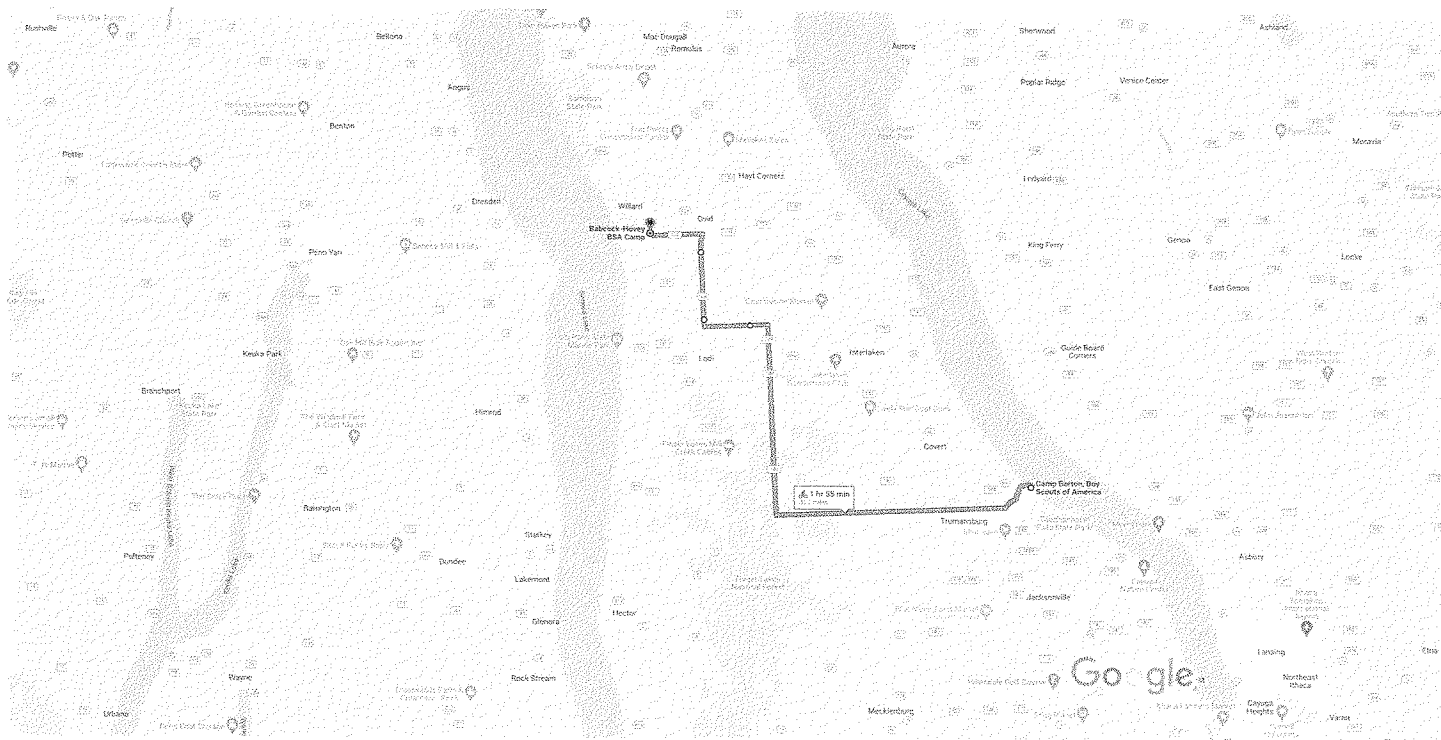
- 1. Make complete and satisfactory plans for the trip, including the possibilities of advancement, conservation, leadership, and service.*
- 2. Cover the route of not less than 50 consecutive miles; take a mini-mum of five consecutive days to complete the trip without the aid of motors for the qualification of the 50-mile distance. For example, in the case of water treks and the use of motors, qualification distances exclude maneuvering in or out of slips or ports, safety/weather transverses, managing tidal currents, and accessing the open water. (In some areas pack animals may be used.) Note: Qualification for the 50-mile distance does not have to be continuous, provided the primary purpose objective is met.*
- 3. During the time on the trail or waterway, complete a minimum of 10 hours each of group work on projects to improve the trail, springs, campsite, portage, or area. If, after checking with recognized authorities, it is not possible to complete 10 hours each of group work on the trail, a similar project may be done in the unit's home area. (There should be no unauthorized cutting of brush or timber.)*
- 4. Unit or tour leader must then file the 50-Miler Award application with the local council service center*

