RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE



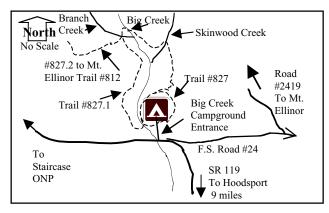
Olympic National Forest -

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

Upper Big Creek Loop Trail #827.1 & #827.2

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

ACCESS: Travel US Highway 101 to Hoodsport and turn onto State Route 119. Drive 9 miles to the junction with FS Road #24. Turn left and travel 150 feet. The entrance to Big Creek Campground is on the right. The trailhead is 400 feet inside the campground next to the picnic shelter.



FACILITIES: Facilities available at the campground, near the trailhead, include toilets, potable water, picnic shelter and campsites with fire rings and tables. When day-hiking, park at the trailhead parking lot. A camping fee is charged to park in one of the camping spurs.

SETTING: This trail passes through mature second growth and affords the hiker an excellent walk in the forest. Big-leaf maple, vine maple, western hemlock (Washington State tree), red alder, western red cedar, and Douglas-fir are common trees seen along the trail.

TRAIL INFORMATION: Trail #827.1 makes a four mile loop around Big Creek Basin. To access the trail, start at the picnic shelter, cross the lower Big Creek Bridge and then turn left. The trail proceeds in a northerly direction for 1.7 miles to a bridge across Branch Creek. Near this



Recommended Season SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER

point a side loop trail goes to the confluence of Big and Branch Creeks. From Branch Creek, trail #827.2 connects the Loop trail to the Lower Mt. Ellinor trail in 1.3 miles. The Loop trail runs northeasterly 400 to the Big Creek Bridge then continues, crossing several creeks, until the campground is reentered at 4.0 miles. Each creek crossing and confluence are excellent places to enjoy lunch (benches provided) in beautiful surroundings.

Destination	Miles	Elev.
Trailhead	0.0	980
Branch Crk & side loop	1.7	1,850
#827.2 connector trail	1.75	1,860
to Mt.Ellinor Trail #812		
High point of trail	1.9	1,870
Skinwood Creek	2.5	1,580
Enter Campground	4.0	1,030
End of Loop	4.3	980

OPPORTUNITIES: Day hiking, jogging, picnicking, nature walk, wildlife observation, and bird watching. Via trails #827.1, #827.2, and #812, a hiker can trace the historic climbing route from Big Creek Campgound to the summit of Mt. Ellinor, total 6.2 miles.

Practice LEAVE NO TRACE techniques during your hike.

CLOSURES: Bicycles, motorized vehicles and horses are prohibited on the trail.

PASS REQUIRED: A NW Forest Pass or a Golden Passport (Eagle, Age, or Access) is required on each vehicle parked at trailhead. Day & Annual NW Passes are available at FS offices and vendors, but not at trailheads.