



Your Wilderness Awaits

What is your definition of a wilderness experience? Is it to hike through rain forest to subalpine lakes surrounded by wildflowers? Or to sit and gaze at forested river valleys and glacier-capped mountains from a viewpoint at Hurricane Ridge? Or maybe to sink your toes into the sand along miles of wild coastline? Olympic National Park protects wilderness for visitors of all ages, interests and abilities to enjoy for a day or a lifetime.

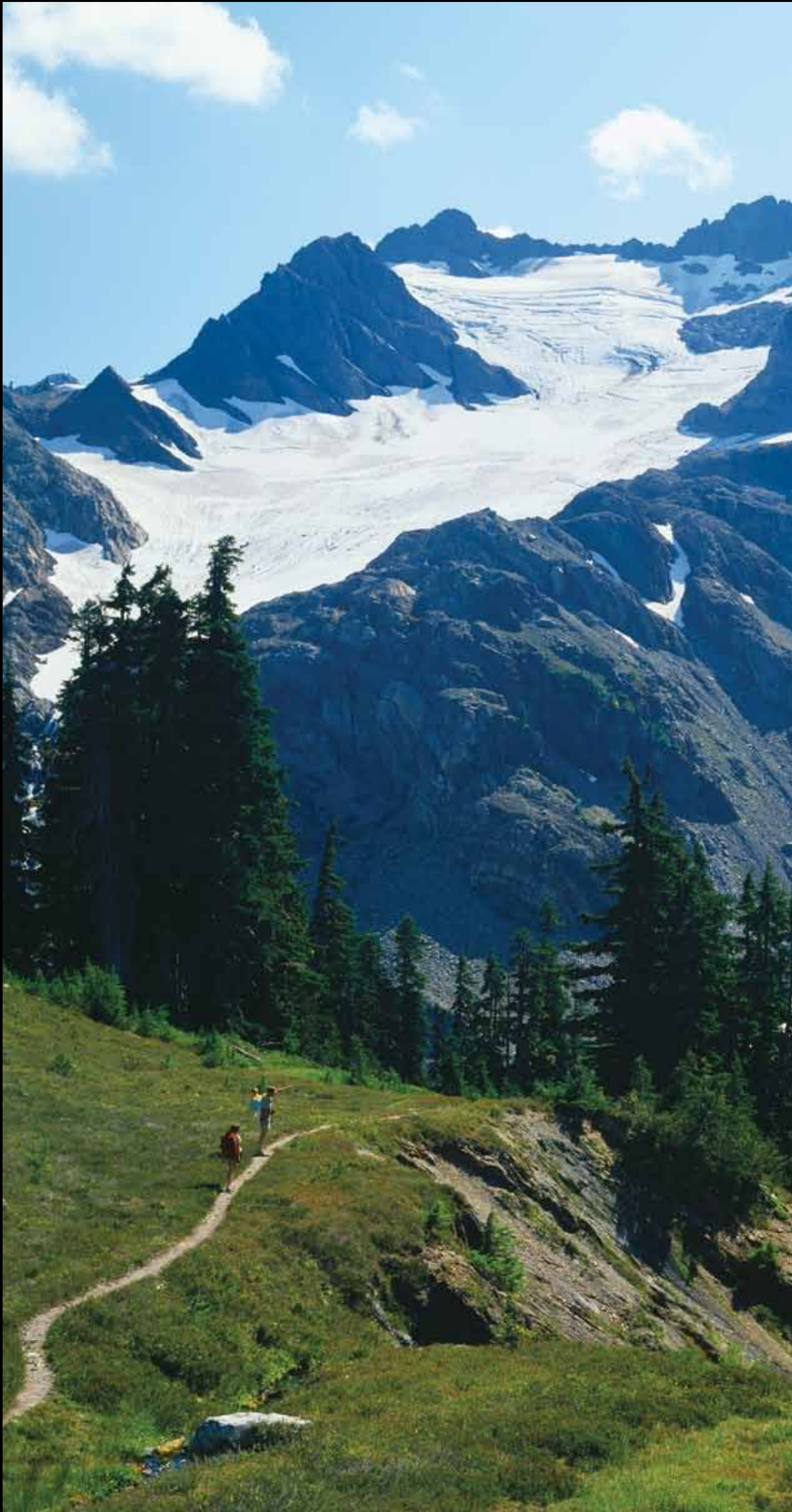
In 1988, Congress set aside 95 percent of Olympic National Park as designated wilderness, “to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.”

What is wilderness? The 1964 Wilderness Act defines wilderness as Federal land “retaining its primeval character and influence.” Olympic’s wilderness character speaks of star-filled skies, vital clean air and water, natural soundscapes, opportunities for solitude, and the unfolding mysteries of how nature works in untrammelled environments. In these diverse and fragile lands, where opportunities for exploration are endless, your stewardship is invaluable.

