

Olympic National Forest Recreation Report
HOOD CANAL RANGER DISTRICT - NORTH



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Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm..
Monday Through Friday

24 hour kiosk Information board

CURRENT AS OF: October 18, 2004

FIRE CLOSURES

None

CAMPGROUNDS

DUNGENESS FORKS *Closed \$10 10 campsites Scenic Dungeness and Graywolf Rivers*

Available: Vault toilets, no potable water (pump has been vandalized), fire rings, tables, pack out garbage. Located 11.5 miles south of Sequim on Forest Service Road 2880.

Remarks: Steep, narrow unpaved access road not recommended for trailers or motorhomes. Closed for the winter season.

ELKHORN: *CLOSED THIS SEASON POSSIBLY LONGER.* – *DOSEWALLIPS ACCESS ROAD IS WASHED OUT 1 MILE BEFORE CAMPGROUND. THERE IS NO DETOUR.*
\$10 20 camping units Peaceful location on Dosewallips River

Available: Vault toilets, water, fire rings, tables, pack out garbage. Located 10 miles up the Dosewallips river road.

Remarks: MAJOR ROAD WASH OUT 1 MILE BEFORE CAMPGROUND, CAMPGROUND WILL BE CLOSED THIS COMING SEASON OR LONGER.

FALLSVIEW: *Closed \$10 30 campsites Above Big Quilcene River Canyon, waterfall, trails*

Available: Flush and vault toilets, water, fire rings, tables, trail to river, located 3 miles south of Quilcene on Highway 101.

Remarks: 21 ft. trailer size max. Some pull through sites. Closed for the winter season

RAINBOW GROUP SITE: *Closedn \$50 9 campsites Centrally located to many recreational activities.*

Available: Vault toilets, water, fire rings, tables, trail to river .

Remarks: Reservation only call 360-765-2200 to reserve. Sites are not large and are limited to tents and small recreational vehicles. Group reserves entire campground, up to 50 people. Closed ,for the winter season

SEAL ROCK: Closed \$12 41 campsites On beautiful Hood Canal beach

Available: Flush toilets, water, fire rings, tables, picnic area, beach- located 1 mile north of Brinnon

Remarks: Shellfish license required for oyster picking or clam digging and can obtained at the Brinnon General Store, two miles south of the campground. . 21 ft. trailer size maximum. Closed for winter season.

VIEWPOINTS

MT. WALKER VIEWPOINT *Open Scenic drive to viewpoints overlooking Olympics and Cascades*

Available : Vault toilets, picnic tables, parking area, two viewpoints (one handicapped accessible)

Remarks 4 mile narrow, winding, unpaved road, not recommended for motorhomes or vehicles pulling trailers. Excellent views of the Cascade range including Mt. Rainier and Mt. Baker. Views of the Puget Sound area include Quilcene Bay, Hood Canal and Kitsap Peninsula and in the far distance – Seattle. Olympic views include Mt. Constance, Mt. Townsend, Buckhorn Mountain.

HISTORIC RENTAL CABIN

LOUELLA CABIN *Open \$40 per night Peaceful rural setting on edge of National Forest.*

Available: Year round, water, electricity, heat, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, living room, bathroom/shower, furnished, bring personal items such as bedding, towels, etc.

Remarks: Reservations through Reserve America 1-877-444-6777, 6 people maximum. Check in time 2:00 pm, checkout is 12:00 noon. Call (360) 765-2200 for more information.

TRAILS

Hikers-please report any condition updates at any Olympic National Forest Office or on our website under Important Information: Comments/Suggestions.

A Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access or Golden Eagle is required year round for parking at Forest Service Trailheads (see last page of this report for details).

Stoves only above 3,500 feet inside all Olympic National Forest wildernesses. Currently no campfires are allowed outside of developed campgrounds, including briquette barbecues.

10 ESSENTIALS ARE NECESSARY: 1. Map of area, 2. compass, 3. flashlight/with extra batteries, 4. extra food, 5. extra clothing, 6. sunglasses, 7. pocket knife, 8. matches in waterproof container, 9. candle or fire starter, and 10 first aid kit. Also, needed are good boots, raingear, a leak proof tent and wool or polypropylene clothes to stay warm and dry. Weather changes rapidly in the Olympic Mountains. Don't forget wool gloves, and a hat. Anytime can be **Hypothermia Weather**.
I*Internet Link www.nwac.noaa.gov

BIG QUILCENE TRAIL #833 5.3 miles 2,500 – 4,950 feet and 30% maximum grade. FS Road 2750

Conditions: No recent report,

Remarks: Northwest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access or Golden Eagle is required at trailhead. Hang from rear view mirror or place on dashboard.

