

Backpacking by Bus

Access the Northwest Wilderness by Public Transit!



News

About Us

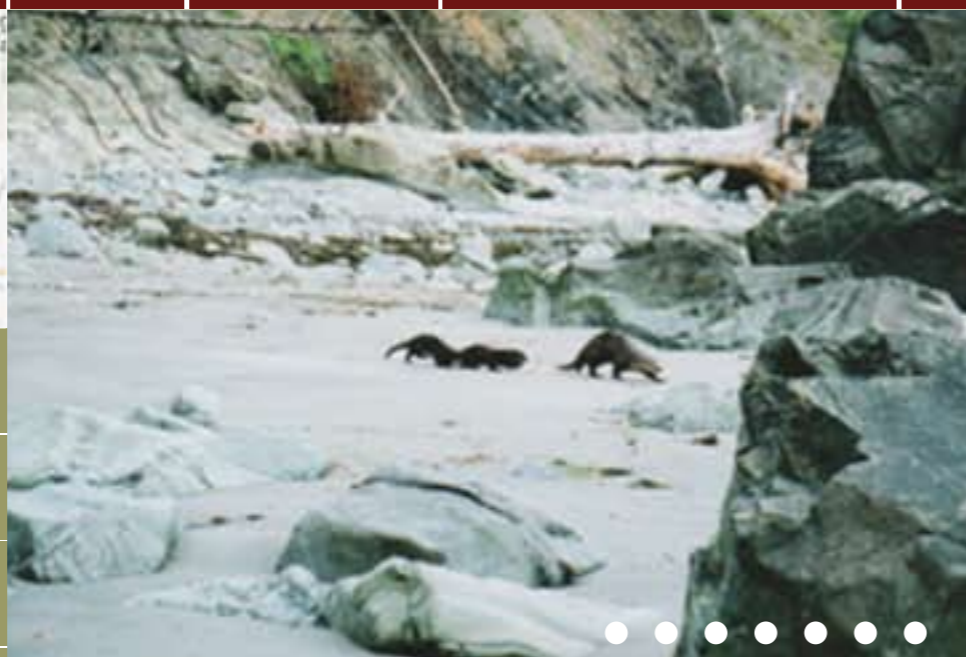
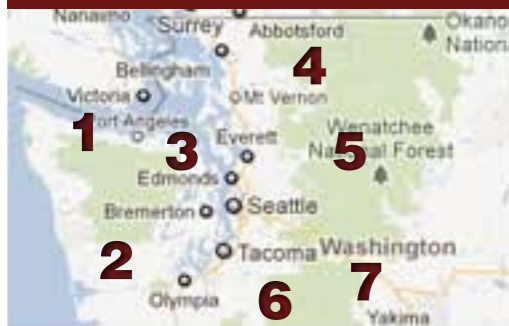
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CHAPTER 1: Access to north and east sides of Olympic National Park: Dungeness River, Hurricane Ridge, Elwha and Soleduck rivers. Further west, rain forest rivers: the Hoh, Queets, and North Fork Quinault. Further still, the Park's Pacific coast ocean beaches: fifty-plus miles of roaring surf and tidepools.



Stevens Pass webcam

1. Olympics NORTH

2. Olympics SOUTH

3. Olympics EAST

4. Darrington

5. Gold Bar, Stevens Pass, Leavenworth

6. Packwood

7. Additional Areas

Why Backpacking by Bus?

