

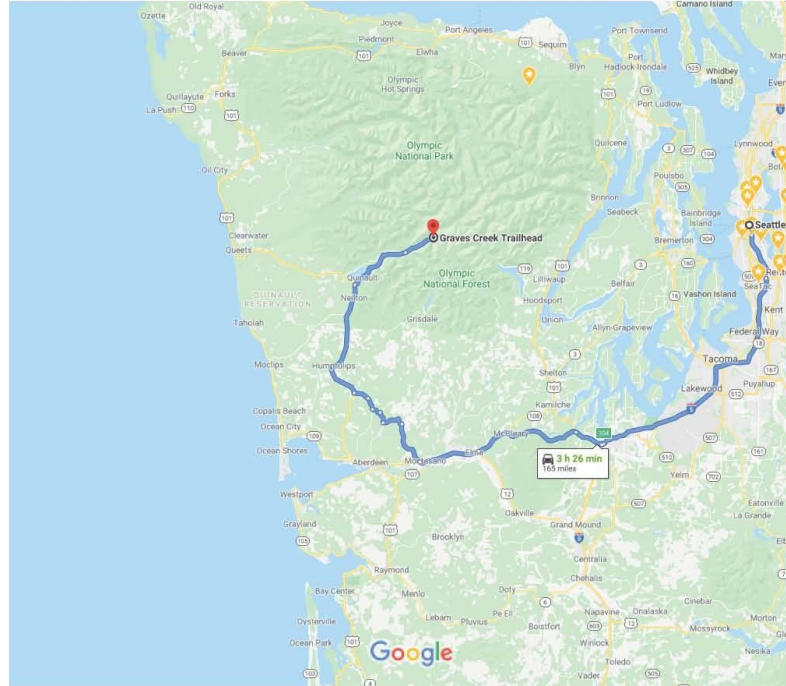
Lake LaCrosse via Enchanted Valley and O'Neil Pass

