



# RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

## Olympic National Forest

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/olympic>



### Colonel Bob Wilderness

Pacific Ranger District – Quinault Office  
353 South Shore Road P.O. Box 9  
Quinault, WA 98575 (360) 288-2525

**SIZE:** 11,961 acres

**KEY ACCESS POINTS:**

- South Shore Quinault Lake Road
- F.S. Road #2204
- Colonel Bob Trail #851
- Pete’s Creek Trail #858
- Fletcher Canyon Trail #857

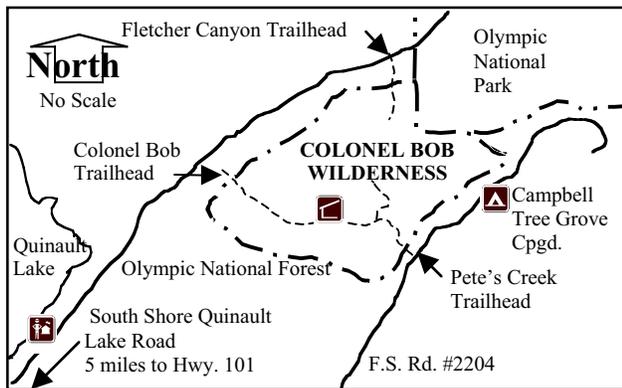
**Recommended Season**  
SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER



**OPPORTUNITIES:** There are excellent opportunities for nature study, backpacking, camping, hunting, and mountain climbing.

There are no lakes or major rivers in the Colonel Bob Wilderness. Mulkey trail shelter is located on the Colonel Bob Trail.

There are over 12 miles of trail inside the Wilderness. The elevation gain from the Pete’s Creek trailhead to the summit of Colonel Bob is about 3,000 feet with a round trip distance of approximately 8.5 miles. The elevation gain on the Colonel Bob Trail is about 4,200 feet with a round trip of about 14.5 miles. Trail access to the summit of Colonel Bob is steep and very strenuous. Both of these trails are considered difficult hikes.



**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** Located east of Quinault Lake in the southwest corner of the Olympic National Forest in Grays Harbor County. This Wilderness includes very steep terrain ranging in elevation from 300 feet in Quinault Valley to 4,509 feet along the eastern boundary.

Wilderness visitors should always carry rain gear and adequate clothing, food, and backpacking equipment. Proper boots and clothing should be worn. Practice **LEAVE NO TRACE** techniques during your wilderness trip.

**TOPO MAPS:** Quinault Lake USGS Quad or Quinault-Colonel Bob Custom Correct Map.

The lower slopes of the Wilderness are heavily forested with dense stands of conifers. The Colonel Bob Wilderness is in the temperate rain forest. Annual rainfall of 150 inches (mostly in the winter months) and summer fog create a dense forest canopy of Sitka spruce, western hemlock, and Douglas-fir with a lush under story of ferns, flowers, moss and lichens.

In the higher elevations, subalpine and alpine vegetation, green meadows, rock outcrops and rugged peaks dominate the wilderness landscape.

Views of Quinault Lake are spectacular.

**IMPORTANT NOTICES:**

**PASS REQUIRED:** A Northwest Forest Pass is required on all vehicles parked at trailheads. \$5 Day Pass & \$30 Annual Pass are available at FS offices and vendors. Passes are not available at trailheads.

**FIRE CLOSURE:** Fires above 3,500 feet elevation are prohibited within the wilderness. (FIRES ARE PROHIBITED AT MOONSHINE FLATS. STOVES ONLY ABOVE 3,500 FEET ELEVATION).

**GROUP SIZE:** Groups consisting of more than 12 persons and/or 8 livestock are prohibited within the wilderness.