



Bonus Hikes

Eastern Washington is so flush with good trails, we couldn't resist including thirty additional hikes worth exploring!

COLUMBIA HIGHLANDS: OKANOGAN HIGHLANDS

1. McLoughlin Canyon: Short, 1.5-mile trail along part of the historical fur-trading route and Cariboo Trail to British Columbia goldfields; and the site of an 1858 ambush and massacre. Access is from McLoughlin Canyon Road, milepost 311 4 miles south of Tonasket. Information: BLM Spokane District, (509) 536-1200, www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/index.php.

2. Island Park: Community-built trail system along Okanogan River in the city of Okanogan. Currently 1.4 miles of trail are in place, with more planned. Access is just south of the Okanogan City Maintenance Department (1601 1st Avenue South).

3. Fourth of July Ridge: Long and lonely 7-mile trail along the high southwest ridge of Mount Bonaparte. Connects to Southside Trail and Napol Cabin Trail, leading to Antoine Trail, allowing for loop around Mount Bonaparte. Access is from FR 3230. Information: Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District, (509) 486-2186, www.fs.fed.us/r6/okawen.

4. Tenmile Trail: Lightly hiked 2.5-mile trail from Sanpoil River valley up steep slopes above Tenmile Creek, through scree slopes and pine groves. Good spring flower hike. Access is from Tenmile Campground on SR 21 south of Republic. Information: Colville National Forest, Republic Ranger District, (509) 775-7400, www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville.

5. Long Lake: Along with nearby Fish Lake, hike 1.5 level miles along two small lakes popular with fishermen and -women. Some scree and some brush. Access is off of FR 53 near Swan Lake south of Republic. Information: Colville National Forest, Republic Ranger District, (509) 775-7400, www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville.

KETTLE RIVER RANGE

6. Profanity Trail: Hard to find and hard to follow 1.5-mile trail through alpine meadows to Kettle River Range. Access is from FR 2160 off of Aeneas Road north of Republic on SR 21. Information: Colville National Forest, Republic Ranger District, (509) 775-7400, www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville.

SELKIRK MOUNTAINS

7. Pierre Lake Trail: Family-friendly 0.8-mile trail along a small lake in the "wedge," the highlands between the Kettle and Columbia rivers. Access is from the USFS Pierre Lake Campground off of Stevens County Road 4015 northeast of Orient. Information: Colville National Forest, Three Rivers Ranger District, Kettle Falls, (509) 738-7700, www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville.

8. Newport Wolf Trails: A series of loops form nearly 5 miles of forested trails at the edge of Newport. Named in memory of former Newport Miner publisher Fred Wolf, the trails are easy and suited for families. The 0.75 mile Trail No. 305 connects through forest to 1.5-mile Trail

No. 304. The trails are graced by wildflowers in May and lead to viewpoints of the Pend Oreille River and Ashenfelter Bay. The 2.5 miles of upper trails are geared more to Nordic skiing and mountain biking. Access to the lower trails is from SR 20 on the north edge of Newport: turn north on Warren Avenue and drive 1 mile to the lower trailhead. Access to the upper trails is from SR 20: turn west onto Larch Street, go one block, turn north on Laurelhurst Drive, and then go 0.5 mile to the parking area. Information: Colville National Forest, Newport Ranger District, (509) 447-7300, www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville.

9. Halliday Trail: Easily accessible from SR 31 just south of the US–Canada border, Halliday Trail No. 522 runs 4.2 miles through a remarkably diverse forest and along the Halliday Fen, a tranquil wetland protected as a research natural area. This trail links to Red Bluff Trail No. 553 and North Fork Sullivan Creek Trail No. 507, which leads into the Salmo–Priest Wilderness all the way up to Crowell Ridge Trail No. 5115. Access is from Metaline Falls: Follow SR 31 north 6.5 miles. Turn right at the Halliday trailhead sign and then immediately left on the spur to the trailhead. Information: Colville National Forest, Sullivan Lake Ranger District, (509) 446-7500, www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville.

10. Silver Creek Trails: The Silver Creek Campground just southwest of Abercrombie Mountain is a base for two good hikes. South Fork Silver Creek Trail No. 123 crosses creeks and gains 2200 feet in 7 miles. North Fork Silver Creek Trail No. 119 leads nearly 6 miles to a junction with Abercrombie Mountain Trail No. 117--a good hike in itself--or continue another 5.9 miles to the top of Abercrombie for a marathon round-trip of nearly 24 miles. See Hike 43 for access northeast of Colville. Information: Colville National Forest, Three Rivers Ranger District, Kettle Falls, (509) 738-7700, www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville.