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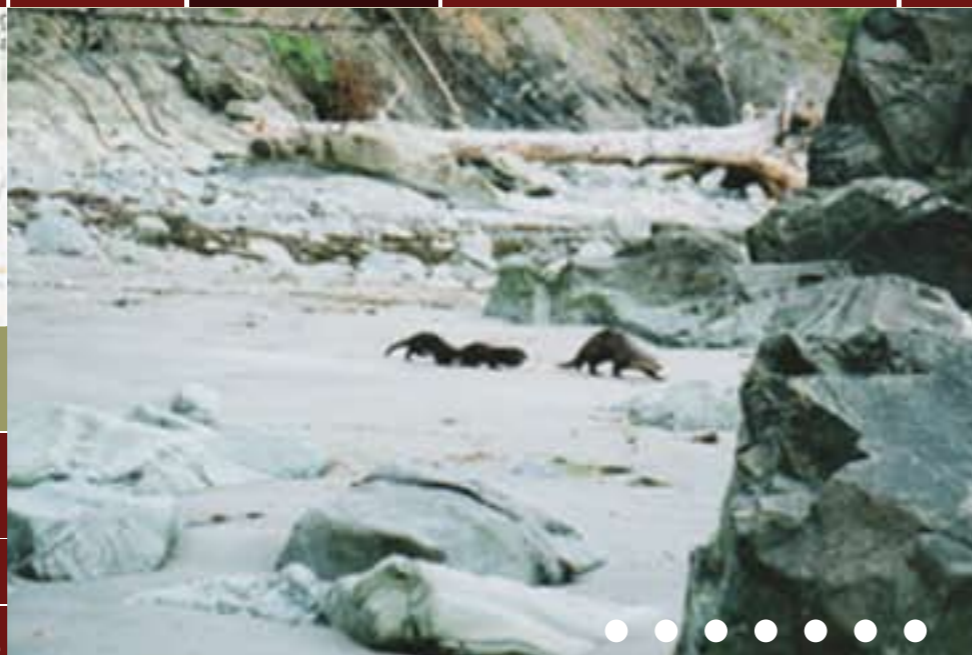
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1. Olympics NORTH

2. Olympics SOUTH

Queets

Col. Bob Wilderness

Enchanted Valley

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Region 5: Gold Bar, Stevens Pass

[Breadcrumbs](#) > [Region 5](#) > [Map or whatever](#)

Updated September 2011

See also - [Mountain Goats Drank my Pee](#)

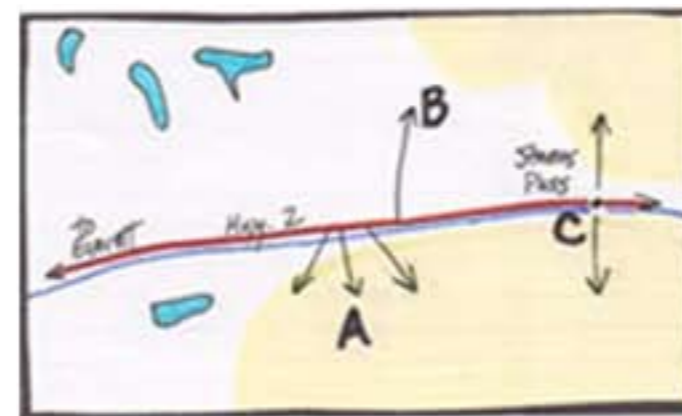
WEST - [A. Skykomish](#) [B. Wild Sky Wilderness](#) [C. Stevens Pass](#)

This chapter will give you a huge number of options in the central and northern Cascades. You'll be able to reach the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, Henry M. Jackson Wilderness, Glacier Peak Wilderness, and even as far east as Lake Chelan, from which, by boat, you can reach North Cascades National Park.

Trail Option A: Skykomish

This is not one hike, but rather a whole slew of them. A plethora of them. You'll be venturing into the Alpine Lakes Wilderness just south of the town of Skykomish. Some of them might qualify as "easy," and, sure, you might run into Cub Scouts and Blue Birds (do they still even have Blue Birds?), but don't let them intimidate you (and I dare you to keep up with them). General rule of thumb: Blue Birds will always kick your ass; put it down to the general irrepressible exuberance of youth. But the Alpine Lakes Wilderness contains enough lakes that surely you'll be able to find one of your own.

Leave NWT at the stop in Skykomish (make sure before you leave the bus that you've asked the driver precisely where the bus stops heading the other way, for your return trip--to avoid nasty surprises). Cross the bridge into town, have lunch, fill your water bottle. Hang a right at the end of town onto the Old Cascade Highway, walk 2 miles, then 8 miles up the Miller River Road (Rd. 6410, turning into 6412) to the trailhead. It's about 2 miles to Lake Dorothy, and the trail continues on for several more lakes.



