

LVSC Hike Report
La Mesita Blanca Short Loop - To'hajiilee
Friday, 03/06/20

Rating B
Hike Miles 4.4
Elevation Gain 265
Hike Time 1:00

Report It was certainly an auspicious beginning to our hike in To'hajiilee: clear skies with sunshine; an on-time departure; great driving by Carl on the sketchy two-track; 13 eager hikers spilling out of the van and heading towards the colorful hoodoos. We followed an ancient riverbed for awhile, admiring the fossils embedded in the rock, and then hiked -- through "prickers and stickers and spines, oh my!" -- to the first set of handsome sandstone formations, those with deep reds.

Continuing on, and crossing over the fence, however, there was a mishap. One of our hikers stumbled after negotiating the barbed wire, and fell forward along the length of the fence. Faced with several wounds and bleeding, it was determined we should not go on with the hike. It took awhile to stop the bleeding and to bandage the wounds. Fortunately a doctor and a nurse were among us, and several hikers helped with medical supplies. Our injured hiker was calm and determined to walk back to the van.

While Carl and another accompanying hiker walked back to the van and moved it closer over the formidable two-track, the other hikers ate lunch.

All's well that ends well: we got back to the van. Injured hiker remained comfortable. We arrived back at the center at 1 pm.

Thank you to our driver, Carl, our leader Tom, the courage of our injured hiker and to all of the hikers who were helpful and gracious about the turn of events.

Leslie

P.S. Tom has talked with the hiker. She is well and her injuries are healing.

Hike Leader Tom Dieterle

Photo Album 1 [Frank's photos](#)

Photo Album 2 [Paul's photos](#)