*Wilderness is not
a luxury
but a necessity of
the human spirit.*

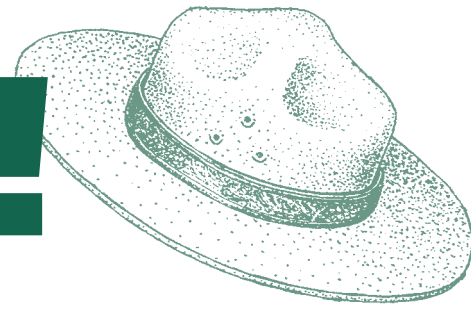
Edward Abbey

This summer visitor surveys about wilderness use and protection will be distributed at several backcountry trailheads. Your responses are important and will help shape the park’s Wilderness Stewardship Plan. For more information on the Olympic Wilderness, go to www.nps.gov/olym.



Are We There Yet?

Trip Tips!



Welcome to Olympic National Park. Whether you are here for a day, two days, a week or more, many spectacular sights await your discovery in this vast and diverse wilderness park.

Elwha	Fairholme	Heart O' The Hills	Hoh Rain Forest	Hurricane Ridge	Kalaloch	Lake Crescent	Mora	Port Angeles	Sol Duc (by ferry)	Staircase	Quinault																																																																		
23	18	31	79	57	96	30	43	12	108	81	59	100	40	112	16	7	26	65	38	67	60	36	75	47	87	49	44	11	26	5	91	17	95	21	70	85	100	77	156	89	160	93	137	72	39	16	45	72	57	72	16	49	40	114	111	126	108	191	117	195	121	170	103	110	140	123	102	133	75	146	33	108	84	128	362	132	126

Highway 101 encircles the park and several spur roads lead to mountains, forest and coast. Look for interpretive exhibits along park roadways. The center of the park, untouched by roads, offers incredible wilderness adventures. **Olympic National Park Visitor Center** in Port Angeles provides information, exhibits, children's discovery room, park film, park passes, bookshop and trails. Located in the visitor center, the **Wilderness Information Center (WIC)** offers wilderness trip planning assistance and camping permits, minimum impact tips and bear canisters. Also visit the ranger stations and visitor centers located throughout the park. Pick up a free park map for trip planning or purchase topo maps for hiking. Ask for handouts about day hikes, accessible facilities, campgrounds and more! Self-guiding trail brochures are available for \$1.00 donation at various park trailheads. **Park programs**, including talks and guided walks, are offered throughout Olympic. See program schedules in this newspaper and check park bulletin boards for further details. Most programs and facilities are seasonal.

Are you entering the park from the north, east or west?

Along the north side of the park, you can visit Hurricane Ridge, Elwha, Lake Crescent or Sol Duc. Staircase is a popular destination on the east side of the park. On the west side, the rain forests of Quinault or Hoh, and beaches at Kalaloch, Mora and Ozette await your discovery.

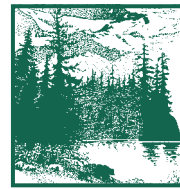
How long is your visit? Mountains, lakes, forests or coast?

In one day on the north side you can drive up to Hurricane Ridge in the morning, and then visit either Elwha, Lake Crescent or Sol Duc in the afternoon. On the west side, you can explore the rain forests at Quinault or Hoh in the morning and then enjoy the coastal sunset at Kalaloch. For another wonderful, varied day trip visit Rialto Beach (Mora) during low tide and hike trails at the Hoh in the morning or afternoon. Staircase offers a one-day trip to the southeast side of the park. Ozette is a unique destination in the park's northwest corner. You can create countless other trip combinations for a memorable vacation. Consider the distances between areas when you plan your visit.



MOUNTAINS

The most accessible mountain area is **Hurricane Ridge** at 5,242 feet, 17 miles up a paved road from Port Angeles. Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center offers information, exhibits, 20-minute film, snack bar and gift shop. Picnic areas provide a chance to relax amid the breathtaking scenery. Along the trails you can capture views of glacier-clad mountains crowning miles of wilderness. Avalanche and glacier lilies, lupines, bistorts and tiger lilies dance beneath stunted subalpine fir trees. High-pitched whistles announce the Olympic marmot, found only on the Olympic Peninsula. Black-tailed deer feed in summer meadows and migrate downslope when cold recaptures the high country.



LAKES

Lake Crescent is located 21 miles west of Port Angeles on Highway 101. This 624-foot deep shimmering jewel was carved by a huge glacier thousands of years ago. Stroll along the shore or take day hikes on the Marymere Falls, Spruce Railroad or Moments in Time trails. The Storm King Ranger Station has information, books and maps. Lake Crescent Lodge and Log Cabin Resort offer restaurants, boat rentals and overnight lodging. Fairholme Campground and a convenience store with boat rentals are located at the west end of the lake. **Ozette**, a two-hour drive from Port Angeles, offers a lovely lake for boaters, a small campground on the lake and trails to the rocky beach (see COAST, page three).



