



# Recreation Opportunity Guide

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

## SALMON MOUNTAIN TRAIL #787

**BEGINS:** 1256 Meters (4120 Feet) Elevation  
At its junction with Plaza Trail #783

**ENDS:** 1225 Meters (4019 Feet) Elevation  
At the top of Salmon Mtn. at the site of  
a former lookout.

**ACCESS:** Follow the directions to Plaza  
Trail #783. The Salmon Mtn. Trail starts  
from the southern end of the Plaza Trail.

**ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS:** The 1.78 mile  
of the Salmon Mtn. Trail that is presently  
maintained is a short section of what was  
once a fire lookout's route from the Hood-  
land Valley to the Salmon Mtn. lookout. The  
trail criss-crosses the ridgetop, using  
short, uphill and downhill pitches until  
fine views and delicate wildflowers are found  
at the abandoned lookout site. This trail is  
now in the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness. Wild-  
erness rules prohibit the use of horses,  
bicycles and motorized vehicles on this  
trail as a safety precaution.

**Length:** 1.8 Mi. (2.9 Km.)

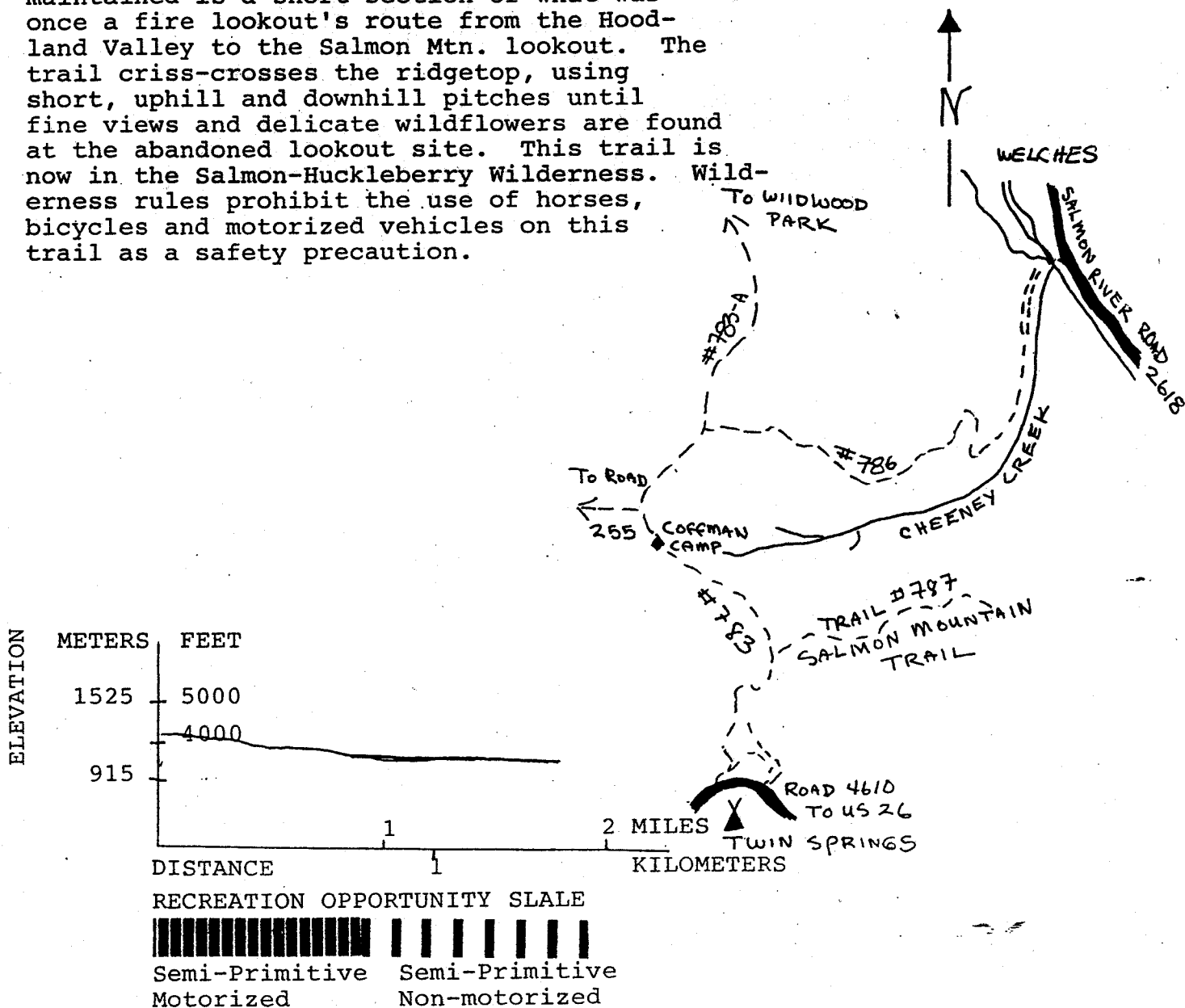


**Recommend Season:**

SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER



**Use:** Light  
**Difficulty:** Most Difficult



NARRATIVE: SALMON MOUNTAIN TRAIL #787

The Salmon Mountain Trail, a narrow, rocky route for the sure-footed is not a blazed trail and can be difficult to follow in places. The trail basically follows the ridge reaching several short peaks and crossing the ridgeline occasionally. The rocky section between 1.0 and 1.4 miles has no tread or trail markings. No water is available on this trail. Wildflowers dot the trail. The trail makes a switchback up to the lookout site, which not only has magnificent views of the Cascades, but also gives a bird's-eye view of the South Fork of the Salmon River drainage and surrounding peaks, such as Huckleberry Mountain, Salmon Butte, and Devil's Peak.

Although the trail once extended the entire length of Salmon Mountain down to Cheaney Creek, that portion of the trail is entirely overgrown and should not be attempted unless a rugged, map and compass, bushwacking experience is desired.

The obvious safety concerns generated from the features of this trail have resulted in it being closed both to equestrians and motorized vehicles. Wilderness regulations also prohibit the use of bicycles on this trail.

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.