September 18-22, 2014
57 miles; 8,700 feet of gain



Seattle, WA to Graves Creek Trailhead,
Washington

Drive 165 miles, 3



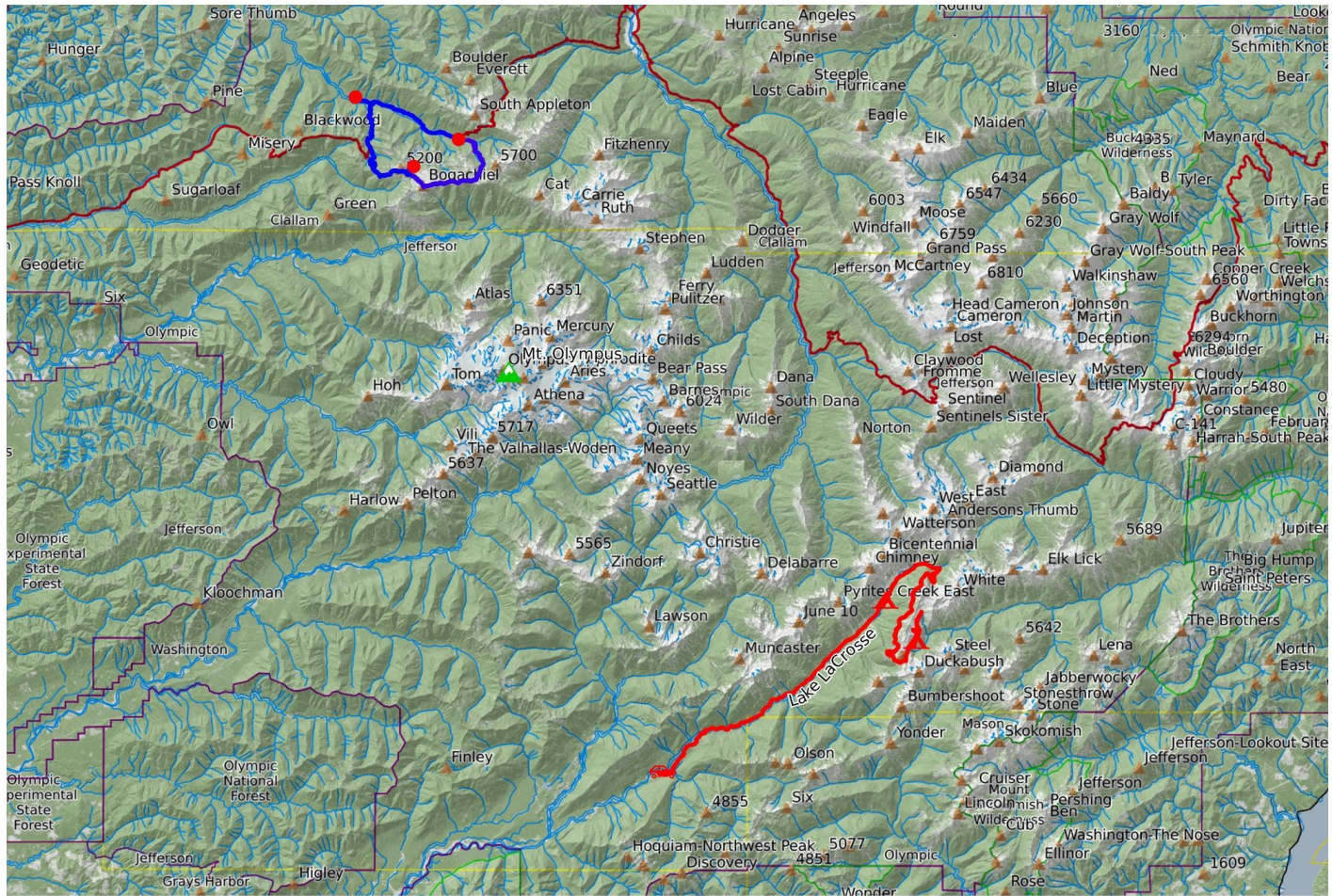
Map data ©2020 Google 10 mi

