



***BEWARE
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***Bigfoot
Lurks
In The
Meadows
At
Mount
Rainier***





“Bigfoot” comes in all shapes and sizes—the foot of anyone who gets off the constructed trails, tramples the vegetation, and causes erosion. Many people don’t realize the impact that just one person makes when they walk, picnic, or leave the constructed trail for any reason.

Consider this:

At Paradise alone, there are 13 miles of constructed trails in contrast to 28 miles of unsightly “social trails” caused by people leaving constructed trails.

Scientific studies have shown that as few as 15 people walking off the trail in the same location can cause noticeable damage to meadow soils and vegetation.

Every year, many of the 1.8 million people who visit Mount Rainier hike the meadow trails. Imagine the problems created when one person, multiplied by a thousand, leaves the constructed trail.

Extensive efforts, funded by your tax dollars, go into the repair of erosion caused by people. Restoration work visible along the Skyline Trail at Paradise clearly shows the results of these efforts.

The best possible solution is for all of us to prevent any damage from occurring by not being a meadow-stomping “Bigfoot” and always staying on the constructed trails.

Show your support and let others know about meadow protection by wearing a “Don’t Be A Meadow Stomper” button.

Buttons are available for a 50 cent donation at the information desk in the Visitor Center at Paradise and Sunrise.