AROUND SPOKANE

11. McKenzie Conservation Area: Nearly 5 miles of volunteer-built trails on 421 acres on forested slopes along Newman Lake near the Idaho border. Access is from I-90 at Liberty Lake: Go north 2.4 miles on Harvard Road. Turn east on Trent Avenue (SR 290), go 2.2 miles to a four-way intersection, and turn left (north) on Starr Road. Drive 3 miles and turn right at the Y onto Hauser Lake Road. Drive less than a half mile and turn left on Muzzy Road. Drive 4.5 miles (Muzzy Road becomes West Newman Lake Road) to the trailhead down to the left. Information: Spokane County Parks and Recreation, (509) 477-4730, www.spokanecounty.org/parks.

12. Glenrose Conservation Area (proposed): About 4 miles of routes lead through timber and grassy meadows to two good viewpoints overlooking the Spokane Valley. Access is from the Palouse Highway in south Spokane: Go east on 57th Avenue, which becomes Glenrose Road as it bends left (north). Follow Glenrose and turn east on 34th Avenue. Turn right on Eastern Road. Just past Dyer Rod, turn north on Thierman Road and drive to the trailhead at the end of the pavement. Park off the road; don't block roads or the gate. Information: Spokane County Parks and Recreation, (509) 477-4730, www.spokanecounty.org/parks.

13. Dwight Merkel Trail: Beautifully graded connector in a network of volunteer-built trails, leading from recreational sports fields in northwest Spokane to trails in Riverside State Park. Enjoy the bustle of youthful activity on the baseball and soccer fields along the 3.1-mile perim-

eter trail around the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex and Joe Albi Stadium, some of it paved. Trails take off into woods west from the Merkel Complex. Access is from Assembly Street in northwest Spokane. Information: Spokane City Parks and Recreation, (509) 625-6200, www.spokaneparks.org/parks.

14. Spokane River Centennial Trail: The Spokane area's most popular paved trail, running 37 miles from Nine Mile Falls east to the Idaho state line (and farther into Idaho). It links Riverside State Park, downtown, and neighborhoods for hiking, biking, commuting, running, skating, and bicycling. The path generally contours the Spokane River, with 30 miles of trail completely separated from roads and traffic. Access is from Riverside State Park at Nine Mile Falls, from the state line exit off I-90, or from numerous points in between. Information: Friends of the Centennial Trail, (509) 624-7188, www.spokanecentennialtrail.org.

15. West Branch Little Spokane River Wildlife Area: Numerous unmarked and unmapped old logging roads and trails lace this 2772-acre diamond in the rough in Pend Oreille County, including wildlife-rich wetlands and uplands from Horseshoe Lake south to Fan Lake. Access is from US 2: Head west on Eloika Lake Road to the locked gate off the corner of Horseshoe Lake Road and Holly Road. Information: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Spokane office, (509) 892-1001, http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas.

16. Medical and West Medical Lakes: Two good fishing lakes on the outskirts of their namesake city. From the popular Waterfront Park, the paved Lake Trail circumnavigates Medical Lake in 3 miles. The wooded west side stays away from homes. Paths to the southeast corner of the lake lead to popular cliff-jumping areas. West Medical Lake, just a short way west of Medical Lake, has a nice 1.7-mile single-track along the lake's west shore. The informal trail starts through a hole in the chain link fence near the boat ramp at the far end of the public access parking lot. Access is from the Medical Lake exit (exit 272) off of I-90: Follow SR 902 west about 5 miles to the city of Medical Lake. Turn left (south) on Lefevre Street through downtown to the entrance of Waterfront Park. Information: City of Medical Lake, (509) 565-5000, www.medical-lake.org/citserv/parks.asp.

COLUMBIA PLATEAU

17. Columbia Plateau Trail: This rail trail managed as a state park runs 130 miles from Cheney to Pasco, following a portion of the abandoned Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railroad. The choice route for walking or mountain biking runs from Cheney through the west side of Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge and southwest for a total of 15 miles. (Another 15 miles runs from Ice Harbor Dam to Snake River Junction.) The 3-mile paved portion of the Fish Lake Trail also leaves from the Cheney trailhead. Access is from Cheney, just off Cheney-Spangle Road (the route to Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge). Information: Washington State Parks, Columbia Plateau Trail, (360) 902-8844, www.parks.wa.gov/parks.

18. Umatilla Rock: Explore several miles of dirt roads and trails at the base of Dry Falls in Monument Coulee, in 4000-acre Sun Lakes State Park. Access is off of SR 17 just south of Coulee City. Information: Washington State Parks, (509) 632-5583, www.parks.wa.gov/parks.