TEMPERATE RAIN FOREST

Drenched in over 12 feet of rain a year, west side valleys flourish with giant western hemlock, Douglas-fir and Sitka spruce trees. Moss-draped bigleaf maples create a magical scene that obliterates all sense of time. Roosevelt elk may linger along riverbanks at dawn and dusk. **Hoh Rain Forest**, 91 miles west of Port Angeles, offers a visitor center, exhibits, books, maps, self-guiding nature trails and a campground. **Quinault Rain Forest**, on the Quinault North Shore Road, is located 128 miles from Port Angeles. Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station offers information, exhibits, bookshop and self-guiding trails. The USFS/NPS Ranger Station and more trails are on the south shore of Lake Quinault. Throughout the valley, visitors enjoy rain forest hikes, lake activities, several campgrounds, lodging and restaurants.



LOWLAND FOREST

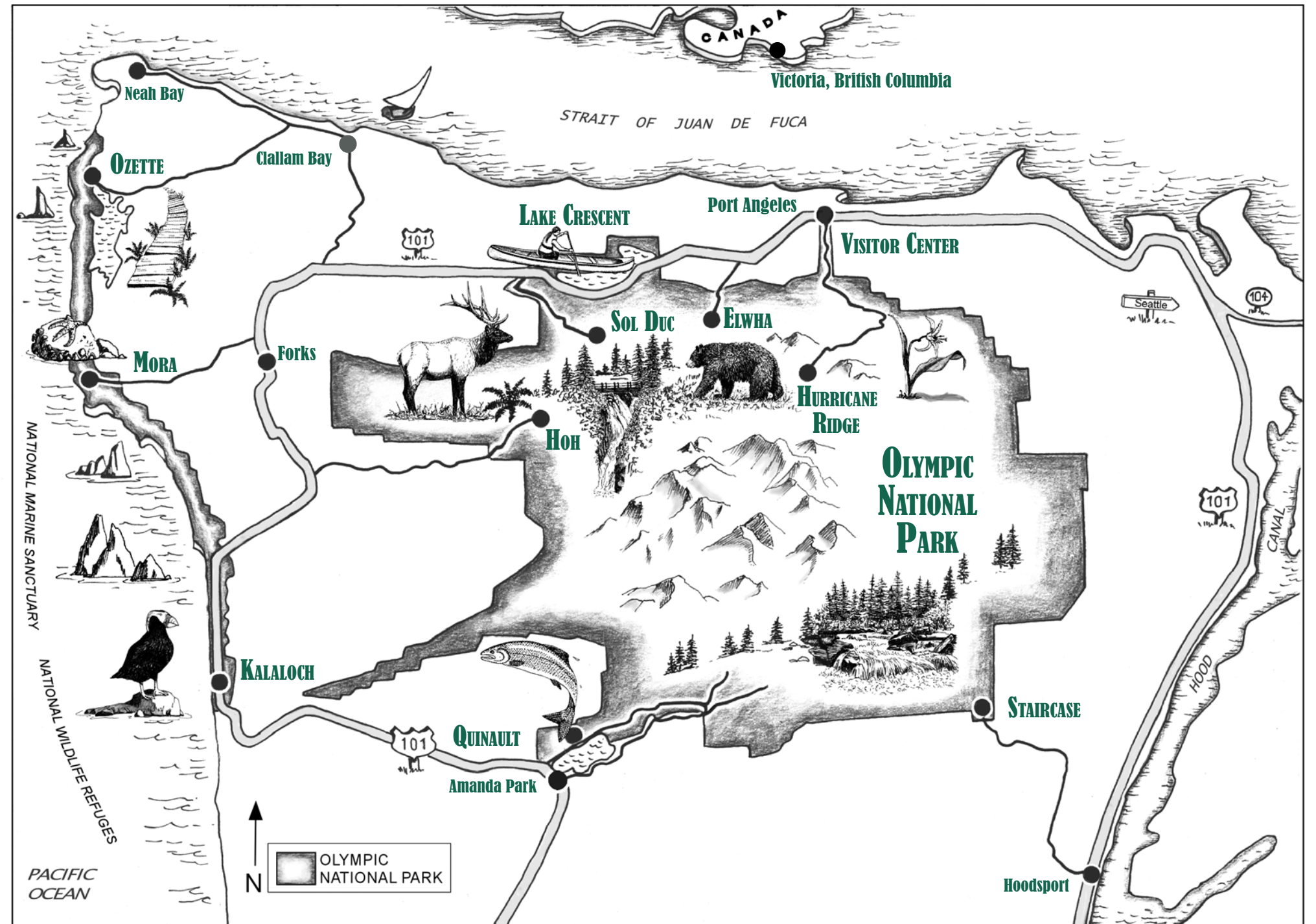
On the north and east sides of the park, the magnificent lowland forest cloaks lower elevations. This old growth is dominated by western hemlock and Douglas-fir trees. Five miles south of Port Angeles, Heart O' the Hills Campground offers sylvan beauty and access to the Heart O' the Forest trail. **Elwha**, 11 miles west of Port Angeles, has two campgrounds and many trails. Madison Falls, an accessible 0.2-mile self-guiding trail, provides a refreshing interlude. The road is closed beyond Altair campground for the Elwha River Restoration Project. For other project-related closures, check locally. **Sol Duc**, 40 miles west of Port Angeles, has a campground and self-guiding trails. Sol Duc Falls, a 1.6-mile round trip walk, starts at the end of the road. At Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort, which offers food and overnight lodging, you can relax in warm or cold pools. **Staircase**, 100 miles southeast of Port Angeles, offers a campground, self-guiding nature trails and a ranger station with exhibits.



