



Pacific Ocean Coastline

are small, but the 3 largest on Mount Olympus are 2 miles or more in length.

#### LAKES AND STREAMS

In a region of glacier-carved basins and heavy precipitation it is natural to find numerous lakes. Most of them are small, but their beauty adds much to the charm of the Olympic scenery. A few lowland lakes are of considerable size. Lake Crescent, nestled in the mountains in the northern part of the park, is considered one of the most beautiful lakes in the United States.

From the melting snow and ice of the peaks, swift streams plunge sharply down the mountains, then flatten out in the valleys completing the water cycle as they empty into the sea.

#### OLYMPIC OCEAN STRIP

This 50-mile-long strip of coastline is one of the most primitive remaining in the continental United States. The encroaching sea has produced a scenic oceanscape here with many shoreline needles and offshore rocks and islands. Wild animals, including deer, bear, raccoon, and skunk, are found here, and elk are sometimes observed in remote sections. Seals are seen frequently in the water or on the offshore rocks. Numerous sea birds nest on the islands, and many migrating birds make this a rest stop, as the strip lies on the Pacific Flyway.

#### INTERPRETIVE SERVICE

To help you understand and enjoy the park, the National Park Service provides interpretive facilities and services. These include museums, nature trails, guided walks, and campfire programs. Maps and publications are available.

#### WHAT TO DO

**Motoring.**—A study of the map will reveal many interesting places that can be reached by car. U. S. 101 runs inside the park along Lake Crescent and through the southern end of the Olympic Ocean Strip where it parallels a sandy coastal beach for 11 miles.

From this highway several spur roads penetrate the park by way of river valleys, through virgin forests, and often along swift mountain streams.

Rain forests can be seen along the Hoh, Queets, and Quinault River Roads. The Rain Forest Nature Trail is located at the end of the Hoh River Road.

On the north side of the park a new high-standard road from Heart O' The Hills to Hurricane Ridge was completed and opened for public travel in 1958. The approach to this road is directly from Port Angeles and past the visitor center (Olympic Pioneer Memorial Museum). From vantage points among wildflower meadows along Hurricane Ridge the mountain views are superb.

Also on the north side of the park, a narrow, steep, and winding dirt road leads to Deer Park and Blue Mountain. This road is generally open by early June when the wildflowers there are best. Both Hurricane Ridge and Deer Park areas afford excellent opportunities for photographing mountain scenery, wildflowers, and wildlife, such as deer and marmots.

**Hiking.**—Roads provide access to the park trail system of more than 600 miles. Hiking trips are numerous and varied—short, easy trips requiring a day or less, and longer, more difficult ones that take several days to a few weeks.

Trails are opened as soon as possible in the spring and early summer, but some high-country trails may not be entirely free of snow until midsummer. Maps and trail guides are available in the park. *Ask a park ranger for trail information.*

**Mountain Climbing.**—The many peaks in the park offer adventure for the mountain climber. Some peaks may be climbed safely by the novice, while others should be attempted only by experienced climbers or in company with experienced climbers. If in doubt, ask a ranger for information. For their personal protection, climbing parties must register at the ranger station on their route.

**Fishing.**—The streams contain cutthroat, rainbow, eastern brook, Dolly Varden, and steelhead trout. Some mountain lakes contain rainbow, cutthroat, and eastern brook trout. Lake Mills has rainbow, cutthroat, eastern brook, and Dolly Varden trout.

Excellent fishing opportunities are also available in waters adjacent to the park, especially salmon fishing in salt water. No license is required for fishing in the park, except those

parts included within the Olympic Ocean Strip, Queets Corridor, and the former Bogachiel Strip. For these areas and for all waters outside the park, a State fishing license is required. Copies of complete fishing regulations are available at park headquarters and ranger stations.

**Horseback Riding.**—Horses and guides are available at Sol Duc Hot Springs and on the Elwha for short or extended trips through the park.

#### HOW TO REACH THE PARK

The main approach road to the park is U. S. 101 (State Route 9). This may be entered from Olympia or the Grays Harbor cities of Aberdeen and Hoquiam without ferrying.

Regularly scheduled ferry service is available across Puget Sound and Hood Canal. A time schedule may be obtained by writing to Washington State Ferries, Colman Ferry Terminal, Seattle 4, Wash.

Ferry service is available between Victoria, British Columbia, and Port Angeles during the late spring and through the summer. Time schedules may be obtained from Washington State Ferries, Ferry Terminal, Seattle; and from Canadian Pacific Railway Co., 1320 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, Wash.

Port Angeles is served by Western Greyhound Lines from Seattle. The west side of the Olympic Peninsula is served from Port Angeles by North Coast Lines.