Stevens Pass webcam

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Regions and Trailheads

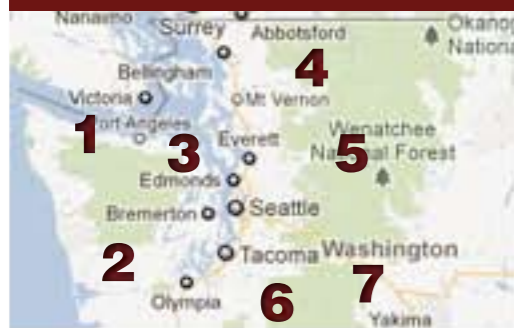
[Breadcrumbs](#) > [Regions and Trailheads](#)

SECTION 1: OLYMPICS NORTH

Map	Trailhead	Go there for:	Dave Rating	
	Dungeness Forks/Buckhorn Wilderness	Wetness, moss, ancient trees, salt water hikes, tide pooling. Dry bag recommended. High tide can strand you south of river.	Walk to trail Terrain Road	6 miles steep unpaved
	Hurricane Ridge / Grand Valley	Wetness, moss, ancient trees, salt water hikes, tide pooling. Dry bag recommended. High tide can strand you south of river.	Walk to trail Terrain Road	6 miles steep unpaved
	Barnes Creek / Aurora Ridge	Wetness, moss, ancient trees, salt water hikes, tide pooling. Dry bag recommended. High tide can strand you south of river.	Walk to trail Terrain Road	6 miles steep unpaved
	Olympic National Park Coastal Strip	Wetness, moss, ancient trees, salt water hikes, tide pooling. Dry bag recommended. High tide can strand you south of river.	Walk to trail Terrain Road	6 miles steep unpaved
	Bogachiel River Trail	Wetness, moss, ancient trees, salt water hikes, tide pooling. Dry bag recommended. High tide can strand you south of river.	Walk to trail Terrain Road	6 miles steep unpaved

SECTION 2: OLYMPICS SOUTH

Map	Trailhead	Go there for:	Dave Rating	
	Hoh River Trail	Wetness, moss, ancient trees, salt water hikes, tide pooling. Dry bag recommended. High tide can strand you south of river.	Walk to trail Terrain Road	6 miles steep unpaved



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main-region1-olympics-n-2.jpg



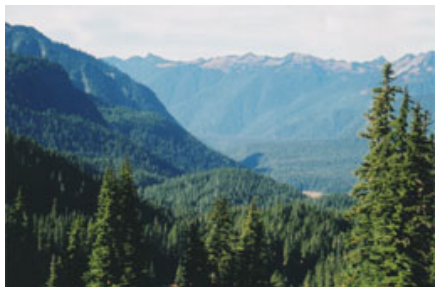
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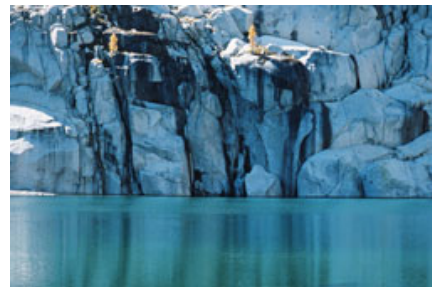
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main-region3-olympics-east.jpg



main-region4-darrington.jpg



main-region5-goldbar.jpg



main-region5-leavenworth.jpg



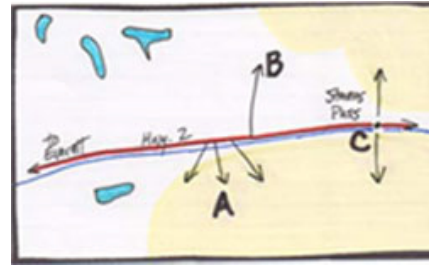
main-region5-stevens.jpg



main-region6-packwood.jpg



main-region7-ocean.jpg



map-reg5-stevens-pass.jpg



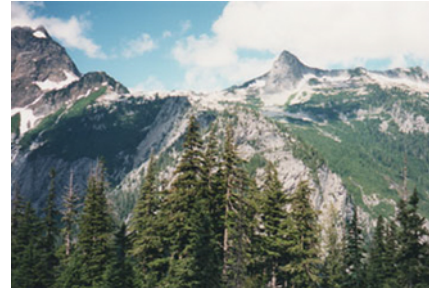
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slides-region2-olympics-s.jpg



slides-region3-olympics-e.jpg



slides-region4-darrington.jpg



slides-region5-leavenworth.jpg



slides-region6-packwood.jpg



slides-region7-longbeach.jpg