



Clackamas River Ranger District

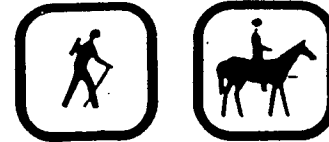
Estacada Ranger Station
595 NW Industrial Way
Estacada, OR 97023
(503) 630-6861 or 630-8700

Ripplebrook Guard Station
61431 E Hwy 224
Estacada, OR 97023

BAGBY TRAIL # 544 (2 pages)

Recommended Season: March to November.

Length: 12.4 miles **Use:** Heavy
Elevation: 2000' to 4700' **Difficulty:** More Difficult
USGS Map: Battle Ax



Description: *(the southern part is within Bull of the Woods Wilderness area).
(Closed to bikes and motorized vehicles).*

The Bagby Trail is a long north-south trail that traverses the whole width of the wilderness area from Road 70 in the north to Elk Lake in the south. Starting in the north at 2000' elevation, the trail climbs gradually through the forested valley of the Hot Springs Fork of the Collawash River and finally reaches an elevation of 4500' at the pass above Silver King Lake. It follows some ridges with good views for a few miles before descending to Elk Lake at 4000'. The northern 2 miles of trail receives high visitor use because of popular Bagby Hot Springs.

Trail Access:

The northern trailhead: The Bagby Trail # 544 is reached by traveling south on Hwy. 224 for 25.6 miles, (approximately 1/2 mile past Ripplebrook Ranger Station), where Hwy. 224 changes into Forest Road 46. On road 46 travel 3 1/2 miles turning right onto road 63 (follow the signs to Bagby Hot Springs). Stay on Road 63 following the Collawash River and then turning right onto Road 70 and travel another six miles to the Bagby Hot Springs trailhead on the left.

The southern trailhead: From the City of Detroit, Oregon the trailhead is reached by travelling 5 miles on Road 46 along the Breitenbush River, then turning left on Road 2209 and driving approximately 8 increasingly rough and rocky miles to the Beachie Saddle Road above the west end of Elk Lake. (Park at the Elk Lake Campground.)

Trail Mileage Log:

- 0.0 Leave parking area for Bagby Hot Springs on Road 70 and cross the bridge at Nohorn Creek. The trail to the Hot Springs is heavily used and very well maintained and graded.
- 0.6 Trail comes alongside the Hot Springs Fork of the Collawash River. Huge old growth trees are along the entire route.
- 1.2 Cross the Hot Springs Fork on footbridge. Begin slight uphill climb.
- 1.5 Bagby Hot Springs area, with open-air tubs. Nudity may be encountered. No camping is allowed in this area.
- 1.8 Shower Creek: waterfall, bridge and camping area in deep forest.
- 2.1 Cross Spray Creek. Enter Bull of the Woods Wilderness Area.
- 2.7 Cross Small Creek in deep old growth forest along the Hot Springs Fork.
- 2.9 Doris Creek. Trail leaves the Hot Springs Fork.



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- 3.3 Cross Ora Creek.
- 3.5 Cross Alice Creek.
- 4.1 Cross Pal Creek.
- 4.3 Viewpoint at the top of a rise. Whetstone Mountain is to the west and the Hot Springs Fork is below.
- 4.7 Cross Betty Creek at its junction with Hot Springs Fork. Trail then follows the Hot Springs Fork.
- 5.0 Cross Ester Creek. Still in deep forest.
- 5.5 Cross Hot Springs Fork. Gradually increasing steepness of trail as it continues through the forest.
- 6.6 First switchback in trail.
- 6.8 Cross Port Orford Creek, then climb steeply
- 7.0 Two more small creeks and "Howdy Doody Camp".
- 7.3 Trail junction. Trail to west climbs sharply for 0.2 mile to Silver King Lake. Main trail continues ahead through series of switchbacks toward the ridgeline above.
- 7.8 Forest begins to thin and open up.
- 8.0 Summit of the ridge and trail junction with the Whetstone Trail # 546. This is a beautiful ridge with views in all directions.
- 8.1 Spring beside trail. Trail follows contours along the south slope of Silver King Mountain. Low, open vegetation; good views.
- 9.0 Trail junction with Twin Lakes Trail # 573. Trail then follows ridgeline around rocky outcroppings with views of Mt. Jefferson, Silver King Mountain and other peaks and valleys.
- 10.0 High point on trail; 4900'.
- 11.0 Small ponds, bridge at end of rock slide area. Re-enters the forest.
- 11.7 Level spot on the trail with a good view south and east including all of Elk Lake. Then begin descent through forest.
- 12.4 Trail ends at Road 2209 about 0.3 miles west of Elk Lake on the road to Elk Lake Campground.

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