While Puget Sound and Grays Harbor cities may be reached by train, service is not available on the Olympic Peninsula.

West Coast Airlines, Inc., offer 2 round-trip flights daily between Seattle and Port Angeles.

Scheduled and charter tours in the park are offered during the summer by Gray Line of The Olympics, 107 East Front, Port Angeles, Wash.

U-Drive Service is available in Port Angeles, Grays Harbor cities and in all the larger cities in the Puget Sound area.

#### PARK SEASON

Although Olympic National Park is open all year, the most favorable weather is in the summer and early autumn. Usually by the first of July most of the high-country trails and roads are free of snow. Summertime in the northwest is mostly cool and sunny, although it may rain. September and October are often delightful, with warm Indian-summer weather.

#### WHAT TO WEAR

Informal outdoor clothing, including a warm windbreaker, are appropriate and satisfactory for summer and autumn. In addition, it is advisable to bring rainproof garments, especially for camping or extended hikes.

#### ACCOMMODATIONS

Automobile campgrounds and other accommodations are shown on the map. Most campgrounds have piped water, garbage disposal facilities, and individual campsites equipped with outdoor tables, benches, and cooking facilities. All campgrounds have toilet facilities, but none have showers or laundries. Some are equipped with community kitchens.

Small camp trailers are generally accommodated in most of the campgrounds. Elwha and Altaire campgrounds will accommodate medium-sized trailers, and Kalaloch campground will accommodate the largest trailers. Road conditions prevent pulling trailers into Hurricane Ridge, Deer Park, Dosewallips, and some other areas. It is advisable to make inquiry at park headquarters in Port Angeles before attempting some of the outlying approach roads with a trailer. There are no facilities for connecting trailers to either water or electricity in any campground.

Campgrounds at lower elevations are open all year. High-elevation areas are covered with snow from early November to late June or July. It is not possible to reserve campground space prior to your visit. Fire permits are not required in the automobile campgrounds.

Other overnight accommodations and services and facilities are also shown on the map. These may change from year to year.

Some lodge and cabin accommodations are closed in winter, but ample accommodations remain open in and adjacent to the park to serve winter travel.

Information about resorts and hotels on the Olympic Peninsula may be obtained from the Olympic Peninsula Hotel and Resort Association, Post Office Box 545, Port Angeles, Wash.

#### MISSION 66

Mission 66 is a 10-year servicewide program planned for completion by 1966. Through it the National Park Service, with the cooperation of its concessioners, intends to achieve improvements in the many facilities and services required to provide adequately for the increasing millions of visitors. It is intended to provide for the public's maximum enjoyment and understanding of our National Parks and National Monuments while assuring their maximum protection and the preservation of their unique qualities for the benefit of future generations.

#### ADMINISTRATION

Olympic National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior. A superintendent, whose address is Port Angeles, Wash., is in immediate charge.

#### THIS IS YOUR PARK—HELP PROTECT IT

The scenery, the rocks, the plants, and the animals are all carefully preserved in the National Parks while at the same time they are made accessible for your enjoyment.

There are, of necessity, certain restrictions imposed to preserve the park and the natural features it contains for the enjoyment of others for all time.

Park rangers, who will assist you to know, understand, appreciate, and enjoy the park in safety during your visit, also enforce the rules and regulations. They will advise you concerning regulations and should be consulted without hesitation when you are in doubt as to what you may or may not do.

**Hunting.**—Hunting, or the disturbance of wildlife in any manner, is not permitted in National Parks. Unless adequately sealed, cased, broken down, or otherwise packed to prevent their use while in the park, firearms are prohibited except upon written permission from the superintendent. Firearms are not necessary for protection.

**Fires.**—Permits must be obtained for building fires, except at designated campgrounds along roads.

Campfire permits may be obtained from park headquarters or ranger stations.

**Preservation of Vegetation.**—No trees, flowers, or any other plants may be carved, cut, picked, removed, or injured in any way.

Only dead and down logs and limbs may be used for campfire fuel.

**Camping and Picnicking.**—Campers and picnickers are required to maintain and leave the areas they use in a clean condition. All garbage and trash that can be burned should be disposed of in campfires. Empty cans should be burned out in campfires to prevent attracting bears and flies. Unburnable refuse and burned cans should be placed in containers, if provided, or in the camp garbage pit. In trail camps, where no garbage disposal facilities are provided, thoroughly bury all unburnable refuse and burned cans.

**Dogs and Cats** are permitted in the park if they are on leash, crated, or otherwise under physical restrictive control at all times. But they may not be taken on trails or cross-country trips, into swimming pools, public dining rooms, or community kitchens in campgrounds.

