

## **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

## GERONIMO TRAIL # 557

Recommended Season: June to November

Length: Elevation: 2.2 miles

Use:

Medium

2900' to 4880'

Difficulty:

Most difficult

USGS Map: Battle Ax NE 1979

Description: (in Bull of the Woods Wilderness area, closed to mountain bikes and motorized vehicles). The Geronimo Trail is an exceedingly steep and little-used trail. It connects the Mother Lode Trail # 558 (near Battle Creek Shelter) with the Welcome Lakes Trail # 554. Geronimo and Welcome Lakes trails junction on a ridgetop that extends to the northwest for approximately one mile as the crow flies (however, it is 1.8 via trail # 554 where it ends at Bull of the Woods). This is called the "direct route" to Bull of the Woods, and it's a real gut-buster. It climbs 2000 feet in two miles. If you are traveling south no water is available for stock on the Geronimo Trail until you reach Battle Creek.

Trail Access: (*No access via road*: see the Trail Use Guides for trails mentioned below). Geronimo Trail # 557 connects Mother Lode Trail # 558 (originating at Mother Lode Creek) with Welcome

Lakes Trail # 554 approximately 0.6 miles west of Welcome Lakes.

HOWEVER:

Neither Mother Lode Trail # 558 nor Welcome Lakes Trail # 554 have a trailhead on a road. See the map that is with Elk Creek Trail # 559 to better understand access to this trail.

## Trail Mileage Log:

- Leave Mother Lode Trail # 558 0.5 mile from Battle Creek Shelter and climb gradually northward 0.0 through deep trees.
- 0.2 Old Geronimo Mine site.
- 1.0 Gradual climb along ridge in tall trees. Nice views out between the trees.
- Continuing up ridge. No tall trees. Trail tends to be very overgrown and difficult to follow. 1.4
- 1.7 Back in forest, traversing hillside.
- 1.9 Cross grassy meadow, then reach summit of ridge with view north.
- Level ridgeline leads to the end of the trail at its junction with Welcome Lakes Trail # 554 1.8 miles 2.2 from Bull of the Woods.

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