COAST

The park's wilderness coast provides a constantly changing scene. Low tide exposes sea anemones, red and purple sea urchins, sea stars and limpets, artistically and strategically arranged on the rocks. It is important to leave tide pool animals in their homes, as moving just one animal can injure it and disrupt an entire community. **Kalaloch** is an expansive sandy beach located 95 miles southwest of Port Angeles. Kalaloch Ranger Station has information, exhibits and a bookshop. Visitors also enjoy campgrounds, Kalaloch Lodge, a restaurant and convenience store. Advance reservations are available for Kalaloch Campground during summer by calling (877) 444-6777 or visiting www.recreation.gov. Nearby Beach 4 and Ruby Beach are popular destinations accessed via 0.2-mile trails. **Mora**, 70 miles west of Port Angeles, offers a campground less than two miles from Rialto Beach. Along the beach, you can hike 1.5 miles north to picturesque Hole-in-the-Wall. Or walk the short Second or Third Beach trails. Check tide tables for longer hikes and talk with the Wilderness Information Center (WIC) about food storage and permits for any overnight hikes. At **Ozette**, you can reach the beach along three-mile boardwalk trails to either Sand Point or Cape Alava. A popular day hike is the nine-mile loop, which includes a three-mile beach walk. There is a small campground right on Lake Ozette, near the ranger station. If you want to head into the backcountry overnight, be sure to contact the WIC about food storage requirements and to make a reservation for wilderness camping. Have a safe and enjoyable trip!

Please return often, perhaps during a season of snow, or in the spring when old and new generations of green share the palette of this rare masterpiece called Olympic.





PARK PROGRAMS JUNE 23 - SEPTEMBER 2

PLEASE CHECK BULLETIN BOARDS FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

NORTH SIDE

1. PORT ANGELES

Olympic National Park Visitor Center - Open Daily 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Information, Discovery Room, park film, bookshop, maps, exhibits, partially accessible forest trail and Wilderness Information Center. Park information: (360) 565-3130. Recorded 24-hour road and weather information: (360) 565-3131.

Discover Olympic! - Daily 10:00 a.m.
Join a ranger to discover secrets about Olympic's varied treasures.

2. HEART O' THE HILLS

Evening Program - Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m.
Heart O' the Hills Campground amphitheater. Check bulletin boards for topics.

Family Forest Activities - Saturday 10:00 a.m. beginning June 30
Join us for one hour of forest activities. Meet at campground amphitheater.

3. HURRICANE RIDGE

Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - Dusk
Information, maps, exhibits, orientation film, trails. The information desk is staffed 10:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. daily. The snack bar and gift shop are open daily 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Terrace Talk - Daily 10:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.
Learn about this amazing wilderness park at a 20-minute talk. Topics vary.

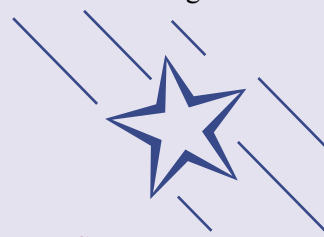
Meadow Walk - Daily 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
Join this easy one-hour guided walk to explore life in the mountains. Discover wildlife, wildflowers and other features of the Olympic landscape.
Program schedule subject to change; check local bulletin boards.

DISCOVER THE NIGHT SKY

HURRICANE RIDGE ASTRONOMY PROGRAMS

Meet Master Observer John Goar at Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center for a one-hour astronomy program with telescopes. Look for the rings of Saturn or a distant galaxy.

- June 20 through June 23 - 10:45 p.m.
- July 9 through July 23 - 10:30 p.m.
- August 9 through August 16 - 10:00 p.m.
- August 17 through August 23 - 9:30 p.m.