This regulation is not designed to be discriminatory, but to prevent molestation of wildlife and thus permit all visitors a better opportunity to observe the wildlife; it is also necessary for health protection.

Revised 1959

Cover: Mount Olympus

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1959 OF-485143

# OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK Washington





# Olympic NATIONAL PARK



OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK, on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington, is a unique wilderness of rugged mountains, coniferous rain forests, wildlife, glaciers, lakes, streams, and seascapes. It contains nearly 1,400 square miles.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Spanish sea captain Juan Perez is credited with discovering the Olympic Mountains when, in 1774, he named the Olympic peaks El Cerro de la Santa Rosalia. Capt. John Meares of Great Britain, on a voyage of discovery in 1778, named the dominant peak "Mount Olympus." This name, charted by Capt. George Vancouver, has remained on all subsequent maps.

The first major exploration of the Olympic Mountains was by the Press Party in the winter of 1889-90. This expedition, financed by the Seattle Press and led by James H. Christie and Capt. Charles A. Barnes, crossed the mountains from Port Angeles to Quinault by way of Low Divide.

Conservation of the Olympic region began in 1897 with establishment of the Olympic National Forest by Executive order of President Cleveland.

In 1904, a bill to establish Elk National Park was introduced in Congress by Representative Francis W. Cushman, of Tacoma, but the bill failed to pass.

In 1909, Mount Olympus National Monument of 615,000 acres was established by Presidential proclamation.

Efforts to create a national park on the Olympic Peninsula were renewed in 1935. In 1938, Congress passed the bill creating Olympic National Park, and it was signed by the

The National Park System, of which this park is a unit, is dedicated to conserving the scenic, scientific, and historic heritage of the United States for the benefit and enjoyment of its people.



Rain Forest

President on June 29. The act provided for a park of about 1,000 square miles and empowered the President to increase this area to 1,400 square miles. Additions were made in 1940 and 1943.

The park was formally dedicated on June 15, 1946.

On January 6, 1953, the Queets Corridor and Olympic Ocean Strip, totaling nearly 75 square miles, were added by Presidential proclamation.

## CLIMATE

The wettest winter climate in the continental United States prevails on the west side of the Olympic Peninsula. Yearly precipitation exceeds 140 inches in some sections. Mount Olympus and all the high country in the western part of the park probably receive much more than that, but mostly in the form of snow. In contrast to the wetness of the west side, the northeast side of the peninsula is the driest on the west coast outside of southern California.

Olympic National Park occupies the center and the western edge of the peninsula. The peninsula is almost an island, being nearly surrounded by water. "Within this area," wrote John Yeon, "rivers have their source and major being before their confluence with the ocean. The circuit of moisture, lifting from the sea, detained in glaciers, and flowing through streams and rivers back to the sea, is complete, like a diagrammatic functioning model of the workings of earth forces, and almost within the range of observation from a single vantage point."

## RAIN FOREST

An extraordinary forest growth has developed during centuries of wetness in the western valleys of the park. Sitka spruce and western hemlock dominate this forest, but Douglas-fir and western redcedar are also common. They are big trees, many of them exceeding a height of 200 feet and a diameter of 8 feet. The largest known individual tree of each of these four cone-bearing species is found in the rain forests of the park.

Bigleaf maple, red alder, and black cottonwood grow near the streams. Moss-covered vine maple forms an understory beneath the giant conifers. Mosses softly carpet the forest floor and upholster tree trunks and fallen trees, while draperies of clubmoss hang from the branches. Ferns mingle with the mosses and delicate flowers on the forest floor and accompany the mosses to the upper branches of some of the trees. The forest appears to be filled with warm, green light.

The best rain forests in the park can be seen in the valleys of the Quinault, Queets, and Hoh Rivers.

## LIFE ZONES

Whereas the rain forest is found only in the lowlands of the west slope, all its trees except the Sitka spruce are more widespread. Douglas-fir and western hemlock, especially, are abundant throughout, and extend considerably above, most of the lowland forests. Between 1,500 and 3,500 feet, these trees grow in association with western white pine and Pacific silver fir. Douglas-fir and its new associates continue upward to near timberline. Alaska yellowcedar, alpine fir, and mountain hemlock, together with Douglas-fir, are the most prom-



Olympic Elk

inent trees near timberline. Generally, timberline is about 5,000 to 5,500 feet, but it is not always an even line. Above timberline, vegetation consists mostly of low-lying plants. As you travel from sea level to the ridgetops, you may see this changing pattern of plantlife—a pattern that is arranged in horizontal belts known as life zones.