## **HAVE LOTS OF FUN**


**Yours in Scouting,  
Troop 55 Ithaca!**



Camp Barton, Boy Scouts of America, 9640 Bicycle 20.7 miles, 1 hr 55 min  
Frontenac Rd, Trumansburg, NY 14886 to Babcock-Hovey BSA Camp, 7294  
Co Rd 132, Ovid, NY 14521



Map data ©2022 Google 2 mi

 Use caution—bicycling directions may not always reflect real-world conditions

Camp Barton, Boy Scouts of America  
9640 Frontenac Rd, Trumansburg, NY 14886

- ↑ 1. Head northwest on Frontenac Rd toward NY-89 S  
1.3 mi
- ↘ 2. Turn right onto E Seneca Rd/S Town Line Rd  
7.1 mi
- ↘ 3. Turn right onto Vesa Rd  
0.9 mi
- ↑ 4. Continue onto Townsendville Rd  
3.9 mi
- ↑ 5. Continue onto Co Rd 129  
1.0 mi
- ↙ 6. Turn left onto S Townline Rd  
2.0 mi
- ↘ 7. Turn right onto NY-414 N/NY-96A N  
2.9 mi

← 8. Turn left onto Gilbert Rd

1.5 mi

→ 9. Turn right onto Co Rd 132

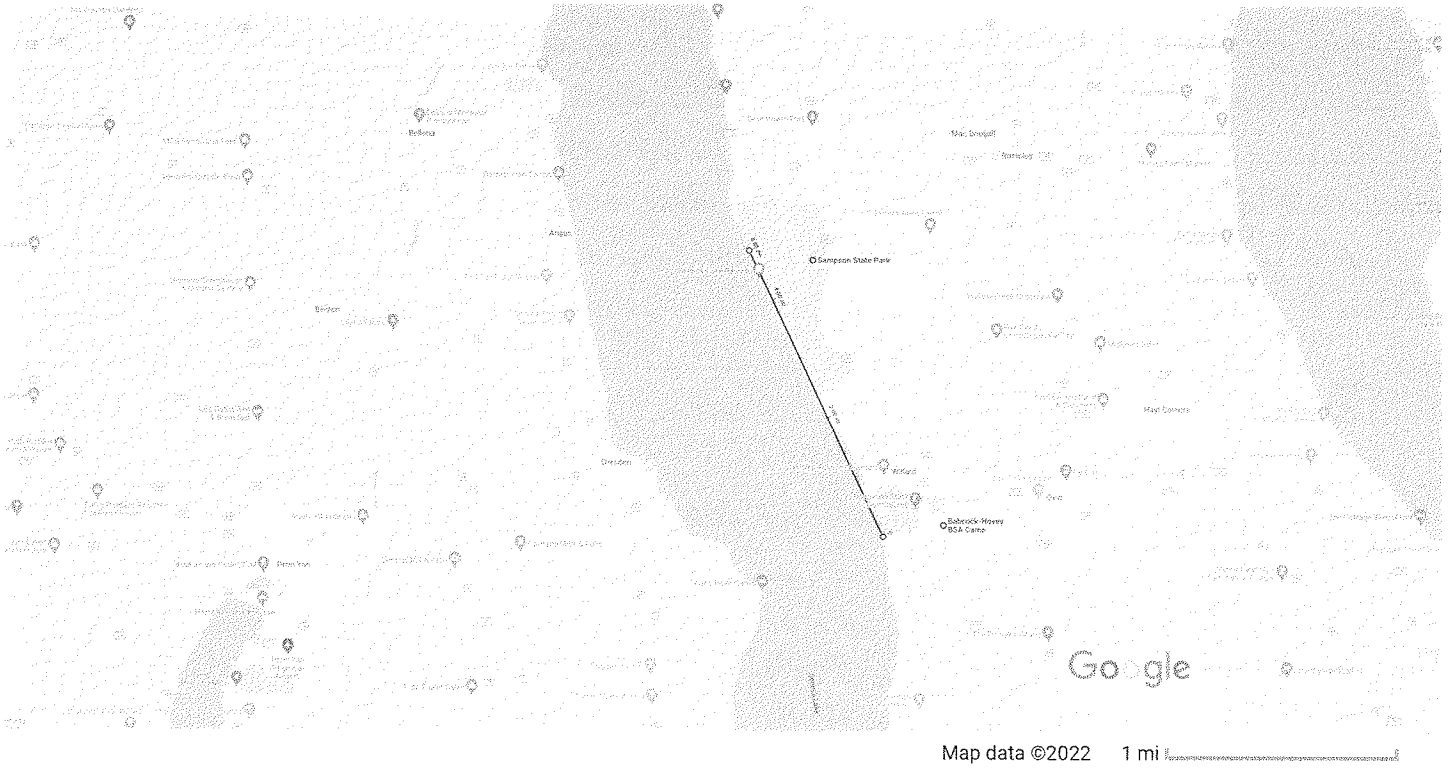
📍 Destination will be on the left

0.1 mi

**Babcock-Hovey BSA Camp**

7294 Co Rd 132, Ovid, NY 14521

# Google Maps

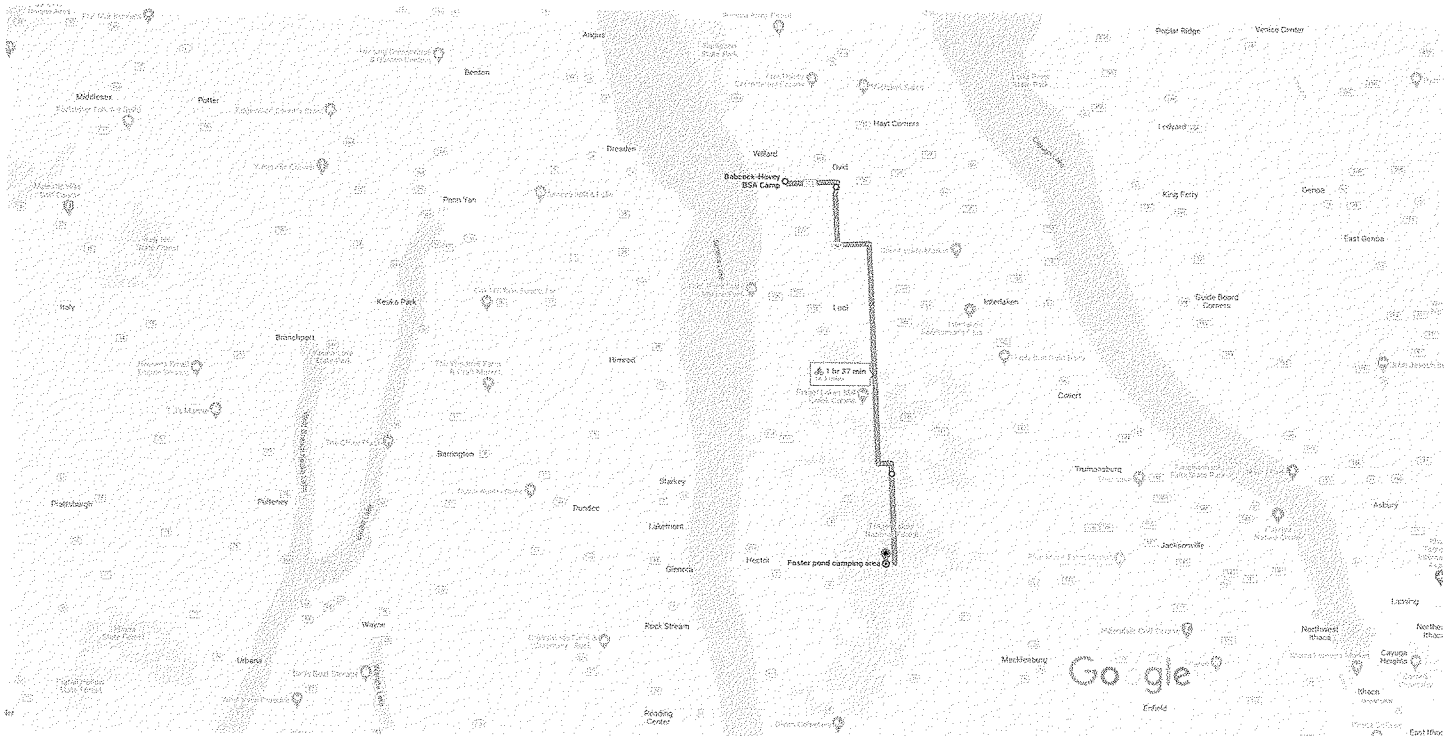


Measure distance  
Total distance: 4.85 mi (7.81 km)

round trip = 10 miles



Babcock-Hovey BSA Camp, 7294 Co Rd 132, Ovid, NY 14521 to Foster pond camping area, Potomac Rd, Burdett, NY 14818