HURRICANE HILL SUNSET FULL MOON HIKES

Join astronomer John Goar for a 2 1/2-hour sunset full moon hike August 3, 4 and 31, and September 1 and 2. Meet at Hurricane Hill trailhead at 8:30 p.m. Bring flashlights and wear sturdy shoes. The walk is 1.6 miles one-way on a partially paved trail that climbs 700 feet to the top of Hurricane Hill.

If skies are cloudy, both programs will be canceled. For program status, call the park recorded phone line (360) 565-3131 after 3:00 p.m. the day of the program.

4. ELWHA

Elwha Ranger Station - Open Daily, hours vary.
Information, bookshop, maps, trails. Check bulletin boards for other programs.

Evening Program - Friday, Saturday 7:30 p.m.
Altair campground.

5. LAKE CRESCENT

Storm King Ranger Station - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Information, bookshop, maps, trails.

Marymere Falls Walk - Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Sunday 2:30 p.m.
Meet at Storm King Ranger Station. One-hour walk.

Lake Crescent Lodge Campfire Program Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00 p.m. - June 25 through July 30 7:30 p.m. - August 1 through August 31
Meet at lakeside campfire circle near Lake Crescent Lodge. Topics vary.

Fairholme Kids Program - Saturday 3:00 p.m.
Meet at Fairholme boat launch. Join a ranger to explore Olympic's wonders!

6. SOL DUC

Eagle Ranger Station - Open Friday - Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Information, books, maps.

Evening Program - Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8:00 p.m.
Sol Duc Campground amphitheater. Topics on bulletin boards.

EAST SIDE

7. STAIRCASE

Staircase Ranger Station - Open Friday - Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Other days as staffing allows.
Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps, trails, wilderness permits, bear cans.

Forest Walk - Friday, Saturday, Sunday 2:00 p.m.
Meet on the bridge for this 1 1/2-hour guided walk through lowland forest along the Skokomish River.



Family Forest Activities - Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Meet by the river in the campground for 1 1/2 hours of activities.

Evening Program Friday, Saturday 7:30 p.m.
Meet at the Staircase amphitheater.



WEST SIDE

8. RECREATION INFORMATION CENTER - FORKS

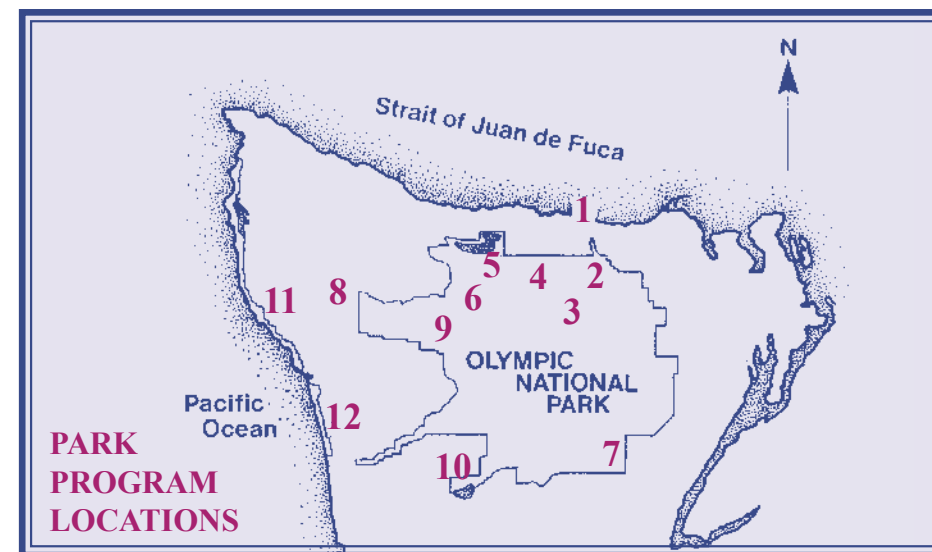
NPS/USFS Recreation Information - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Information, bookshop, maps, wilderness camping permits, park passes.

9. HOH

Hoh Rain Forest Visitor Center - Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps, trails, wilderness permits, bear cans.

Rain Forest Walk - Daily 2:00 p.m.
Learn about giant trees, wildlife and more on this 1 1/2-hour easy walk on either the Hall of Mosses or Spruce Nature Trail. Meet at Hoh Visitor Center.

Evening Program - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m. - Hoh Campground amphitheater. Topics on bulletin boards.



*Look! Look!
Look deep into
nature and you
will understand
everything.*
Albert Einstein



10. QUINAULT

Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station - North Shore Road Open Thursday - Monday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps, trails. Closed for guided walks & lunch.

Life in the Rain Forest Walk - Thursday through Monday 1:00 p.m.
Learn about rain forest plants, animals and homesteader lore. Meet at Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station for this 1 1/2-hour, 3/4-mile walk.