BUCKHORN LAKE TRAIL #845 0.5 miles (access Tubal Cain Mine or Upper Big Quilcene Trails)5,300 - 5,500 feet. FS Road 2870

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: Trail can be accessed from Tubal Cain, Upper Dungeness or Upper Big Quilcene Trails. Northwest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access or Golden Eagle is required at trailhead. Hang from rear view mirror or place on dashboard.

DEER RIDGE TRAIL #846 3.6 miles 2,540 - 5,230 ft. 35 % grade FS road 2875

Condition: No recent report

Remarks: Overnight wilderness backcountry Olympic National Park Permits required. Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access or Golden Eagle is required to park trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

DUNGENESS TRAIL #833 8.1 miles 2,500 – 6,000 feet. 10-20% grade FS Road 2870

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access or Golden Eagle is required to park trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

FALLSVIEW CANYON TRAIL #868 1.0 miles 400-200 feet. 10-20% grade Highway 101

Conditions: short steep trail to river. Trail clear.

Remarks: Hikers only, Northwest Forest Pass is NOT REQUIRED. Campground closed, Park at gate and walk left loop to picnic area.

FALLSVIEW LOOP TRAIL #848 0.1 mile Trail is level. Highway 101

Conditions: Clear

Remarks: Short trail encircles picnic area, accesses waterfalls viewpoint. Northwest Forest Pass is NOT REQUIRED. Campground is closed, park at gate. Walk left loop to picnic area.

GOLD CREEK TRAIL #830 6.3 miles 1,220 - 2,860 feet. 20% grade. Fs road 230 off of 28

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

GRAYWOLF TRAIL #834 4.2 miles 1,250-2,000 feet. 0-15% grade FS Road 2870

Conditions: Closed to stock, upper trail can be accessed via Slab Camp by fording river Gorge bridge has collapsed into the river. No recent report

Remarks: Trailhead at new location 1 mile before old trailhead. Trail closed at site of collapsed bridge.. Foot log from Graywolf River on Slab Camp Trail is also out. Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

HEATHER BASIN TRAIL #863 3.8 miles 3,250 – 4,250 feet. Fs Road 2870

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: Access from Upper Dungeness Trailhead, Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard. Alternate route on FS Road #2880.

HOME LAKE TRAIL #893 – FS Road 2870

Conditions: No recent report \

Remarks: OLYMPIC PARK OVERNIGHT PERMIT REQUIRED, CONTACT PARK SERVICE AT 360-565-3100. Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

LITTLE QUILCENE TRAIL #835 4.1 miles 4,200 – 5,275 feet. 15-20% grade. FS Road 2820

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: Parking pass is not required at this trailhead.

LOWER BIG QUILCENE TRAIL #833 6.3 miles 1,200 – 2,500 feet. 10-15% grade. FS Road 080 off of FS 27 road

Conditions: Clear

Remarks: Trailhead parking is small and may not have ample room for large horse trailers. Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

LOWER DUNGENESS TRAIL #833 6.3 miles 1,500 – 2,500 feet. 0-30% grade FS Road 230 off of FS Road 2870

Conditions: Trail is clear. .

Remarks: Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

MT. TOWNSEND TRAIL #839 6.7 miles (from upper trailhead to summit is 4.1 miles) 2,850 – 5,250 feet. 20% grade. Upper FS Road 190, Lower FS Road 2760 off of FS Road 27

Conditions; No recent report

Remarks: Lower trailhead is on FS Road #2760 road and the upper trailhead is on FS #190 road. Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

MT. WALKER TRAIL #894 2 miles 600 – 2,804 feet. 25% maximum grade.

Conditions: Trailhead is ¼ mile up Mt. Walker Road. Northwest Forest Pass is NOT REQUIRED

MT. ZION TRAIL #836 1.8 miles 2,950 - 4,273 feet. 15-20% grade FS Road 28

Conditions:. No recent report

Remarks: Restroom at trailhead parking area. Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

NED HILL TRAIL #837 1.1 miles 20-30% grade. FS Road 2878

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: hikers only. Parking pass is not required at this trailhead.

NOTCH PASS TRAIL #831 2.1 miles 800 – 2,400 feet. 10 to 15% grade. FS 010 off of Big Quilcene Road

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: Very small parking area, parking pass is not required at this trailhead.

RAINBOW CANYON TRAIL #892 0.5 miles 600 - 440 feet. 20% maximum grade. Highway 101

Condition: Clear

Remarks: Access via Rainbow Campground. Campground is reservation group site. Gate is locked, please park across the highway. Northwest Forest Pass is NOT REQUIRED.