Map data ©2022 Google 2 mi



Use caution—bicycling directions may not always reflect real-world conditions

### Babcock-Hovey BSA Camp

7294 Co Rd 132, Ovid, NY 14521

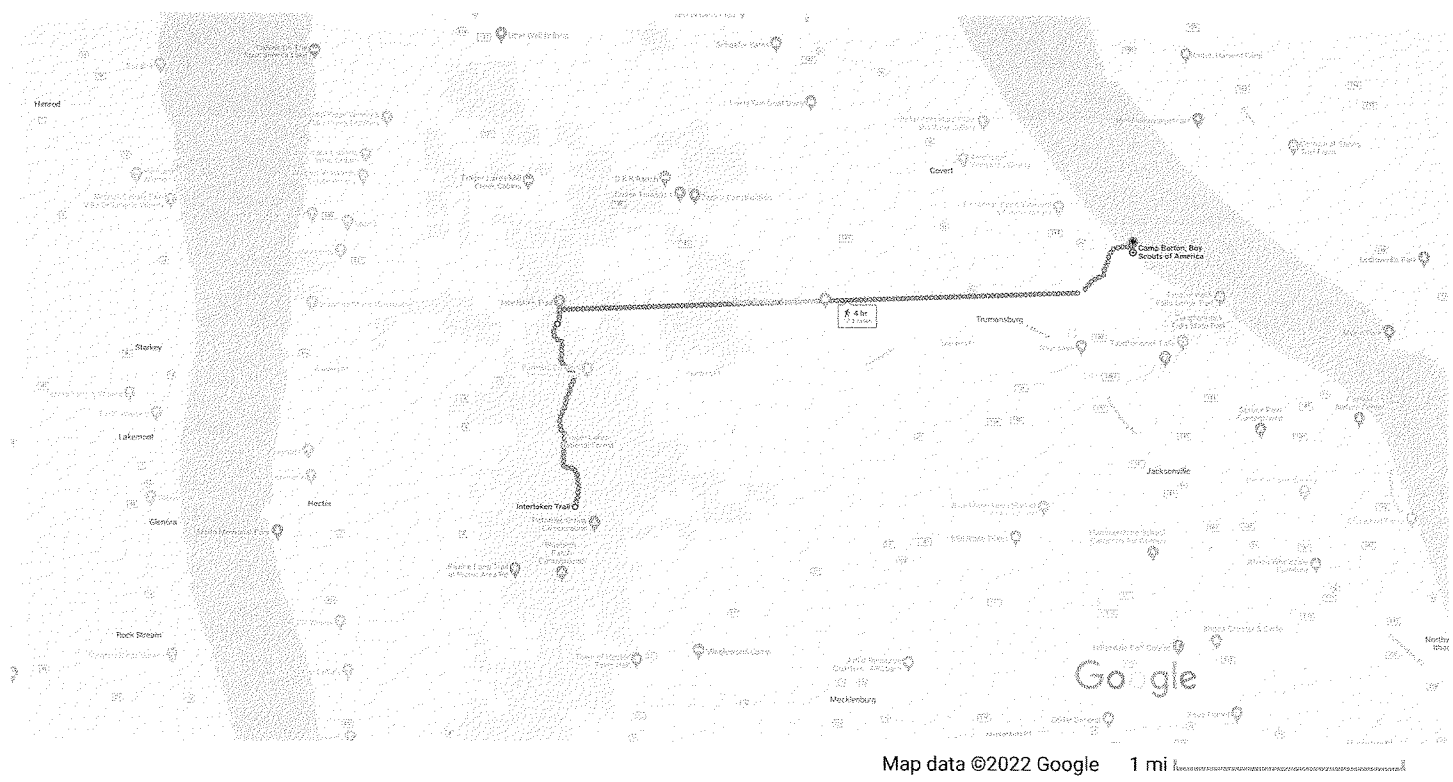
- ↑ 1. Head southeast on Co Rd 132 toward Gilbert Rd  
0.1 mi
- ↶ 2. Turn left onto Gilbert Rd  
1.5 mi
- ↷ 3. Turn right onto NY-414 S/NY-96A S  
1.9 mi
- ↶ 4. Turn left onto W Wyckoff Rd  
1.0 mi
- ↷ 5. Turn right onto S Town Bldg Rd  
1.0 mi
- ↑ 6. Continue onto Neeley Rd  
1.0 mi
- ↑ 7. Continue onto Keady Rd  
3.0 mi




- ↑ 8. Continue onto Ames Rd  
1.2 mi
- ↑ 9. Continue onto Interloken Trail  
0.7 mi
- ↶ 10. Turn left onto S Seneca Rd/Town Line Rd  
0.4 mi
- ↷ 11. Turn right onto Potomac Rd  
3.1 mi

**Foster pond camping area**

Potomac Rd, Burdett, NY 14818



 Use caution—walking directions may not always reflect real-world conditions

**Interloken Trail**  
Burdett, NY 14818

- ↑ 1. Head north on Interloken Trail toward Backbone Trail  
3.5 mi
- ↘ 2. Turn right onto S Seneca Rd/Town Line Rd  
8.1 mi
- ↙ 3. Turn left onto Frontenac Rd  
  - 📍 Destination will be on the right
  - 1.3 mi

**Camp Barton, Boy Scouts of America**  
9640 Frontenac Rd, Trumansburg, NY 14886