via I-5 S

3 h 26 min

Fastest route, the usual traffic

165 miles



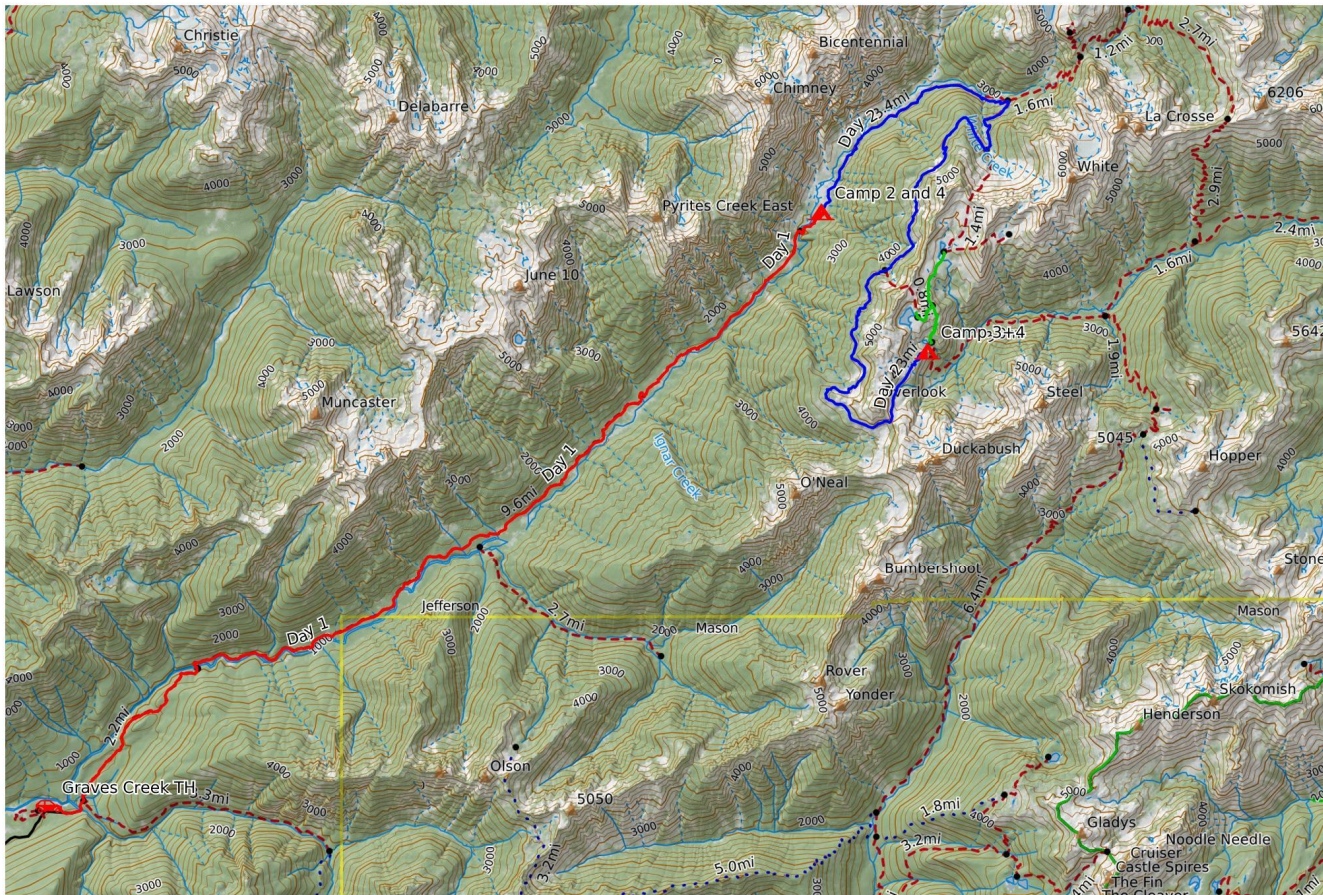
Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 USNG 10TDT-10UDU



