



MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST
ZIGZAG, OR 97049 666-0704 or 622-3191

BALD MOUNTAIN TRAIL #784

TRAIL BEGINS: 866 meters (2840 feet) Elevation
At its junction with the Ramona Falls
Loop Trail #797.

TRAIL ENDS: 1257 meters (4120 feet) Elevation
At its junction with Pacific Crest
National Scenic Trail #2000.

ACCESS #1: Follow the directions to Ramona Falls
Loop Trail #797, head northeast at the start of
the loop for .6 mile to the junction with Bald
Mountain Trail.

ACCESS #2: Follow the directions to the Pacific
Crest National Scenic Trail #2000 (from Lolo Pass),
follow it to its junction with the Timberline Trail
#600 and Bald Mountain #784.

ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS: The Bald Mountain Trail,
a former section of the Pacific Crest National Scenic
Trail, gains almost 1500 feet in elevation as it travels
from the Muddy Fork up toward the summit of Bald Mountain.
While the Bald Mountain Trail is not very scenic (it
gains all of its elevation through a series of
repetitive forested switchbacks), it does provide
both a loop opportunity, as well as an
alternative access to the section of PCNST
passing through the Muddy Fork of the
Sandy River. This last portion can be
impassible to horses early in the season
or difficult to ford during heavy summer
runoff.

Length: 4.0 km (2.5 mi.)



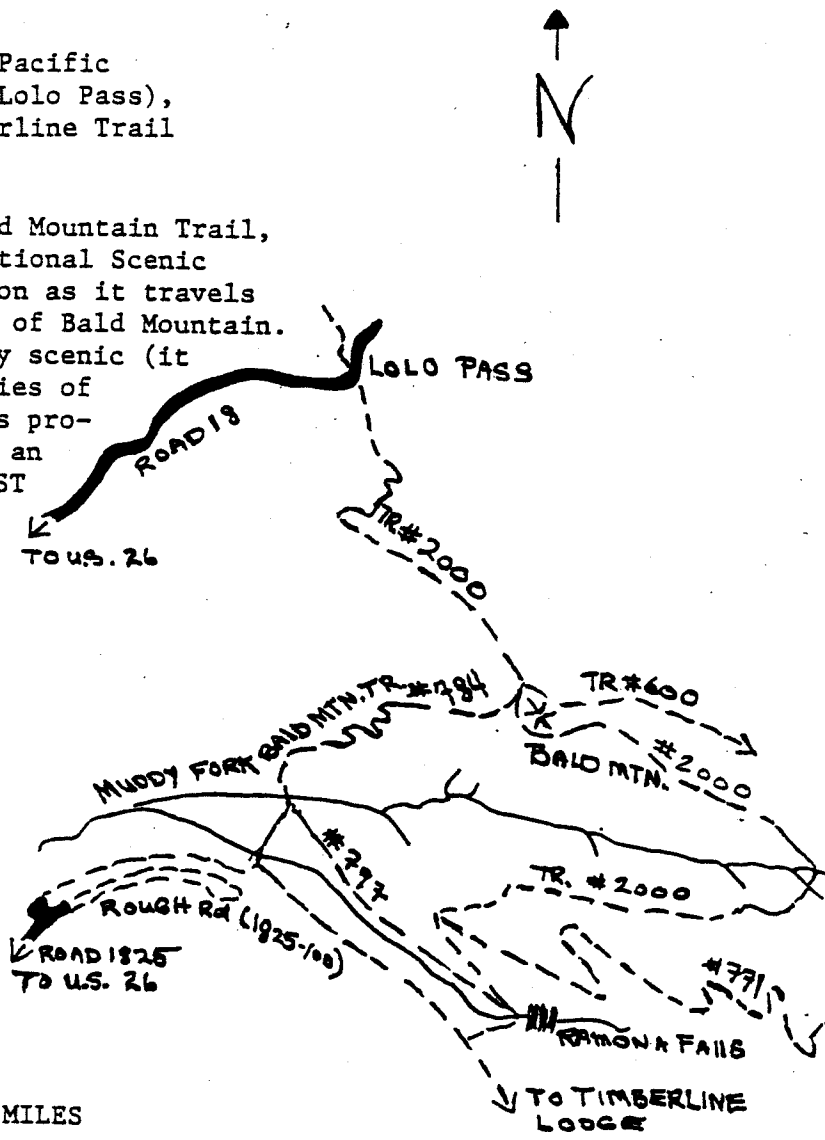
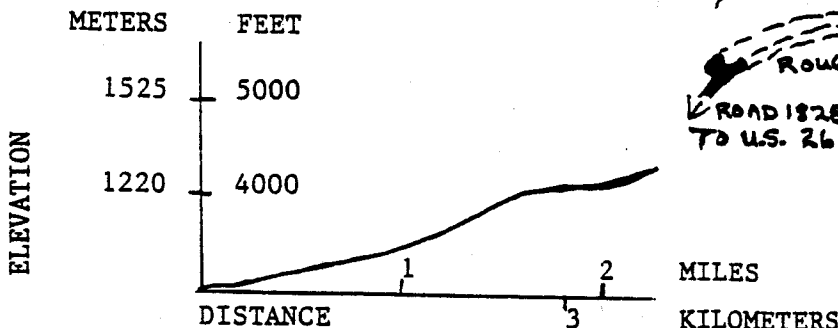
Recommend Season:

SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER



Use: Light

Difficulty: More Difficult



RECREATION OPPORTUNITY SPECTRUM SCALE



Roaded Natural

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NARRATIVE: BALD MOUNTAIN TRAIL #784

The Bald Mountain Trail starts near a group campsite located on the Muddy Fork. The trail crosses the Muddy Fork via a foot bridge.* Small streams cross the trail at .7 mile and 1.2 miles. The trail switchbacks up the timbered slope until the junction with the Pacific Crest National Scenic and Timberline Trails. Although the temptation is great, please stay on the trail and do not shortcut the switchbacks. Shortcutting causes erosion and costly trail maintenance problems.

To make a loop, turn south on the Pacific Crest National Scenic trail at the four-way junction at Bald Mountain. Follow it 4.9 miles to Ramona Falls. Return to your starting point in just over 2 miles by following either portion of the Ramona Falls Loop Trail. In addition to the beauty of Ramona Falls, this loop (11 miles total) offers unique close-up views of Mt. Hood's west side.

A more leisurely version of this loop can be made by switching the described direction and traveling up the Ramona Loop to the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and down the Bald Mountain Trail.

The Bald Mountain Trail is shared by equestrians and hikers. Wilderness regulations prohibit the use of motorized vehicles and bicycles on this trail to provide a safer, more desirable trail for hikers and horseback riders. The trail dips in and out of the Mt. Hood Wilderness, but at this writing wilderness permits are not required.

WATER STATEMENT:

Unfortunately, open water sources are easily contaminated by human or animal wastes. Water from springs, lakes, ponds and streams should not be used for drinking without proper treatment. A recommended method of treatment is to bring clear water to a rolling boil for 5 minutes.

*Due to the nature of the torrents of water that come down the Muddy Fork of the Sandy River, the bridge may be washed out or be a temporary bridge placed in another part of the river, so please contact the Mt. Hood Information Center 503-622-7674 for the status of the bridge.