11. MORA

Rialto Beach Ramble Or Hole-in-the-Wall Tidepools
Topics, locations, dates, and times vary due to changing tides. See Mora bulletin boards, visit the park website (www.nps.gov/olymp/planyourvisit/events.htm) or call (360) 374-7566 for current schedules and information.

Evening Program - Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m.
Mora Campground amphitheater. Topics on bulletin boards.



12. KALALOCH

Kalaloch Ranger Station Open Daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Information, exhibits, bookshop, maps.

Beach walk Or Tide Pool Walk
Topics, locations, dates, and times vary due to changing tides. See Kalaloch bulletin boards, visit the park website (www.nps.gov/olymp/planyourvisit/events.htm) or call (360) 374-7566 for current schedules and information.

Ranger's Favorites! - Tuesday through Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Drop by the Kalaloch Lodge gazebo anytime during this one-hour hands-on exploration of Olympic's treasures. Bring your coastal curiosity!

Evening Program - Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 8:00 p.m.
Kalaloch Campground amphitheater. Check bulletin boards for topics.

Junior Ranger

Olympic National Park Junior Rangers learn exciting secrets about the park. Pick up a free activity booklet at park visitor centers and earn your Junior Ranger badge!

Discovery Backpack

Have fun exploring nature with a Discovery Backpack filled with binoculars, guidebooks and more! Borrow a backpack at park visitor centers for a \$5.00 donation.



INFORMATION

For Your Safety



In case of an emergency dial 911. Park rangers, located throughout the park, can assist you with any issues of safety or crime.



Please help protect marine life.

All living organisms on the beach and in tide pools are protected. If you encounter a seal pup on the beach please do not touch it. The pup does not need help and unfortunately your actions could lead to abandonment by its mother.



Filter or boil all backcountry water to a rolling boil to avoid infection by *Giardia*, a microscopic intestinal parasite.

Pack rain gear and warm clothing. Hypothermia, a dangerous lowering of body temperature, may result from exposure to wet or chilly weather.



Pets are not allowed on park trails. This is for the safety of your pets, park wildlife and you! Ask for our pet regulations handout.

Tread lightly please. Avoid walking on delicate vegetation by staying on trails. Help protect this beautiful wilderness park for future visitors.



Bicyclists beware. Travel around Lake Crescent and other park areas can be hazardous due to heavy traffic, narrow roadways and seasonal road construction. Please use extra caution.

Drift logs are dangerous! Avoid swimming in or walking near the ocean during storms or heavy surf.



Cougars inhabit all elevations of the park where deer, elk and other prey are plentiful. Sightings are rare and usually fleeting. But if you encounter a cougar, make yourself large and loud, wave your arms or a stick, face the cougar and slowly back away. Report all cougar observations at the nearest ranger station.



To Learn More

Visit the park website at www.nps.gov/olym for in depth information about the park and its resources. For general park information call (360) 565-3130. For 24-hour recorded park road and weather information call (360) 565-3131.

The Wilderness Information Center in Olympic National Park Visitor Center in Port Angeles, has wilderness information and permits, minimum impact tips, bear canisters and more. When camping in the backcountry, you must use bear canisters in many areas including Sol Duc, Royal Basin and the coast. For information stop by, phone (360) 565-3100 or go to www.nps.gov/olym. Please plan carefully for a safe trip.



Celebrating A Century of History!

Excitement and bustle filled the air as passengers boarded a steamship on a misty Seattle morning in 1912. They cruised 75 miles to Port Crescent, then traveled by automobile to a paddlewheeler that ferried them across Lake Crescent. The final 14 miles via Stanley Steamers took them to the luxurious Sol Duc Hot Springs Hotel.

Guests stayed at the rustic yet elegant 165-room Sol Duc Hot Springs Hotel that hosted up to 10,000 visitors each summer. Patrons sipped mineral waters and soaked in hot baths. Horseback riding, tennis, golf, croquet, bowling and dancing filled their days.

After only four years of grandeur this magnificent resort burned to the ground. The legacy continues in modern pools, cabins, restaurant and a shop still at the site. This year commemorates the 100th anniversary of Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort.



Connect to Olympic National Park's audio tour!

Dial 360-406-5056 then select from the options below:

- Hurricane Ridge 1
- Elwha 2
- Lake Crescent 3
- Sol Duc 4
- Mora & Ozette 5
- Hoh 6
- Kalaloch 7
- Quinault 8
- Staircase 9
- Park Overview 10

Press # to end the message

Park Concessions

Park concessions offer food services, lodging and gift items at Lake Crescent Lodge, Log Cabin Resort, Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort and Kalaloch Lodge. Food and gift items are available at Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center and Fairholme Store. Boat rentals are available at Lake Crescent concessions. All of these facilities are operated seasonally, except Kalaloch, which is open year-round.

Programs are offered by Aramark interpretive guides at various locations in Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest. Activities may include walks, hikes, van and boat tours, campfire programs and festival events. For further details visit their website: www.olympicnationalparks.com.



