



RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

Olympic National Forest

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



Copper Creek Trail #876

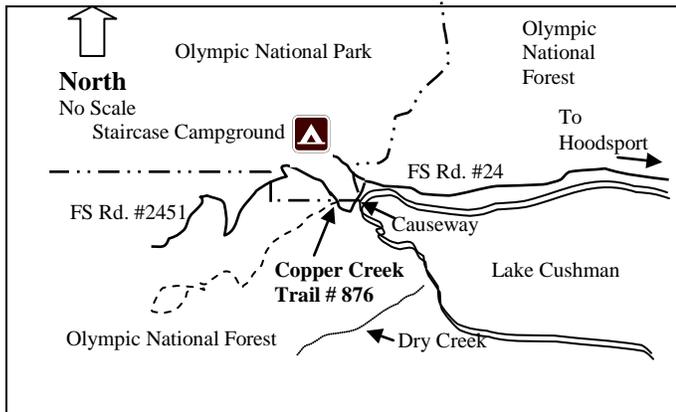
Hood Canal Ranger District – Quilcene Office
295142 Highway 101 S. P.O. Box 280
Quilcene, WA 98376 (360) 765-2200

Recommended Season
SPRING SUMMER FALL



ACCESS: Travel US Highway 101 to Hoodspport. Turn onto SR 119, drive 9.0 miles to the junction with FS Road #24. Turn left, continue 6 miles to FS Road #2451. Turn left at the causeway and park without blocking the gate. The causeway bridge was damaged in 2007 and a temporary bridge is open only to hikers and local residents. Hike ½ mile on FS Road #2451 to the trailhead located on the left,

miles the trail passes the Brown Mule mine site, then continues to follow Copper Creek canyon to the abandoned Apex Mine site at 1.4 miles. At 1.3 miles the trail branches and ascends to the ridge crest separating Copper and Elk Creek watersheds. At 1.9 miles the trail branches again, with both branches of the trail leading to the ridge crest. A “way trail” along the ridge connects these two branches to form a loop (the ridge leads toward Timber Mountain and Lightning Peak).



Destination	Miles	Elev.
Trailhead	0.0	800'
Brown Mule Mine site	0.2	1,000'
Ridge Trail branches	1.3	2,400'
Apex Mine site	.1	2,400
Ridge Loop Junction	1.9	2,900'
Ridge Crest (upper)	2.2	3,200'
Ridge Crest (lower)	2.5	3,000'
Round Trip	4.5	800'

FACILITIES: There is limited roadside parking at the trailhead. Look for the trail sign on left side of road, and to the left of Copper Creek. There are no facilities at the trailhead. Toilets are available at Bear Gulch Picnic Area just beyond the 24/2451 road junction.

OPPORTUNITIES: Day hiking, backpacking, wildlife observation, and scenery.

SETTING: This trail closely follows an old mine access trail, of which traces are still visible. According to geological records, mining activity dated prior to 1915, and the ore extracted was moderate grade manganese with some copper. The trail passes through, what many describe as a “classic” old growth forest with many large big-leaf maple, hemlock, true fir, Douglas fir, and cedar trees along the way. Many of the hemlocks are deformed as a result of a dwarf mistletoe infestation.

Practice LEAVE NO TRACE techniques during your hike.

CLOSURES: Motorized vehicles and bicycles prohibited.

TOPO MAPS: Mt. Skokomish-Lake Cushman Custom Correct Map or Mt. Tebo USGS Quad.

PASS NOT REQUIRED: A Northwest Forest Pass is **NOT REQUIRED** for parking at this trailhead.

TRAIL INFORMATION: This is a steep trail that forms a short loop at the ridge top. At 0.2