## WILDFLOWERS

Wildflowers are found everywhere from the lowlands to the rocky peaks—different kinds in different habitats. In the meadows near timberline and above, they reach the greatest variety and abundance, and bloom from June to October. E. B. Webster wrote about these flower meadows in his book, *The Friendly Mountain*: "Mountain parks and mountain slopes filled and covered with flowers. Flowers of every shape and hue. Flowers standing shoulder to shoulder, as thick as daisies in a pasture, or clover in the field. Red columbine, yellow and blue asters, scarlet paint brushes, blue lupine, white valerian and others, all thrown together in one gorgeous blanket of thoroughly mixed color." The northern side of the park—the region including Hurricane Ridge and Mount Angeles—is especially rich in mountain wildflowers.

## WILDLIFE

In Olympic National Park there are 56 species and subspecies of wild mammals. While many of them, for various reasons, are difficult to see, visitors to the densely forested valleys can expect to catch at least a glimpse of some of the animals. Travelers in the high, more open, mountains should see a larger number of them. The Columbian black-tailed deer are frequently seen in the lowlands as well as in the

mountain meadows, especially when they are feeding during the morning and evening. At Deer Park they appear regularly in the meadows at these times; also the Olympic marmot is more abundant here than elsewhere. From surrounding high vantage points, the black bear can be seen frequently in the mountain meadows, its black coat contrasting with the lighter foliage. An estimated 4,500 Roosevelt, or Olympic, elk live in the park, most of them on the west side. About 50 percent of the elk herds migrate to the high-country headwater basins of their "home valleys" in the summer. The others remain in the lower valleys all year.

Rocky peaks, alpine meadows, forests, streams, and ocean shore provide a variety of habitat for birds. In summer, there are about 140 kinds of birds in the park.

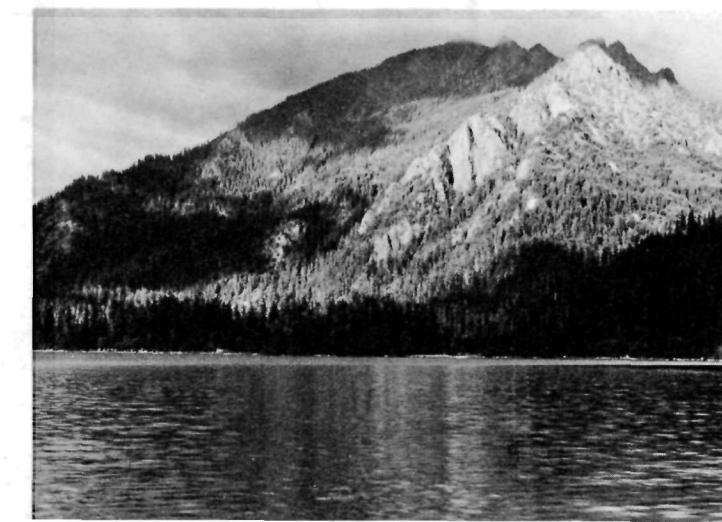
## MOUNTAINS AND GLACIERS

The Olympic Mountains are composed of sedimentary rocks, such as sandstone and shale, and of lava. These rocks derived from materials which accumulated in shallow seas that covered western Washington and then were uplifted into the highest mountains of the Coast Range. Mount Olympus, the highest peak, is 7,954 feet. Several other peaks rise above 7,000 feet, but the altitude of the ridges and crests is mostly between 5,000 and 6,000 feet.