- Kalaloch Lodge - (360) 962-2271
- Lake Crescent Lodge - (360) 928-3211
- Fairholme Store (Lake Crescent) - (360) 928-3020
- Log Cabin Resort (Lake Crescent) - (866) 574-2708
- Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort - (360) 327-3583

Making Your Memories Last



BOOKSHOP COUPON

DISCOVER YOUR NORTHWEST
Valid on all merchandise, except sale items, at park visitor centers and information stations in Port Angeles, Hoh, Kalaloch and Forks.
Expires 9/30/2012

30%
DYNW
members

15%
non-
members

Discover Your Northwest bookshops are located throughout the park. Your purchases help fund educational programs at Olympic National Park. Thank you for your invaluable support.

INFORMATION

Park Partners Thanks to YOU...



Discover Your Northwest is a non-profit organization that provides educational materials at park sales outlets. Proceeds support Olympic's programs, exhibits and publications. Annual membership \$15. For more information, please call the Olympic National Park Branch at (360) 565-3195. Write to: Discover Your Northwest, 164 S. Jackson St., Seattle, WA 98104.

NatureBridge is a private, non-profit educational organization on the shores of Lake Crescent in Olympic National Park. Field science courses are offered for students. For more information please call (360) 928-3720. Write to: NatureBridge, 111 Barnes Point Road, Port Angeles, WA 98363.



Washington's National Park Fund

is a non-profit organization whose mission is to restore and preserve national parks in Washington. The Fund supports projects in Olympic, North Cascades and Mount Rainier National Parks, including promoting volunteerism and stewardship, and funding ranger programs and essential research. Call: (253) 566-4644. Mail donations to: P.O. Box 64626, University Place, WA 98464-0626.



Friends of Olympic National Park

support the park's natural, cultural and recreational resources for present and future generations. They promote understanding of Olympic's ecological, educational, economic and recreational importance, and they work on park projects. Website: www.friendsonp.org



Your recreation fees provide about \$2,000,000 annually to support visitor facilities and services at Olympic National Park. Current and recent projects include replacement of Staircase Rapids Bridge, production of Elwha wayside exhibits, and printing park brochures, including the park map and fishing regulations. Your support of the fee program is very important. Thank you.



ENTRANCE AND RECREATION FEES

ENTRANCE FEES - single visit up to seven consecutive days
\$15 - Vehicle (private) or \$5 - Individual (foot, bike)

ENTRANCE PASSES (Please show photo ID with passes.)

- \$30 - Olympic National Park Annual Pass
- \$80 - Interagency Annual Pass (multiple federal lands)
- \$10 - Interagency Senior Pass (lifetime, age 62+, U.S. citizen/resident)
- Free - Interagency Access Pass (lifetime, disabled U.S. citizen/resident)
- Free - Interagency Annual Pass - Military (limited to U.S. uniformed service active duty members and their dependents; must present CAC "Geneva Conventions Identification Card" or DD-1173 "Identification and Privilege Card")

CAMPING FEES - per site, per night

- 50% discount with Interagency Senior/Access, Golden Age/Access Passes
- \$10 - Deer Park, North Fork Quinault, Queets, South Beach
- \$12 - Altair, Elwha, Fairholme, Graves Creek, Heart O' the Hills, Hoh, Mora, Ozette, Staircase
- \$14 - Kalaloch (except summer*) and Sol Duc
- \$18 - *Kalaloch, June 20 - September 3. Make reservations at least three days in advance online at www.recreation.gov or by calling (877) 444-6777.
- \$5 - RV septic dump station use at Fairholme, Hoh, Kalaloch, Mora, Sol Duc

WILDERNESS USE FEES

50% discount with Interagency Senior/Access or Golden Age/Access Passes
Permit required for overnight trips, \$5 plus \$2 per person per night. For further information, please call the Wilderness Information Center at (360) 565-3100.

Elwha River Restoration in Action

North America's largest dam removal began in September 2011 on the Elwha River. By mid-March 2012, the 108-foot high Elwha Dam was gone and the river flowed through its native channel for the first time in over a century. Removal of the 210-foot Glines Canyon Dam is estimated to be complete in 2013.

Restoration has already begun. Last winter crews planted over 30,000 native plants in the exposed sediments of the old reservoirs. When both dams are gone, all five kinds of Pacific salmon, steelhead, sea-run cutthroat and bull trout will be able to return to more than 70 miles of habitat protected in Olympic National Park. This will restore an ecological link between sea and forest and provide a living laboratory for current and future scientists.

The project will renew the culture of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, whose members have lived along the river since time immemorial. As the reservoirs drain, tribal members will regain access to sacred sites submerged for 100 years.