CalTopo

Scale 1:327339 1 inch = 5.2 miles



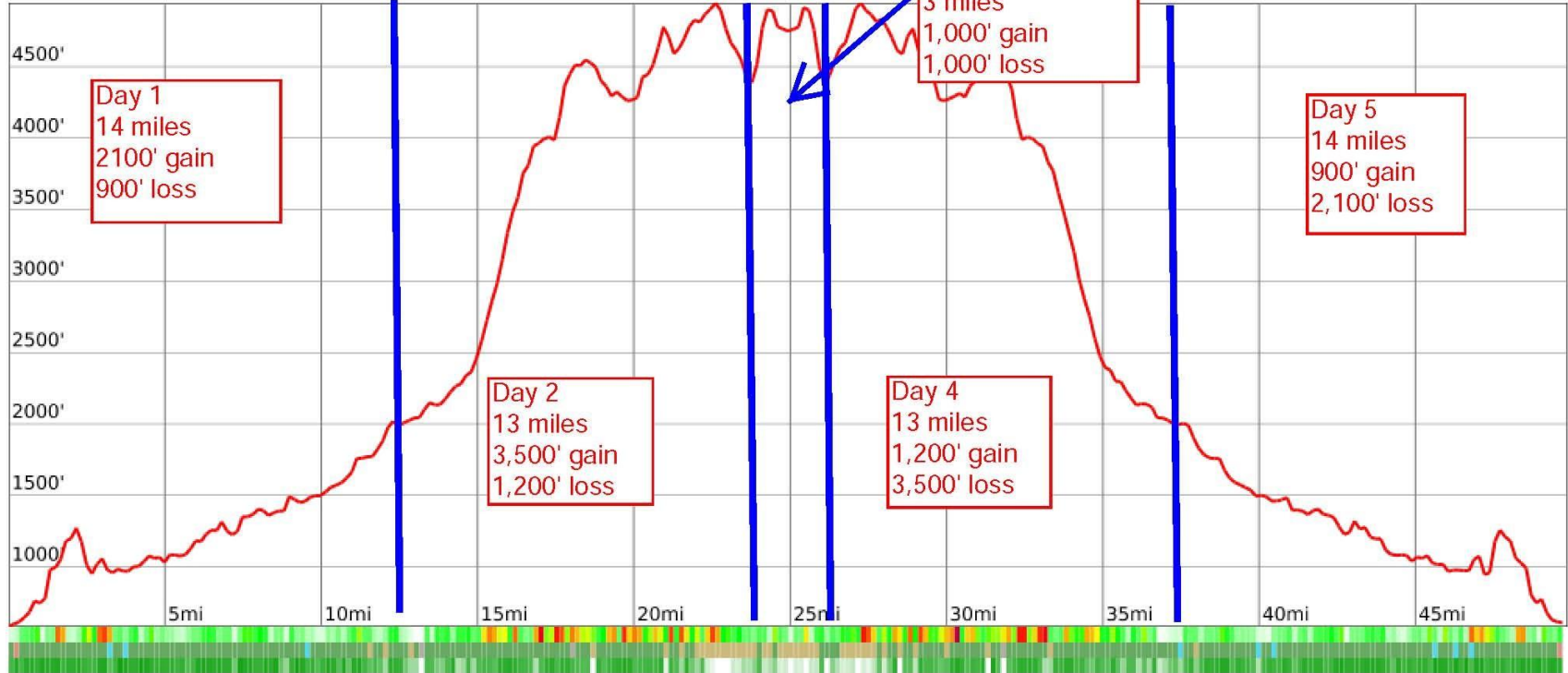


Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 USNG Zone 10TDT
 CalTopo



Lake LaCrosse entire route

range 577' to 4948' gain 8114' loss 8084' exaggeration 24.1x



Slope Angle (top), Land Cover (middle), Tree Cover (bottom)



Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 USNG Zone 10TDT
 CalTopo



Day 1 - Graves Creek to Enchanted Valley

range 577' to 2028' gain 3018' loss 1568' exaggeration 18.8x



Slope Angle (top), Land Cover (middle), Tree Cover (bottom)





PONY
BRIDGE







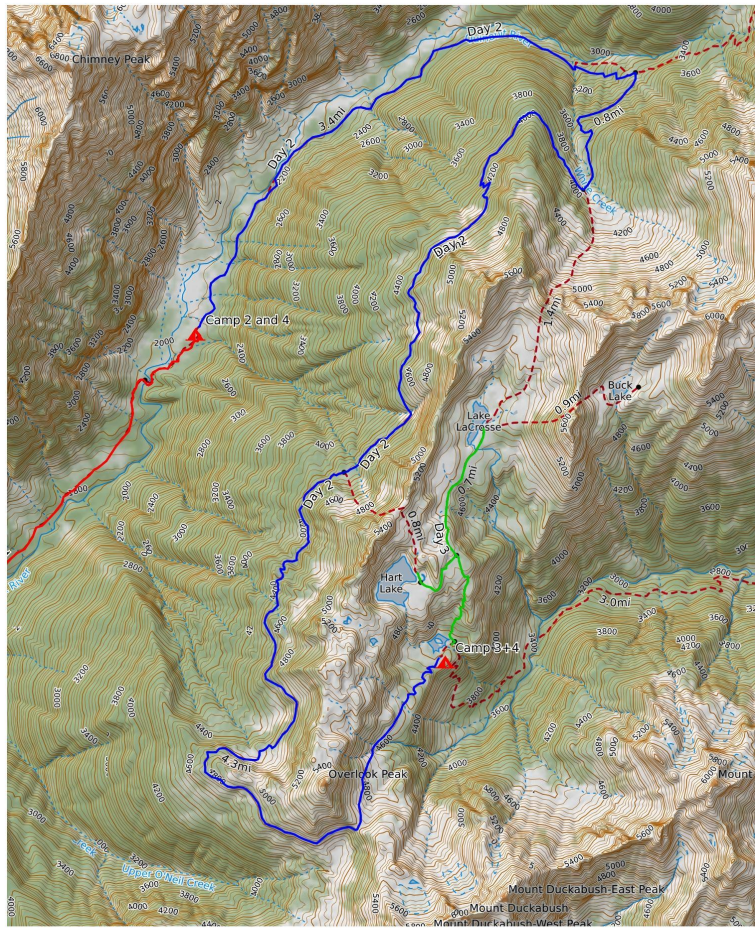




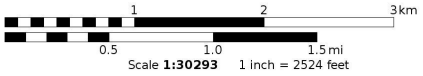








Mercator Projection
WG84
USNG Zone 10TDT
CalTopo



Day 2 - Enchanted Valley to Marmot Lake

range 2034' to 4977' gain 4157' loss 1788' exaggeration 7.8x



Slope Angle (top), Land Cover (middle), Tree Cover (bottom)























