

EAST FORK TRAIL #650



Northwest Forest Pass	→	Required
Distance	→	5.8 miles one-way
Elevation	→	High 3,500 feet - Low 2,900 feet
Snow Free	→	May - October
Difficulty	→	Moderate

Directions to Trailhead: Drive south from Hood River on Highway 35 for about 25 miles to the Polallie Trailhead parking area on the left (east side of Highway 35). Trail begins on opposite side of Highway 35.

Trail Highlights: Never wandering far from the East Fork of the Hood River, the trail follows the west bank for almost six miles. The trail passes through a variety of mature timber. Be on the lookout for signs of beaver activity and take advantage of the many quiet riverside rest stops along the way. Fishing is accessible from many locations.

Trail Description: Cross the drain ditch and the old Robinhood Campground access road to reach the southern terminus of the trail. The trail crosses a bog filled with skunk cabbage and cedar before climbing onto a dry bench above the old Robinhood Campground. After skirting the campground, the trail joins and follows an old logging road north for a few hundred feet before entering the woods. After crossing Robinhood Creek, the trail passes through an area of boulders and then a flat sandy area just before crossing an old road. The trail continues along the riverbank, climbing and descending, crossing a small stream or two, before climbing onto a high bank. Continuing north, the trail dips in and out of several dry drainages and passes through stands of mature timber interspersed with more recently logged areas. The trail returns to the riverside and continues north to a junction with a short access trail coming in from Highway 35. (If you turn right and cross the bridge the trail will take you to the Tamanawas Falls parking area, a few hundred yards before the Sherwood Campground). **Bicycles are not allowed beyond this point.** From here, the East Fork Trail climbs the hillside to avoid an area of stream bank erosion. After a quarter mile, it turns left and descends toward Cold Spring Creek. As you make the turn, look east across the river to view an exposed area of basalt columns. This is the same type of geological formation that created the Devil's Postpile in California and the Devil's Tower in Wyoming. Near Cold Spring Creek, a trail junction is reached. Trail 650A continues straight ahead and will take you to Tamanawas Falls. The East Fork Trail turns right and will descend down to a log bridge over Cold Spring Creek. The trail then climbs high above the East Fork and continues north for approximately one mile to the northern terminus of the East Fork trail at Polallie Trailhead on Highway 35. Just before reaching the highway, a junction with the Elk Meadows Trail #645 is reached.

MAP ON REVERSE

RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST

Hood River Ranger District

6780 Highway 35 - Parkdale, OR 97041

541-352-6002

www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood



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