79-Mile Adventure!

North Umpqua Trail
Umpqua National Forest
Roseburg District
Bureau of Land Management

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Bureau of Land Management
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This brochure is a cooperative project developed by
the Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management
and the Umpqua National Forest.

Cover photo: Mott Segment. All photographs courtesy
of Ron Murphy, Terry Klingenberg and Gregg Morgan.
Take a Hike!

Hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, photography, fishing, and sight-seeing opportunities abound in the spectacular settings of the North Umpqua Trail in the Cascade mountains of the Pacific Northwest.

In the early 1970’s, local trail advocates envisioned a trail extending from Rock Creek to the Cascades. Construction began in 1978 and was completed in 1997 through the cooperative efforts of many dedicated volunteers, the Umpqua National Forest, Roseburg District Bureau of Land Management, and Douglas County Parks Department.

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The North Umpqua

Segments:
- Tioga: 15.7 Miles
- Mott: 5.5 Miles
- Panther: 5 Miles
- Calf: 3.7 Miles
- Marsters: 3.6 Miles
- Jessie Wright: 4.1 Miles

The North Umpqua River from Rock Creek to Soda Springs Dam has "fly-fishing-only" regulations.

What are the Elevation Changes Along the Trail?

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<td>1000</td>
<td>800'</td>
<td>1200'</td>
<td>1110'</td>
<td>1320'</td>
<td>1440'</td>
<td>1580'</td>
<td>1800'</td>
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What Forest Types are You Walking Through?

1. Hemlock Forest
   - Hemlock, Douglas-fir, Western Red Cedar, Sugar Pine

2. White Fir Forest
   - White Fir, Shasta Red Fir, Douglas-fir
Planning Your Trek

The North Umpqua Trail offers 12 primary trailheads which provide parking and access to segments varying from 3.5 to 15.7 miles in length. For campgrounds nearest the trailhead, check the segment inset maps in this brochure. Primitive camping along the trail is allowed but it is recommended in locations out of view from other trail users. Mott is the only trailhead with drinking water.

Natural occurrences such as slides, forest fires, fallen trees, and snow pack affect trail users. Contact the offices listed below for current trail conditions.

Tioga Segment
Roseburg District BLM (11 mi.) .......... 541.440.4930
North Umpqua Ranger District (4.7 mi.) 541.496.3532

Mott through Marsters Segments
North Umpqua Ranger District ............ 541.496.3532

Jessie Wright through Maidu Segments
Diamond Lake Ranger District .......... 541.498.2531

Difficulty Levels

The difficulty level of a trail is determined by the challenge it presents to the physical ability of the average hiker.

Easy
Grades: Less than 10%
Trail width: 24+ inches
Surface: Relatively smooth

Moderate
Grades: 10% to 15%, up to 30%
Trail width: 12 to 24 inches
Surface: Can be rough

Difficult
Grades: 15% to 20%, up to 30%
Trail width: 12 inches
Surface: Rough
Trail Safety & Courtesy

- Carry an ample supply of water. Do not drink untreated water.
- Know your hiking limit. Some trail segments are very long.
- Hikers and mountain bikers should move to the side or just off the trail when encountering horseback riders.
- Mountain bikers should travel at a safe speed on the trail.
- Bikers and equestrians should give verbal warning when nearing hikers from the rear or on blind curves.
- After hiking, inspect yourself for ticks, which attach themselves and live off the blood of mammals. Ticks can transmit Lyme disease.
- Wasps, hornets and yellow jackets are a common occurrence along the trail. Carry necessary kits, if needed.
- Check seasonal fire restrictions before lighting a campfire. For the BLM portion, call the Douglas Forest Protection Association at 541.672.6507. For segments on the Umpqua National Forest, call the corresponding ranger district shown on the previous page under Planning Your Trek.

Map Legends

- Highway, Road
- Primary Trailhead
- Other Trail Access Point
- North Umpqua Trail
- Other Trail
- Interest Area
- Developed Campground (Blue indicates disabled accessible)
- Dispersed Campsite (Limited facilities)
- Picnic/Day-Use Area
- Horse Camp
- USFS Ranger Station
- Wilderness Area

Trailheads

Trailhead Facilities

- Trail
- Restroom
- Picnic/Day-Use Area
- Campground
- Drinking Water

Blue symbols indicate sites with accessible facilities for people with disabilities.
**Tioga Segment**

**Length:** 15.7 miles  
Difficult steep terrain, long distance

The Swiftwater Trailhead is the western end of the North Umpqua Trail. The Tioga Segment is the lowest in elevation, and provides year-round recreation opportunities. The trail winds through old-growth forests of Douglas-fir, hemlock, and sugar pine, with trees often over six feet in diameter.

