

Clackamas River Ranger District

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

BULL OF THE WOODS # 550

Recommended Season: June to November

Length: 3.2 miles

Use:

Medium

Elevation: 4620' to 5523'

Difficulty: Easiest

USGS Map: Battle Ax NE 1979

Description: (in Bull of the Woods Wilderness area). (closed to all bikes and motorized vehicles).

The Bull of the Woods Trail # 550 is a frequently used route into the Bull of the Woods area involving a little over three miles of walking and 900 feet of climb to the summit of Bull of the Woods. It starts at the end of Road 6340 which is 48 miles east and south of Estacada. This is a very popular day hike to access the scenic views of the Three Sisters, Mt. Jefferson and Three-Fingered Jack. The fire lookout is usually staffed during the summer months.

Trail Access: '

Bull of the Woods trail # 550 is reached by traveling south on Hwy. 224 for 25.6 miles, (approximately ½ mile past Ripplebrook Ranger Station), and turn right onto Forest Road 46. On road 46 travel 3½ miles and turn right onto road 63. On road 63 travel 5.7 miles and turn right onto road 6340. On road 6340 travel 7.8 miles and you will come to a fork in the road (6340 and 6341). Stay to the left (which is still the 6340) road and follow it for approximately 1½ miles until you come to the trailhead parking area at the end of the road.

Trail Mileage Log:

- 0.0 (Elevation 4620'). Trail leaves the road heading west and climbs, zig-zagging through blowdown area and then turns south.
- 0.2 Leave the blowdown area and enter forest, climbing slightly.
- 0.4 Pass a small meadow and pond, then switch back right.
- 0.8 Base of North Dickey peak. Climbing traverse of west slope.
- 1.1 High point on trail skirting North Dickey Peak. Faint trail to the summit of North Dickey takes off.
- 1.2 Clearing in the saddle between the two Dickey Peaks.
- 1.6 Terrace spring below trail. Gradual climb along slope of South Dickey Peak.
- 2.1 Trail junction on the right with Dickey Lake Trail # 549.
- 2.2 Two clearings providing view east. For a good view west, climb to the knob between the clearings. Steady climb.
- 2.4 Open crest of ridge. Good view north to Mt. Hood. Switchbacks with more viewpoints follow.
- 2.7 Re-enter forest. Switchbacks continue.
- 3.0 Open ridge with air marker just below the summit.
- 3.2 (Elevation 5523'). Trail ends at the summit of Bull of the Woods. The old fire lookout tower is sometimes staffed by a Forest Service Wilderness Guard, and could be an emergency shelter. Outstanding views of the whole area. The trail at this point connects with Welcome Lakes Trail # 554 which connects with more trails into the eastern half of the Wilderness Area.

