More Information

This hike should only be done by physically fit individuals. Trekking/hiking poles are recommended and hiking boots are a must. There are many rocks/boulders in the trail, please use caution. Please be aware of your surroundings—

RATTLESNAKES AND BEARS ARE IN THE AREA.

Who is Bam Bam?
Eric “Bam Bam” Barnett is Tuleyome’s Trail Building Coordinator/Guru. He has over 10 years of trail building experience—mostly with and as a volunteer. Volunteers named this trail in his honor to recognize Bam Bam’s hard work, dedication, and love of trail building. Bam Bam’s motto is “we build, camp, explore, create, and maintain trails all over this area and have some fun while we are at it.”

Directions to Trailhead

FROM WOODLAND/DAVIS/WINERS
State Highway 128 west around Lake Berryessa to Berryessa Knoxville Road. After 13 miles, turn left on Pope Canyon Road—immediately after crossing the first bridge. Follow Pope Canyon Road for 5.4 miles to the bridge over Pope Creek. Turn around and park to the east of the bridge.

FROM CLEAR LAKE AREA
Take State Highway 29 south to Butts Canyon Road. After 14.7 miles, continue to the left onto Pope Valley Road. In Pope Valley, take Chile Pope Valley Road to the left then turn left on Pope Canyon Road. Park after crossing the Pope Creek bridge.

TRAIL HEAD GPS COORDINATES (PARKING):
38.646931, -122.363547

Walters Hill summit

Look for this sign along the gravel road
Bam Bam Trail to Walters Hill

OVERVIEW:

This trail begins by following the Pope to Putah Trail, climbing 800 feet over “Brutus”. The trail spurs off 1.5 miles from the trail head and provides views of Pope Valley to the southwest and west, Spanish Valley to the north and Lake Berryessa, Berryessa Peak, and the Blue Ridge to the east.

The entire hike is spent in chaparral which provides little shade. Hikers should be prepared with a hat and dressed for the weather. Please abide by Leave-no-Trace principles.

DIFFICULTY: Moderate

LENGTH: 4.5 miles (round-trip)

ELEVATION GAIN: 1200 feet

TERRAIN: Single track path, some large rocks;

BEST TIME TO HIKE: September—April (wildflowers in the spring)

BERRYESSA SNOW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MONUMENT: NO

WAYPOINTS
P—Parking
1—Bridge over Pope Creek (Photo op)
2—Pope Creek to Putah Creek Trailhead
3—“Brutus” Summit
4—Road Intersection
5—Leave Road
6—Bam Bam Trail to Walters Hill

There is small parking area on the south side of Pope Canyon Road just to the east of the bridge of the creek (P). Please be sure to pull completely off the roadway to allow cars and bicyclists safe passage. Do NOT park to the west of the bridge.

To access the trail, cross the road to the guard rail and follow the asphalt to the gravel road leading up hill to the right. A short side trip to the bridge over Pope Creek offers a great photo op (1). Continue up the gravel road until you see the Pope Creek to Putah Creek Trail marker on the left. This is the beginning of the Pope Creek to Putah Creek (P2P) Trail—the Bam Bam Trail spurs off this about 1.5 miles from this point (2).

Follow the trail up hill for about 0.7 mi to a flat, open area. Rest here before beginning the climb up “Brutus”. The original trail was built straight up the hill with no switchbacks—this section was nicknamed “Brutus” by the volunteers who built it because it was very difficult. However, switchbacks have been added to decrease the effort required and increase the enjoyment. Take time to enjoy the views of Pope Valley to the southwest while hiking.

After conquering “Brutus” (3) the trail continues downhill to a very small stream crossing and eventually meets an illegally cut road (4). Follow this road for less than a tenth of a mile at which point the trail heads up hill (5). The Bam Bam Trail to Walters Hill diverges from the P2P Trail at this point (6). Follow the trail to the left for 0.75 mi to the top of Walters Hill.

Return to your vehicle by retracing your steps. This is an out-and-back trail.

This can be a side trip while hiking the P2P.