



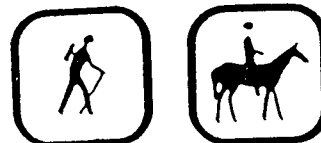
Clackamas River Ranger District

Estacada Ranger Station
595 NW Industrial Way
Estacada, OR 97023
(503) 630-6861 or 630-8700

Ripplebrook Guard Station
61431 E Hwy 224
Estacada, OR 97023

WHETSTONE TRAIL # 546

Recommended Season: June to November



Length: 4.1 miles Use: Medium
Elevation: 3800' to 4600' Difficulty: More difficult
USGS Map: Battle Ax NW 1979

Description: *(closed to mountain bikes and motorized vehicles).*

(within Bull of the Woods Wilderness area, except for the first 1/2 mile).

The Whetstone Trail is a ridge trail connecting the Bagby Trail # 544 with Whetstone Mountain and Road 7020. The majority of this trail is in the Bull of the Woods Wilderness Area. The first section of trail travels through huge old growth, through a patch of Alaskan Yellow Cedar and from there through Mountain Hemlock, Douglas Fir and Silver Fir. You will be inspired by the great volcanic views of Mt. Jefferson and the Three Sisters and the variety of wildflowers that can be found in this area.

Trail Access:

The Whetstone Trail # 546 trailhead is reached by traveling south on Hwy. 224 for 25.6 miles, (approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile past Ripplebrook Ranger Station), and turn right onto Forest Road 46. On road 46 travel $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles and turn right onto road 63 (follow the signs to Bagby Hot Springs and paralleling the Collawash river), and turn right again onto road 70. Travel past Bagby Hot Springs parking lot for approximately 1 mile and turn left onto Road 7020 continuing to the end.

Trail Mileage Log:

- 0.0 Leave parking area off Road 7020 at approximately 4100' elevation and descend through clearcut area.
- 0.2 Enter deep old growth forest. Shortly thereafter begin climb, including switchbacks.
- 0.7 Rock slide area and small pond. Then resume climb via switchbacks.
- 1.0 Circle small sinkhole and continue climb.
- 1.1 Cross small creek.
- 1.2 Trail junction to the right goes to Whetstone Mountain. Trail to the summit is one mile long, climbing the south face of the ridge through subalpine forest to a junction with an old trail down to Gold Creek, then via switchbacks to the rocky top of the mountain. Spectacular views of all mountains from Mt. Rainier to the Three Sisters. Main trail turns and follows wooded east-west ridgetop downward.
- 2.0 Low point on ridge trail in deep forest. Trail junction with old trail into Battle Ax Creek valley. Then start climb up ridge.
- 2.6 View points up and down ridge.
- 3.0 Level area on ridge. Vegetation subalpine and open. Continue climbing via switchbacks.
- 3.4 Open ridgetop with panoramic views. No more climbing!
- 3.8 S-turn in trail between cliff above and rock outcropping below, very scenic.



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Forest Service
Pacific Northwest
Region

Mt. Hood
National
Forest

WHETSTONE TRAIL # 546

