

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

## WEST ZIGZAG MOUNTAIN TRAIL #789

TRAIL BEGINS: 1006 meters (3300 feet) Elevation  
Approximately 100 yards before the end of Road  
2627 on the west side of the road.

TRAIL ENDS: 1360 meters (4460 feet) Elevation  
At the junction of Zigzag Mountain Trail #775

ACCESS: Follow US 26, 1.4 miles east of Rhododendron to Road 2627 located on the north side of the highway. Follow road 2627 (a rough and narrow road not suitable for trailers), to its end in 4.3 miles.

ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS: West Zigzag Mtn. Trail climbs approximately 1200 feet in elevation to the Zigzag Mtn. Trail #775. It provides relatively short access to this portion of the Mt. Hood Wilderness and offers spectacular views and a floral display of rhododendrons.

**Length:** 3.8 km (2.4 mi.)

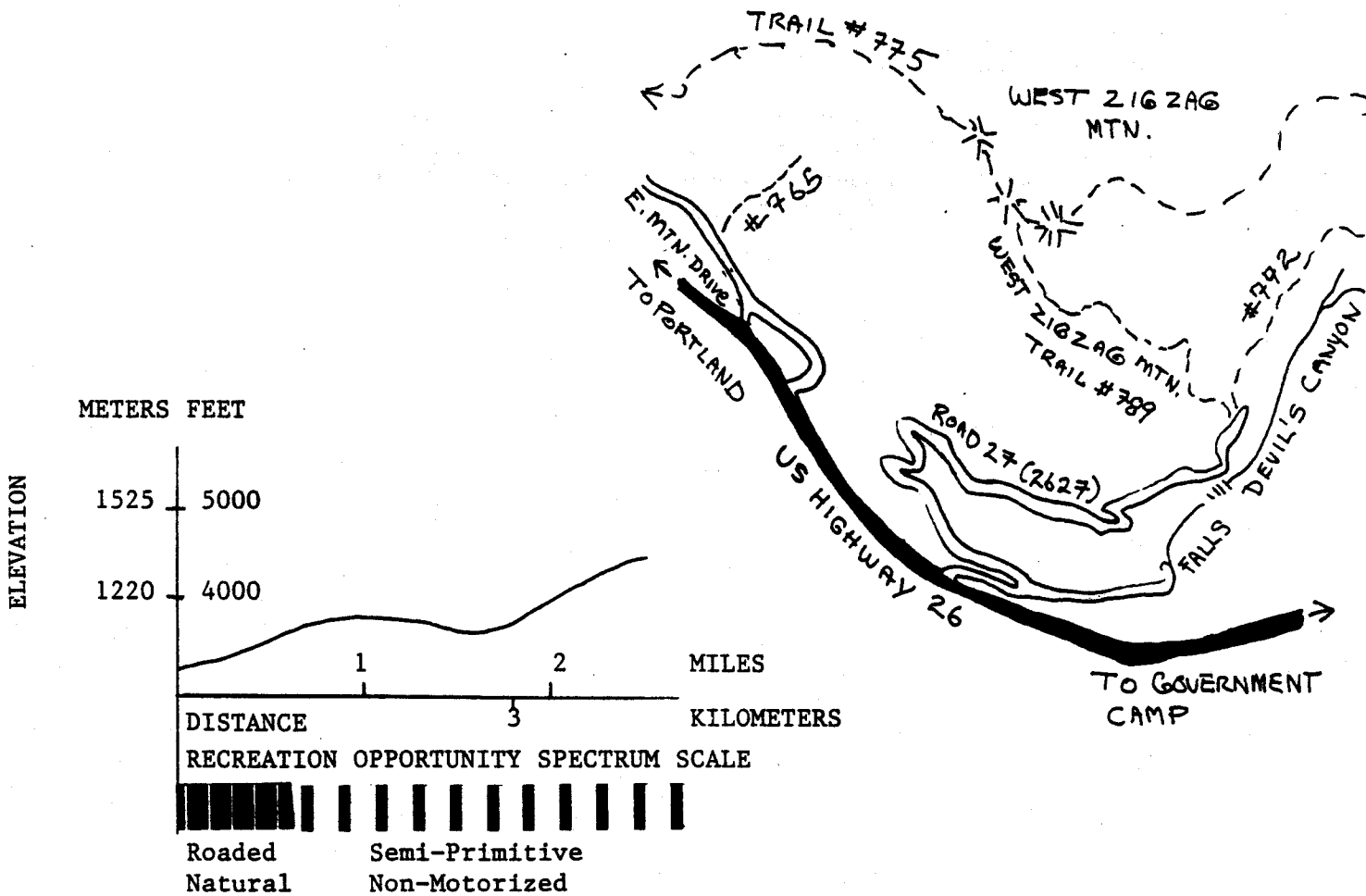


**Recommend Season:**

SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER  
←—————→

**Use:** Light

**Difficulty:** More Difficult



**NARRATIVE: WEST ZIGZAG MOUNTAIN TRAIL #789**

The first .7 mile of the trail is the steepest. Once the first switchback is reached, the trail makes a gradual traverse until it reaches West Zigzag Mountain and the Zigzag Mountain Trail #775. Rhododendrons bloom intensely along the trail in late June. By hiking west .1 mile on the Zigzag Mountain Trail, an abandoned lookout site offering great views to the south is reached. One can hike in either direction along the ridgetop of Zigzag Mountain Trail #775 and find outstanding 360 views as well as wildflower displays.

Although two small creeks cross the trail, it is best to carry adequate water supplies for drinking.

An outstanding 10.5 mile loop featuring a wide variety of wildflowers and mountain views can be made by combining the West Zigzag Mountain Trail with Zigzag Mountain Trail #775 and Burnt Lake Trail #772. This loop may be shortened by using Devil's Tie Trail #767 as a shortcut back to Burnt Lake Trail. West Zigzag Mountain Trail also provides access to the Horseshoe Ridge Trail by traveling about 2 miles east on Zigzag Mountain Trail. Prolific rhododendron and beargrass displays along this section of the ridgetop make it all worthwhile.

The West Zigzag 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 both hikers and horseback riders. Wilderness regulations also prohibit camping in meadows or within 100 feet of any shoreline.

**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.