ROYAL CREEK TRAIL #832 6.0 miles (access Upper Dungeness Trailhead) 2800 – 5130 feet FS Road 2870

Conditions: . Closed to stock no recent report

Remarks: Access via Upper Dungeness Trail. Trail enters Olympic National Park . Northwest Forest Pass Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard. overnight wilderness use permit required for Olympic National park. Quota area for overnight camping. Contact Park at 360-565-3100 before driving to trailhead for reservation information.

SILVER LAKES TRAIL #842 2.5 miles (access Mt. Townsend Trail) – 5,500 feet. – 5300’
8-10% grade FS 2760 Lower, FS 190 Upper Mt. Townsend Trailhead

Conditions. No recent report

Remarks: Trail starts 3 miles up Mt. Townsend Trail. Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

SLAB CAMP TRAIL #838 3.1 miles 2,540 – 1,440 feet. 30% grade. FS 2875

Conditions: Must ford river. No recent report

Remarks: Foot log washed out at Graywolf River-dangerous crossing on foot. Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

TUBAL CAIN MINE TRAIL #840 8.6 miles, (3.5 miles to mines) 3,300 – 6000 feet
8% grade. FS 2870

Conditions: 18” root wad in trail, difficult for stock, two trees across trail. No recent report

Remarks: Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

TUNNEL CREEK TRAIL #841 7.6 mi 2,600 – 5,050 feet. 20% grade FS Road 2740

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard.

TULL CANYON TRAIL #847 1.5 miles (access Tubal Cain Mine Trail) 4300 - 5,300 feet.
FS Road 2870

Conditions: No recent report

Remarks: Northwest Forest Pass, Golden Age, Golden Access, or Golden Eagle is required to park at trailhead. Hang on rearview mirror or place on dashboard

LAKES

LAKE	CONDITION	100% FROZEN	25% OPEN	50% OPEN	75% OPEN	100% OPEN
Buckhorn Lake						X
Charlia Lake						X
Harrison Lake						X
Silver Lake						X
Lower Silver Lake						X
Jupiter Lakes						X
Sink Lake						X

ROADS

Note: Closed roads mean they are physically closed by a gate or washouts. Road Open means there are no physical barriers, but could be temporarily inaccessible to your vehicle due weather related conditions such as snow and ice.

FS Road #2610 Dosewallips

Partially Closed

Conditions: Roads closed approximately 10 miles due to road washed out. Closed before Elkhorn and park boundary. Road will be closed this season possibly longer. No vehicle access to Elkhorn and Dosewallips National Park Campgrounds, or Lake Constance and Dosewallips trails. Foot bypass.

Remarks:

FS Road #2620 Rocky Brook

Open

Conditions: Clear

Remarks: Accesses Turner and Buck Mountains.

FS Road #27 Townsend Creek

OPEN

Conditions: Clear

Remarks: Access roads to Tunnel Creek, Upper and Lower Big Quilcene and Upper and Lower Mt. Townsend Trailheads

FS Road #2700090 Big Quil Lookout

OPEN

Conditions: Clear

Remarks: Views of Olympic and Puget Sound, small turnaround on top

FS Road #2700190 Upper Mt. Townsend

OPEN

Conditions: Clear

Remarks: Accesses Upper Mt. Townsend Trailhead

FS Road#2730 Mt. Walker

Open

Condition: Clear

Remarks:. 4 mile winding one lane gravel road leading to viewpoints, not recommend for trailers or motorhomes.

FS Road #2740 Tunnel Creek

OPEN

Condition: clear

Remarks: Accesses Tunnel Creek Trailhead

FS Road #2750 Big Quilcene	OPEN
Condition: Clear	
Remarks: Accesses Upper Big Quilcene Trailhead	
FS Road #2760 Mt. Townsend	OPEN
Conditions: Clear	
Remarks: Accesses Lower Mt. Townsend Trailhead	
FS Road #28 from Lords Lake	OPEN
Condition: Clear	
Little Quilcene and Mt. Zion Trailheads	
FS Road #28 from Palo Alto	OPEN
Conditions: Clear	
Remarks: Access roads to Gold, Lower and Upper Dungeness, Tubal Cain Mines, Royal Creek, and Mt. Zion trails.	
FS Road #2820 Little Quilcene	OPEN
Conditions: Clear	
Remarks: Accesses Little Quilcene Trailhead	
FS Road #2850 Snow Creek	OPEN
Conditions: Clear	
Remarks: Middle link between Snow Creek and Woods Road	
FS Road #2870 Caraco	OPEN
Conditions: Clear	
Remarks: Accesses Graywolf Trailhead, Gold Creek, Lower Dungeness, Upper Dungeness, Royal Basin, Tubal Cain Mines.	
FS Road #2875 Canyon Creek	OPEN
Conditions: Clear	
Remarks: Access roads to Slab Camp, Ned Hill and Deer Ridge Trails.	
FS Road #2877 McDonald Creek	OPEN
Conditions: Clear	
Remarks:	
FS Road #2880 Dungeness Forks	OPEN
Conditions: Clear. Use extreme caution, very narrow road.	
Remarks: Accesses Dungeness Forks Campground (closed for winter) , link to 2870 to access Upper and Lower Dungeness, Gold Creek, Royal Basin and Tubal Cain Mines.	
Mt. Jupiter Road	closed
Conditions: DNR generally closes gate for season by October 1. .	
Remarks: Accesses Mt. Jupiter Ridge Trail. .	

