



MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST

MT HOOD INFORMATION CENTER 65000 E Hwy 26 Welches OR 622-7674/622-3360

OLD SALMON RIVER TRAIL #742

BEGINS 464 meters (1520 feet), approximately 500 feet beyond the Mt. Hood National Forest boundary sign on the west side of 2618 (the first part of this road is called Salmon River Road).

ENDS 500 meters (1640 feet) on the west side of 2618 near a road bridge.

ACCESS Follow US 26, 17.9 miles east of Sandy. Turn south on Salmon River Rd. following it 2.6 miles. To reach the southern end of the trail, continue 2.4 miles further. Parking is on the road shoulder and is limited.

ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS Although this trail follows the road and is in view of it several times, the closeness and constant sound of the river, as well as the lushness of the forest and outstanding displays of wildflowers, make this one of the most outstanding and accessible hikes on the Zigzag District. The trail is wide and nearly flat, making it a good choice for those requiring a minimum of exertion and obstacles. THIS TRAIL IS IN THE SALMON-HUCKLEBERRY WILDERNESS. WILDERNESS PERMITS ARE NOW REQUIRED. THEY ARE SELF-ISSUING AND AVAILABLE AT THE TRAILHEAD OR THE WILDERNESS BOUNDARY.

Length: 4.2KM (2.6 mi.)

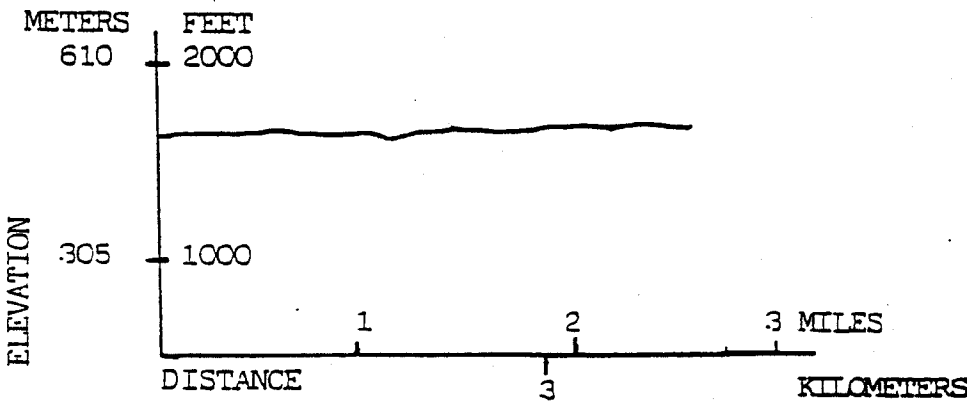


Recommend Season:

SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER



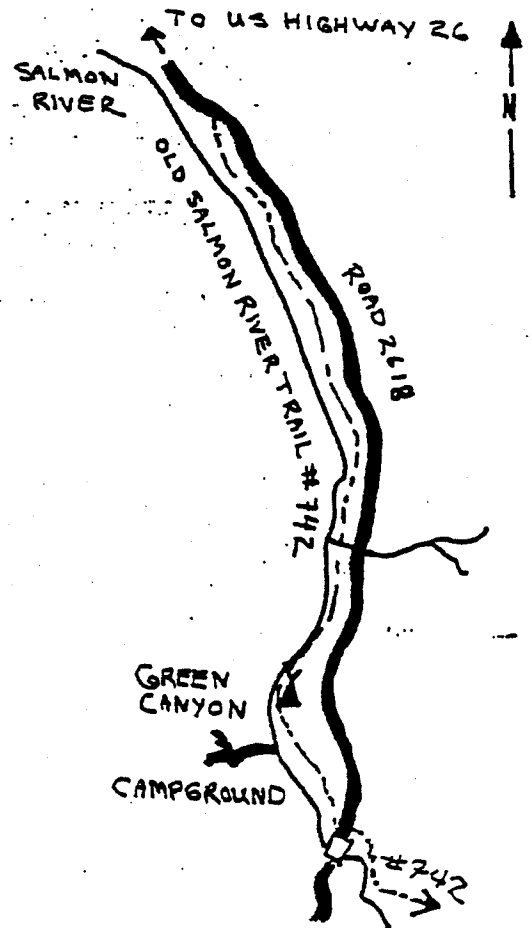
Use: Heavy
Difficulty: Easy



RECREATION OPPORTUNITY SPECTRUM SCALE



ROADED NATURAL



NARRATIVE: OLD SALMON RIVER TRAIL #742

A continuous trail once followed the route of Road 2618 and the Salmon River Trail, connecting Welches with Salmon River Meadows. Old Salmon River Trail is a portion of that route.

As a portion of the Salmon River Trail, it shares National Recreational Trail designation.

Starting from the northern end, the trail heads downhill, crosses a small creek, and continues paralleling Salmon River. Moss and ferns along with delicate wildflowers are found throughout this section. The trail crosses and recrosses a former bed used by the river. Several small footbridges and a larger retaining wall, holding the trail on the side slope, are passed. A popular fishermen's camp is passed on your right. At about one mile, the trail follows an abandoned 4-wheel drive road.

At 1.4 miles, the trail joins and follows the road for one tenth of a mile past the rock retaining wall. It then drops back to the river, following closely until the edge of Green Canyon Campground is reached 1/2 mile further. The trail is criss-crossed by many footpaths leading from the campground. The trail joins Road 2618 one tenth of a mile further. Walk along the road about 100 yards rejoining the trail for the last three tenths of a mile.

This scenic, picturesque trail dotted with wildflowers and lushness can be hiked enjoyably using either end or Green Canyon Campground as starting points. A car shuttle eliminates retracing steps or walking back along the road. The trail is enjoyed by picnickers as well as fishermen.

Because hikers' use of this trail is generally high, forest regulations prohibit the use of horses and motorized vehicles on this trail as a safety precaution.

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.