19. Blythe and Chukar Lakes: Round-trip of 3 miles to two large lakes in the Drumheller Channels south of the Potholes Reservoir. Access is off of SR 262 (across from Mar Don

Resort), 3.6 miles west of the refuge road leading to the Crab Creek trails. Information: Columbia National Wildlife Refuge, (509) 546-8300, www.fws.gov/columbia.

20. Saddle Mountain: From the mountaintop trailhead, roam for miles on primitive paths across 2000-plus-foot Saddle Mountain, admiring flowers and views of the Hanford Reach and Columbia Basin. Access is off of SR 24 west of the road to White Bluffs trails. Information: Hanford Reach National Monument, (509) 546-8300, www.fws.gov/hanfordreach.

AROUND TRI-CITIES

21. Sacajawea State Park: Several miles of quiet trails in a pretty 284-acre state park at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia rivers. Lewis and Clark interpretive displays, big trees, and lots of wildlife. Access is off of US 12 just east of Pasco. Information: Washington State Parks, (509) 545-2361, www.parks.wa.gov/parks.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AREAS

22. Badger Mountain (Waterville Plateau): Several miles of trails in the Duffy Creek and Douglas Creek recreation sites on Badger Mountain south of Waterville. Access is off of US 2 via either Titchenal Canyon Road or Road H. Good map online. Information: BLM Spokane District, (509) 536-1200, www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane.

23. Odessa Craters: Two short trails to two unique craters formed by the Great Missoula Floods. Access is on SR 21 just north of the Lakeview Ranch. Information: BLM Spokane District, (509) 536-1200, www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane.

PALOUSE AND SNAKE RIVERS

24. Lyons Ferry: Hike an easy mile to Chief Old Bones's grave on a scenic bluff at the confluence of the Snake and Palouse rivers in this nice park administered by the Port of Columbia. Access is on SR 261 a few miles south of Palouse Falls. Information: Port of Columbia, (509) 382-2577; <http://portofcolumbia.org>.

25. Bill Chipman Palouse Trail: An 8-mile paved rail trail, roughly paralleling SR 270 between Pullman and Moscow, Idaho, including thirteen bridges over Paradise Creek. Access is from the Quality Inn in Pullman and at Perimeter Drive in Moscow. Information: Pullman Civic Trust, www.pullmancivictrust.org.

26. Klemgard County Park: Family-friendly 0.9-mile loop in a 59-acre green oasis surrounded by the rolling Palouse wheat fields. The park's playground and picnic shelters are a popular gathering spot in a forested canyon along Union Flat Creek. The trail leads high above the park through woods and along a creek. Access is from Colfax: Drive south on US 195 for 6 miles (to milepost 30.7), and turn west on Hamilton Hill Road toward Klemgard Park. Drive 2.5 miles to the bottom of Canyon Flat and turn right on Union Flat Road. Go 1 mile to the park. Information: Whitman County Parks and Recreation, Colfax, (509) 397-6238, www.whitmancounty.org.

27. Snake River Trail: Hiking-biking trail along the shore of the Snake River, running 3.5 miles from Almota Creek near the well-developed Boyer Park Marina and Campground to the base of Lower Granite Dam. Access is from Colfax: Follow Almota Road 15 miles to the Snake River.

Turn left and follow Granite Road 3 miles to Boyer Park. Information: Boyer Park and Marina, (509) 397-3208, www.bpark.biz.

BLUE MOUNTAINS

28. Asotin Creek Wildlife Area: Although it has few maintained trails, this 34,000-acre wildlife area offers many miles of vehicle-restricted roads and ridges for hiking in the foothills of the Blue Mountains. Access is from the town of Asotin. Get maps and explore. Information: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Spokane office, (509) 892-1001, www.wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas.

29. Slick Ear Trail: Plunge to the Wenaha River in the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness after a gentle mile on a ridge. Slick Ear Trail No. 3104 descends on many switchbacks for 0.5 mile, with great views. The rest of the hike to the river is more gentle along Slick Ear Creek, but the round-trip is 10.4 miles and you'll gain 2500 feet of elevation on the way out. Access is from south of Dayton: Drive FR 46 toward Godman Spring, linking with FRs 300 and 301 to reach the trailhead. Information: Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District, (509) 843-1891, www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/pomeroy.

30. Wenaha River Trail: Although it's in Oregon just south of the Washington border, Wenaha River Trail No. 3137 is popular with Eastern Washington hikers, especially in early spring. It's one of the region's first long wilderness hikes to be free of snow, although spring runoff can make it impossible to safely cross Crooked Creek, the first drainage inside the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness boundary. The entire trail runs 31 miles. Temperatures soar on the trail during hot weather. Access is at the trailhead just outside Troy, Oregon. Information: Umatilla National Forest, Pomeroy Ranger District, (509) 843-1891, www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/pomeroy.

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