

Elk Lake Creek Trail #559



Recreation Opportunity Guide

Distance..... 8.7 miles (one way)
Elevation..... 2440-3800 feet
Snow Free June to October



Trail Highlights: This trail enters the Bull of the Woods Wilderness. This trail is a major north-south route traversing the east side of the Bull of the Woods Wilderness Area. It follows the scenic Elk Lake Creek valley for its entire length. The trail passes through areas of very large Douglas and True Fir old growth. Elk Lake Creek is an excellent stream for fishing. Please use caution when crossing Elk Lake Creek during high water months.

Trail Description: This trail begins at Forest Road 6380 and ends at Forest Road 4697. Beginning at Forest Road 6380 (2,440'), the trail quickly enters the Bull of the Woods Wilderness Area and begins to climb gradually on the north side of Elk Lake Creek. The trail reaches Pine Cone Creek after 0.8 mile (2,520'). The trail crosses the creek and continues climbing southwest 1.1 miles to Knob Rock Creek. The trail crosses the creek and heads south 0.2 mile to the junction with Welcome Lakes Trail #554 (2,640'). From the junction, the trail heads downhill gradually and after 0.2 mile the trail crosses Elk Lake Creek. The trail follows beautiful rolling terrain for the next 1.2 miles to another crossing of Elk Lake Creek (2,680'). The trail crosses the creek and travels another 1.2 miles to Battle Creek. There are a couple good campsites available in this area. 0.2 mile from Battle Creek, the trail reaches the junction with Mother Lode Trail #558 (2,800'). Head south from the junction on #559 and climb approximately 1.3 miles to where the trail levels (3,520'). The trail continues to climb gradually for the last 2.6 miles to Elk Lake (3,720').

Regulations & Leave No Trace Information:

- Group size is limited to 12. Stock are counted in the group size. For example, 3 people riding their own horse plus a spare horse in the group for packing would make a group of 7.

Leave No Trace

- Plan Ahead and Prepare: Prepare for extreme weather, hazards and emergencies.
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces: Use established trails and campsites.
- Dispose of Waste Properly: Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter.
- Leave What You Find: Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Minimize Campfire Impacts: Use established fire rings & keep fires small.
- Respect Wildlife: Control pets at all times.
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors: Avoid loud voices and noises.

For information on **Leave No Trace**, go to www.LNT.org or call 1-800-332-4100

For current trail conditions and more recreation information go to:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/mthood>

Map and driving directions on next page

Mt. Hood National Forest
16400 Champion Way
Sandy, OR 97055
503-668-1700

Clackamas River Ranger District
595 NW Industrial Way
Estacada, Oregon 97023
503-630-6861

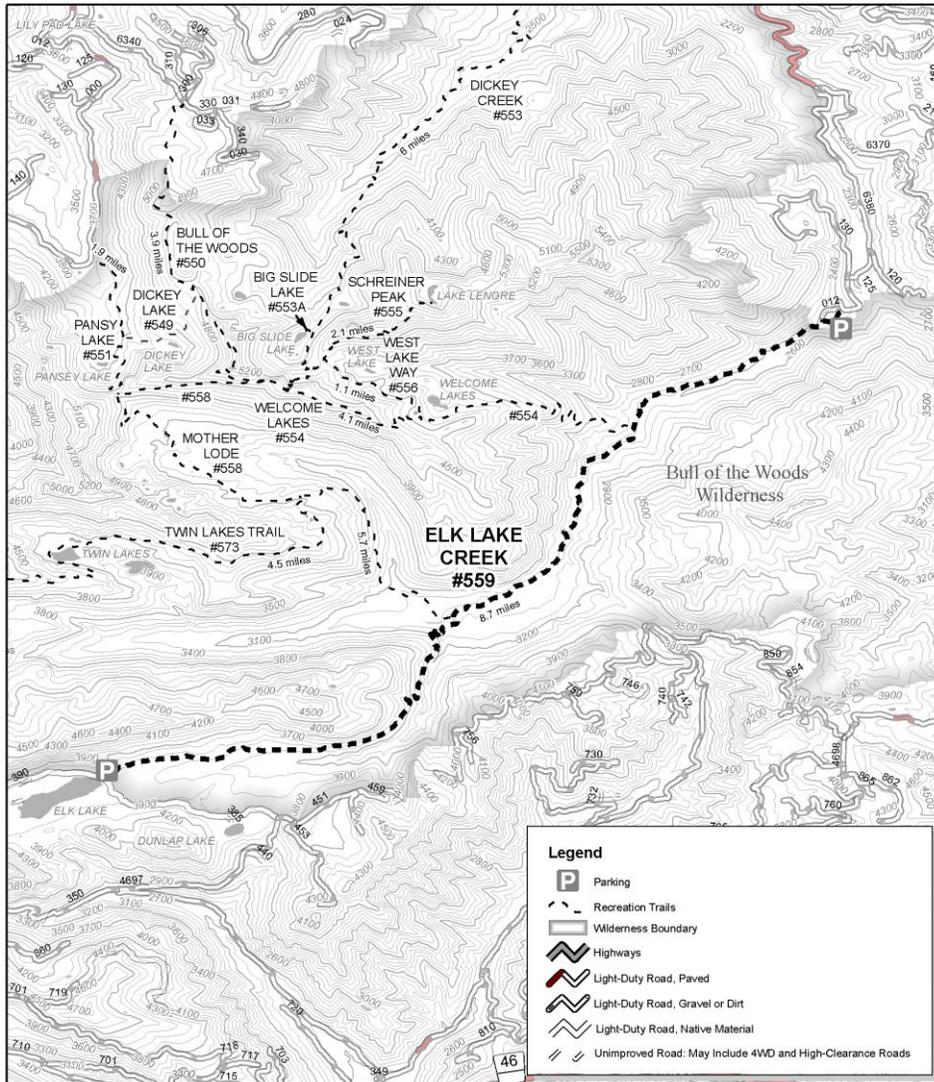
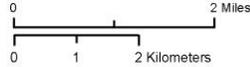
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Directions to Trailhead: From Portland to the North end of the trail, travel east on US Hwy 26 to Sandy. Turn right (southwest) on OR Hwy 211 and travel 6.1 miles to OR Hwy 224. Turn left (southeast) on OR Hwy 224 and travel south for 30.6 miles to Clackamas River Hwy (Forest Road 46) (approximately at milepost 50). Take the right fork onto Clackamas River Hwy and travel 3.7 miles to Collowash Road (Forest Road 63). Follow Forest Road 63 for 12.5 miles to Forest Road 6380. Take the left fork onto Forest Road 6380, travel 2.3 miles and cross the Collowash River. Turn left after crossing Collowash River and continue on 6380 0.4 mile to the trailhead.

From Detroit to the South end of the trail, follow Forest Road 46 (Breitenbush Rd.) 4.4 miles to Forest Road 701. Turn left (north) onto Forest Road 701 and travel 0.6 mile to Forest Road 4697. Follow 4697 for 6 miles to the trailhead parking area on the right (east) side of the road.

559 Elk Lake Creek
8.7 miles 14 km



Recommended maps: Clackamas Ranger District