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Snow level: - CHECK WEATHER FORECASTS Snow level this week is 3,000 to 5,500 feet.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NORTHWEST FOREST PASS: There is a \$5 per vehicle per day pass required at most trailheads in the Olympic National Forest. An annual pass is \$30.00. These are valid from month of purchase to the month of purchase the following year. Please check with Ranger Station for details. Passes available at the Quilcene Ranger Station seven days a week (thru Labor Day Weekend, then back to Monday thru Friday) from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Passes also available at local vendors, Brinnon - Linda's Gifts and Videos, 11 am to 7 pm, 7 days a week, Sequim: Sequim Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center, 1192 E. Washington Street, hours 9 am to 5 pm Mon - Sat 10-4 Sun and at Port Angeles: Swains, 602 E. First Street, Mon - Sat 8 am to 9 pm, Sun 9 am to 6 pm, Port Townsend: Swains, 1121 Water Street, Mon - Sat 8:00 am - 9:00 pm, Sun 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Kingston: Streibel's Deli Mart, 26605 Star Rt. 104, Sun - Thur 5 am - 11 pm and Fri, Sat 5 am - 12 am Port Ludlow Marine, 1 Gull Drive, Port Ludlow 8:00 am to 5:00 pm 7 days per week, and Dosewallips State Park in Brinnon, and Henerey's Hardware store in Quilcene, ¼ north of Quilcene on left across from Presbyterian Church

Note: Holders of Golden Age, Golden Access and Golden Eagle will no longer be required to purchase Northwest Forest Passes. Parking at trailheads in the National Forest will be included in your Golden Passes. Holders to display your Golden passes in your vehicle will be also available .

Washington and Oregon Recreation passes are now available. These are add on passes to a current golden eagle passport. There is an additional \$20.00 for this pass. It is good for all Oregon State Parks and participating Washington State Parks. It is good for day use parking only. These are only available at ranger stations.

NORTHWEST PASSES AND MAPS CAN BE PURCHASES FROM THE FORMS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE AT: /<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/olympic>

AUTO TOUR Closed for the winter. The auto tours are selfguided drives through the National Forest. An information booklet with map and cassette tape are provided free of charge. Drop boxes are located at the end of the tours to return packets. Tour A starts at the Quilcene Ranger Station and goes up Lords Lake Road, to Bon Jon Pass, past Mt. Zion trailhead and ends up near Sequim on the Palo Alto Road. Tour B starts at the Ranger Station goes up Lords Lake Road and turns north heading to Snow Creek area, takes several winding roads and eventually end up at the Highway at Blyn. Stop areas have numbered signs to follow. Tapes are informational and educational about what the Forest Service is, and what some of are practices are. Auto Tour B is more historical with some oldtimers recanting the "olden days" in the forest.

RAFTING: Rafting is not recommended for most eastside Olympic Rivers. Rivers are shallow, short, steep and swift with many rocks and waterfall dropoffs. This includes canoes, kayaks, inner tubes, etc. These rivers have been dangerous and deadly. Please check with Ranger Stations for raftable rivers.

When hiking, we ask that you stay on the trail and help us keep the forests beautiful. Cutting switchbacks will save only seconds, while the destroyed vegetation will take years to recover.

BE SURE TO PUT ALL CAMPFIRES DEAD OUT.

Please pack out your garbage. You can help keep the forest green and clean!

PERMITS ARE REQUIRED TO REMOVE MOST FOREST PRODUCTS SUCH AS FIREWOOD, PLANT DIGGING, COMMERCIAL MUSHROOMS, AND CHRISTMAS TREES. FIREWOOD AVAILABILITY IS EXTREMELY LOW. PLEASE CHECK WITH RANGER STATION FOR PERMIT INFORMATION BEFORE REMOVING MATERIAL. Picking moss, bear grass, stripping cedar bark, bough cutting, and brushpicking are currently prohibited. Permits for plants, firewood, mushrooms are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

EVENTS

From time to time, the Olympic National Forest will host special events through out the coming year. There are none planned at this time.