The first quarter-mile of the trail is accessible to persons with disabilities and provides easy access to 1 Deadline Falls. Travel another 1.5 miles through attractive forested fern groves to the small, but picturesque, 2 Fern Creek Falls. Day-hikers can venture a few more miles through riparian and forested areas, to Bob Butte. Then it's up the trail to a rock outcrop meadow and suggested turnaround point for day-hikers. Beyond this, the trail drops down and meanders for many miles, close to the North Umpqua River.
Hikers who want to complete all 15.7 miles might consider spending the night due to the long distance. There are no developed campsites, although primitive "no-trace" camping is allowed off the trail.

Standing on the footbridge will give you a good view of delightful Fern Creek Falls on one side and the North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River on the other.

1 **Deadline Falls Watchable Wildlife Site**

Between the months of May and October, anadromous (sea-run) salmon and steelhead can be seen jumping the falls on their journey from the ocean to their spawning grounds. Interpretive information is available on-site.
**Mott Segment**

**Length:** 5.5 miles  
**Moderate**

Paralleling the North Umpqua River, this segment serves as an excellent year-round access for all trail users. Passing through an old-growth forest at the western portion, the trail follows the river with small scramble trails down to the waters edge, where you can enjoy fly-fishing as well as beautiful scenery.

East of Wright Creek is the **3** McDonald Trail. After several steep switchbacks, this four-mile side trail passes through middle-aged and old-growth forests and an old homestead. Wildflowers abound in the spring.

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**Mountain Bikers!**

**4 Riverview Trail**  
**Easy**

The original North Umpqua Highway was built in 1926. Today this route is a six-mile side trail (#1530) that offers hikers and mountain bikers a loop opportunity when combined with the Mott Segment of the North Umpqua Trail and Highway 138. Access to the trail is either from Bogus Creek Campground on the west end or just off Highway 138 on Forest Road 38 on the east end.
Panther Segment

Length: 5 miles  Moderate

This portion serves as an excellent year-round trail for hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians. The trail passes by alder-covered gravel bars, then climbs to rocky bluffs away from the river.

The picturesque Steamboat Area has served as a retreat to countless visitors through time. From traditional peoples who gathered food here, to miners vainly searching for gold, to a century of tourists, this area has drawn visitors from around the world.

5 Mott Bridge

Located in the heart of the Steamboat Area, the Mott Bridge has provided a crossing over the North Umpqua River since 1936. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), this Oregon Historic Engineering Landmark was named after Major Jordan Lawrence Mott IV. The area on the south side of the river (the Mott Trailhead) provides access to the Mott and Panther segments. Interpretive displays highlight information about the area. A pay phone is available.
Calf Segment

Length: 3.7 miles  ▶  Moderate

Along this segment, the trail stays near the river allowing hikers to hear its rapids. You’ll pass along the edge of the 17,000-acre human-caused Apple Fire of 2002. Here, the North Umpqua River stopped the fire from spreading farther north. Along this segment, you will see burned trees and the beginning of the natural regrowth process.

Due to unsafe conditions caused by the Apple Fire’s fallen trees and landslides, this segment is closed to all trail users until further notice.
Marsters Segment

Length: 3.6 miles Moderate

Offering visitors a bird's-eye view of the river below, the trail winds through moss-covered rock bluffs, fern-covered hillsides, lush forests, then passes above an 7 old-growth Douglas-fir grove that features several 5 to 7-foot diameter giants over 800 years old!

8 Weeping Rocks Spawning Beds

Chinook salmon begin and end their lives here. This watchable wildlife area, just off Hwy.138 on Road 4770, shows their spawning beds. From September to November adult Chinook salmon return from the Pacific Ocean to spawn at this site. Interpretive information is available on-site.
**Jessie Wright Segment**

**Length:** 4.1 miles  
**Level:** Moderate

In 1915, Jessie Wright (1898-1990) and her husband, Perry, homesteaded nearby. The trail will take you along an old roadbed, into Dark Canyon, through a forest of Douglas-fir and big-leaf maple, and below the volcanic remnants of Eagle Rock and Old Man Rock.

Several side trails intersect with this segment. The Illahee Flats Trail (1 mile) leads to a scenic Cascade meadow used in the past as an American Indian gathering place and a Forest Service Guard Station; and now as a popular area for equestrians. The Boulder Creek and Bradley Trails provide a loop trail through the Boulder Creek Wilderness. Both trails are closed to mountain bikes.