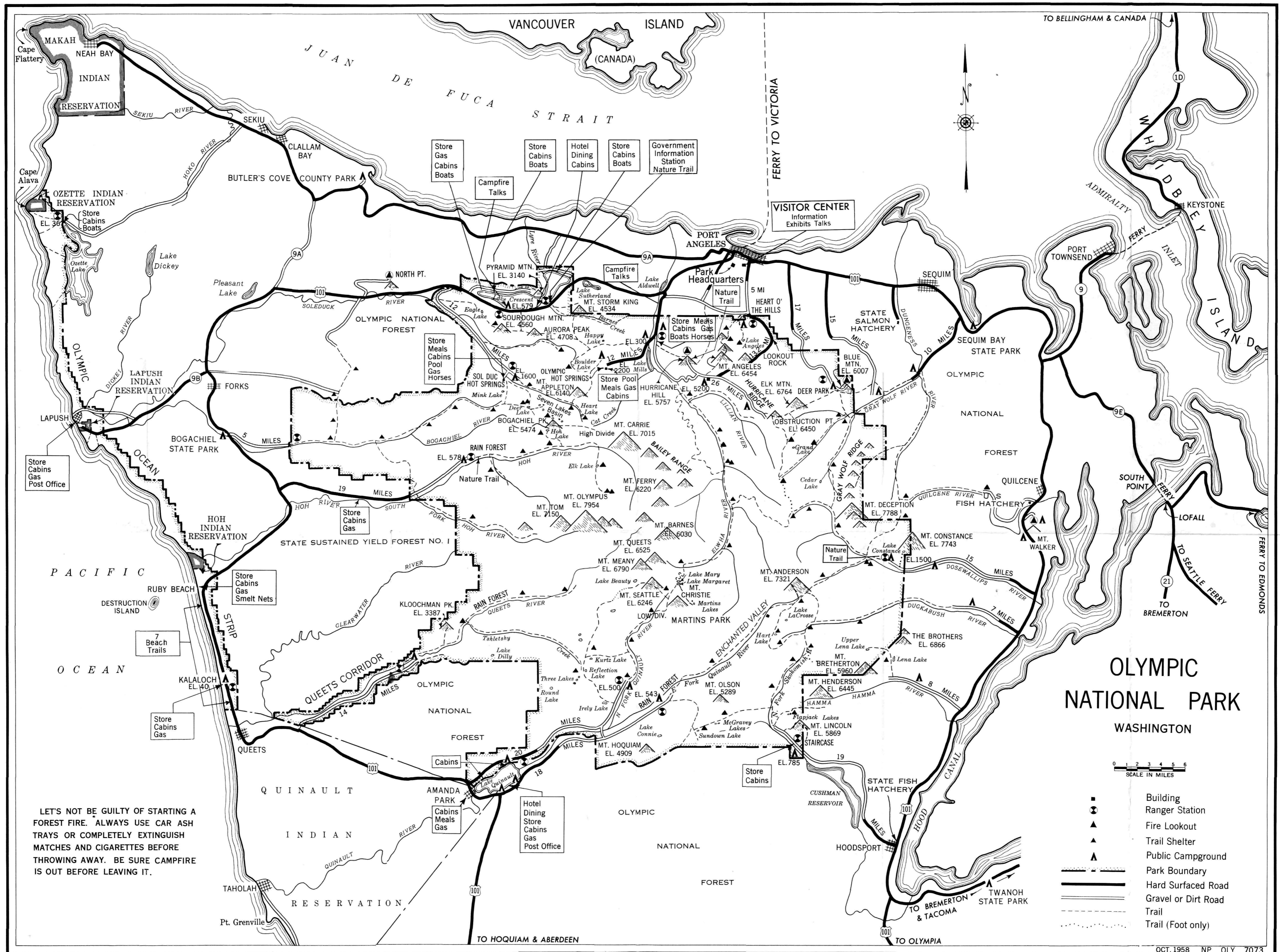
The present rugged shape of the mountains is due mainly to work of ice and water. Precipitation on Mount Olympus and neighboring high country is estimated at 200 inches a year. All of the snow does not melt in summer. What remains accumulates, and compressed by sheer weight into ice, forms the glaciers that have scoured the Olympic Mountains for thousands of years.

There are about 50 glaciers, with an aggregate area of 25 to 30 square miles, in the Olympic Mountains. Most of these

Storm King Mountain and Lake Crescent







**Trail Travel.**—Hikers and riders shall not make shortcuts across switchbacks, but shall confine their travel to the trail at all times. Saddle and pack animals have the right-of-way and should not be crowded or frightened by hikers. Hikers should inform the superintendent well in advance if they plan trips to remote or unfrequented areas of the park or difficult mountain climbs. This applies also to those who

plan to be in the park in other than the summer months. Park rangers can then furnish information about current conditions, check adequacy of equipment and experience of the hikers and climbers, and be on the lookout for the participants upon completion of the trip. The superintendent may, if he deems such action necessary, prohibit all mountain

climbing in the park. Motorcycles, other motor vehicles, and bicycles are not allowed on trails. **Automobile Travel.**—Operators of motor vehicles should drive carefully and with due consideration of other motorists who may be driving slowly in order to enjoy and observe scenic or wildlife attractions. Speed shall not exceed 45 miles an hour at any time and

shall be reduced below the maximum in accordance with condition, alignment, or grade of the road and amount of traffic, to provide for safe operation at all times. Specific roads, or sections of roads, may be posted to indicate a lower permissible maximum speed, and such limits should be carefully observed. Do not throw trash, cans, bottles, or papers along road-

sides and parking areas. Keep them in your car until you can place them in a trash can. Do not drive into, or across, alpine meadows, but remain on roads, road shoulders, or parking areas. *If you need information or are in any difficulty, see a park ranger.*



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