To learn more about Elwha River restoration, stop by Olympic National Park Visitor Center or Elwha Ranger Station. Visit the Port Angeles Library for a summer showing of Elwha art and historic artifacts and to learn more about scientific and tribal information. For updates, photos and links to six project webcams, visit Olympic National Park's website at www.nps.gov/olym. Share photos or ask questions on Facebook/ElwhaRiverRestoration.



Lake Mills Delta September 2011



Lake Mills Delta April 2012

Climate Changes

By JANIS BURGER, Park Ranger

From rising sea levels in the Everglades to melting permafrost in Alaska, our changing climate is challenging the National Park Service mission of preserving landscapes and resources “unimpaired for future generations.”

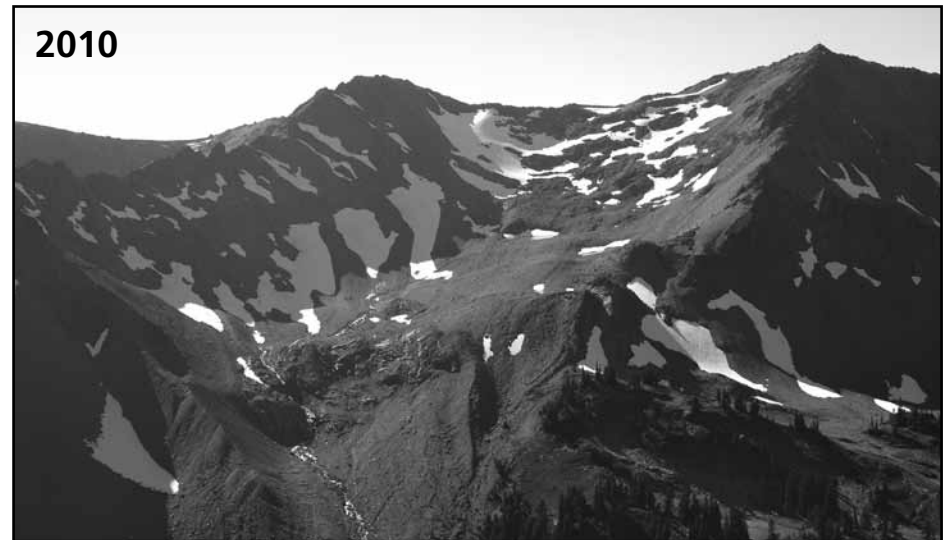
Climate change impacts throughout the national park system include more frequent fires, plant community shifts, decreased snowfall and melting glaciers. Glaciers are sensitive indicators of climate change because they grow or shrink in response to snowfall and snowmelt. With less winter snow and warmer temperatures, glaciers are in retreat worldwide.

“I believe that climate change is fundamentally the greatest threat to the integrity of our national parks that we have ever experienced.”

Jonathan Jarvis, Director National Park Service

Researchers in Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks are monitoring the region’s shrinking glaciers. By comparing aerial photographs, scientists documented a 30% loss of glacier surface area in Olympic National Park from the late 1970s to 2009. Elevation data revealed the glaciers are also thinning. Some smaller glaciers have disappeared.

The National Park Service is working to reduce its carbon footprint, but climate change and its solutions transcend park boundaries. Together, the choices we all make today can help preserve our nation’s natural and cultural legacy for our children. Learn how you can help at www.nps.gov/climatechange/athome.



Lillian Glacier, in the heart of the Olympic Mountains, is nearly gone after shrinking dramatically between 1905 and 2010.



WILDlife!

Spotting wildlife can be a memorable part of your park visit. Some animals are elusive and rarely seen, such as fishers and bobcats. Others, like deer, chipmunks, gray jays and non-native mountain goats, have become overly accustomed to humans. Their natural reaction to your presence should be to flee and not approach you, but some habituated animals have lost their natural wariness. Do not follow when they move away. Thank YOU for keeping wildlife wild!

- Stay fifty yards from wildlife.** If they approach, scare them away with waving arms and loud shouts.
- Never feed park wildlife.** It is illegal, harmful to animals and hazardous to you. Animals fed by humans lose fear of people, which will alter natural animal behavior and may lead to aggression.
- When camping or picnicking, secure food and trash from animals.** Whenever possible, store these items in your vehicle. At Olympic, diligent visitors have helped prevent dangerous interactions with bears.

Saving Ozette Sockeye

Once abundant, Lake Ozette sockeye salmon were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 1999. This winter, Mike Haggerty Consulting and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration scientists collaborated with Olympic National Park and the Makah Tribe to study these fish using cutting edge technology. The researchers were able to count these unique fish by using DIDSON sonar to “see” with sound waves, allowing them to observe and accurately count fish in up to 30 feet of water.

Understanding the abundance of this rare species is an important step along their road to recovery. The epic story of Ozette sockeye will continue as more information emerges on the biological and environmental factors affecting them. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.nps.gov/olymp/naturescience/sockeye-salmon.htm>.