**12 Columnar Basalt**

When molten lava flowed, then cooled, these vertical columns were formed. Over the years, brightly colored lichens have grown adding spectacular contrast to the unique pillars.
Deer Leap Segment

Length: 9.6 miles

Moderate (west to east)
Difficult (east to west)

Named after a volcanic plug that rises 1500-feet above the river, this trail segment follows high along the canyon rim. At the western end, you’ll pass by the Soda Springs Dam and Reservoir, then cross Medicine and Slide Creeks. Look for a great view from an open bluff 500 feet above the North Umpqua River.

A side trip will take you to see Medicine Creek Indian Pictographs, one-mile up Road 4775. Please respect this cultural heritage site. Near Toketee Lake is Toketee Falls, a double-tiered waterfall plunging 80 and 40-feet over a sheer wall of columnar basalt to the emerald pool below.
Hot Springs Segment

Length: 3.5 miles
Moderate

Although short, this segment crosses the North Umpqua River three times. From Toketee Lake, hikers will see the tall metal penstock that channels water down a steep cliff to the hydroelectric generator below. You will find both camping and fishing at Toketee Lake.

16 Umpqua Hot Springs

The 0.3 mile trail (#1444) leads hikers to relaxation in the 108°F hot springs "tub" covered by a log structure.
Dread and Terror Segment

Length: 13 miles  •  Difficult

In 1908, two rangers on horseback named a four-mile ridgeline south of the river as "Dread and Terror" in reference to the disagreeable possibility of fighting forest fires in the impenetrable thickets of white thorn brush blanketing the area.

Many forms of flowing water make this segment unique. Just east of the Umpqua Hot Springs, you'll discover 17 Surprise and Columnar Falls. Several miles farther you'll find 18 Lemolo Falls, a wonderful 102-foot "horsetail-type" falls.
20 Crystal Springs

Turn north on Road 700 as it crosses the trail. In approximately ½ mile, you’ll come to Crystal Springs and a dispersed campsite. The moss-covered springs demonstrate the high water storage capacity of the volcanic rock of the High Cascades.

19 Lemolo Lake

Lodgepole pine trees surround a small resort, day-use area, and four campgrounds. Panoramic views of the High Cascades (Mt. Thielsen) can be seen from the lake.

This segment travels west-east on the lower slopes of Bunker Hill through mixed-conifer forests of Douglas-fir, lodgepole and ponderosa pine. 19 Lemolo Lake (to the south) is the largest reservoir in the North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project. The lake was formed in 1954 behind a 120-foot rock dam and covers 435 acres.
Maidu Segment

Length: 9 miles  🚫 Difficult

The first mile of trail from Kelsay Valley Trailhead follows the river as it meanders through a broad, grassy flat. At 2.7 miles, near the Tolo Mountain Trail (#1466) you enter the 55,100-acre Mt. Thielsen Wilderness (this segment is closed to mountain bike use). As the trail climbs toward Maidu Lake, you will travel over deep deposits of pumice deposited over 7,700 years ago by the eruption of Mt. Mazama that created Crater Lake.

From Maidu Lake, you hike west to Kelsay Valley Trailhead (9 miles) or east to Digit Point Trailhead (4.75 miles).

Be prepared for hoards of mosquitos during the late spring and early summer months.

Lake Lucile and Maidu Lake

At about 6,000 foot elevation, both of these High Cascades lakes are stocked with fingerling trout. Lake Lucile covers 9 acres and averages a depth of 15 feet. Maidu Lake, the source of the North Umpqua River, averages a depth of 12 feet and covers 20 acres.
Protecting Natural Resources

- Protect fragile vegetation, stay on the trail.
- Fly-fishing-only regulations apply to the stretch of the North Umpqua River from Rock Creek to the Soda Springs Dam. Steamboat Creek is closed to all fishing.
- Pack it in, pack it out. Leave nothing behind!
- Wash with biodegradable soap, away from open water.
- Be sure your matches are completely out. Crush and pack out all cigarettes.
- Carry feed for stock as natural food is scarce. Hobble or high-line stock, do not tie to trees. Keep stock 100 feet from streams except when watering.
- Stream water is easily contaminated by human or animal wastes. If no toilets are available, bury solid waste in "catholes" 6-8 inches deep, 200 feet from water, campsites, and trails. Pack out toilet paper.
- Motorized vehicle trail use is prohibited.
Poison Oak is widespread from Swiftwater (Tioga Segment) to Toketee, growing as a shrub or vine. The oil is contained in ALL parts of the plant, and when touched, may cause a burning, itching rash lasting from days to week. Wash immediately and thoroughly if you touch any part of the plant. Reactions vary and may require medical attention.

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