



RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

Olympic National Forest

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



Wonder Mtn. Wilderness

Recommended Season

SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER



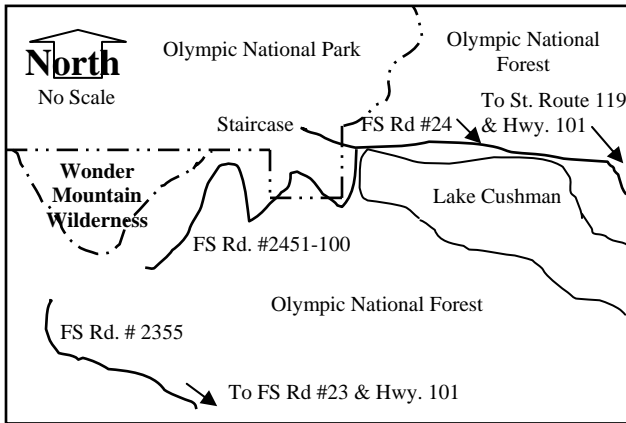
Hood Canal Ranger District – Quilcene Office
295142 Highway 101 South P.O. Box 280
Quilcene, WA 98376 (360) 765-2200

SIZE: 2,349 acres

KEY ACCESS POINTS:

F.S. Rd. #2355 & 2451-100

NOTE: Cross-country access only. There are no constructed trails in the Wonder Mountain Wilderness.



OPPORTUNITIES: The Wonder Mountain Wilderness has good opportunities for backpacking, mountain climbing, fishing and camping in a primitive setting. Opportunities for solitude are excellent.

There are no trails within this Wilderness. Access is only by cross-country travel. Wilderness travelers should carry the Ten Essentials including a map of the area and compass for route finding.

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: Mt. Steel and Mt. Tebo USGS Quads or Mt. Skokomish – Lake Cushman Custom Correct Map.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This 2,349 acre Wilderness is one of the smallest wildernesses in the Western United States. Wonder Mountain Wilderness borders the Olympic National Park and is located west of Lake Cushman in Mason County. Terrain is generally rugged and ranges from a low of 1,740 feet in McKay Creek to the summit of Wonder Mountain at 4,758 feet. The lower slopes are heavily timbered with dense stands of Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and Pacific silver fir. Massive rock outcrops and precipitous pinnacles are common in the higher elevations.

Wonder Mountain is the highest peak in the Wilderness. Wonder Ponds and several other small ponds are located in the high headwaters of McKay Creek. There are no rivers or major streams in the Wilderness.

The two major access roads have seasonal closures from Oct. 1 to May to protect wildlife.

IMPORTANT NOTICES:

PASS MAY BE REQUIRED: A Northwest Forest Pass or a Golden Passport (Eagle, Age or Access) is required on all vehicles parked at *SOME* trailheads. However, **there are no trailheads serving Wonder Mountain Wilderness.** Day & Annual Passes 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 WONDER PONDS AND ALL OTHER PONDS IN THE WILDERNESS. 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.