JNEIL PASS

4,950'





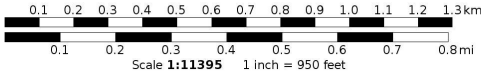








Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 USNG Zone 10TDT
 CalTopo



Day 3 - Marmot Lake to Lake LaCrosse and return

range 4386' to 4957' gain 1004' loss 1001' exaggeration 11.4x



Slope Angle (top), Land Cover (middle), Tree Cover (bottom)















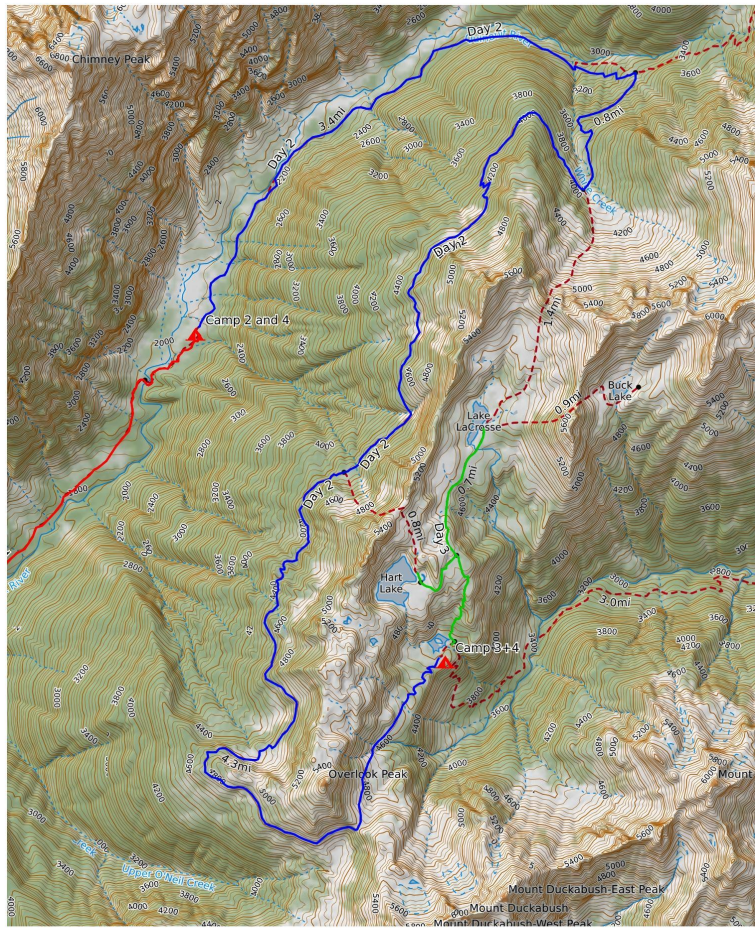




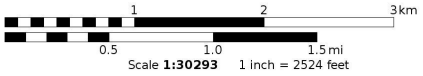








Mercator Projection
WG84
USNG Zone 10TDT
CalTopo



Day 4 - Marmot Lake to Enchanted Valley

range 2034' to 4984' gain 1831' loss 4196' exaggeration 7.8x



Slope Angle (top), Land Cover (middle), Tree Cover (bottom)

























Mercator Projection
WGS84
USNG Zone 10TDT
CalTopo



Day 5 - Enchanted Valley to Graves Creek TH

range 577' to 2028' gain 1519' loss 2972' exaggeration 18.8x



Slope Angle (top), Land Cover (middle), Tree Cover (bottom)





3 alternative routes

From Staircase Ranger Station via First Divide, 41 miles

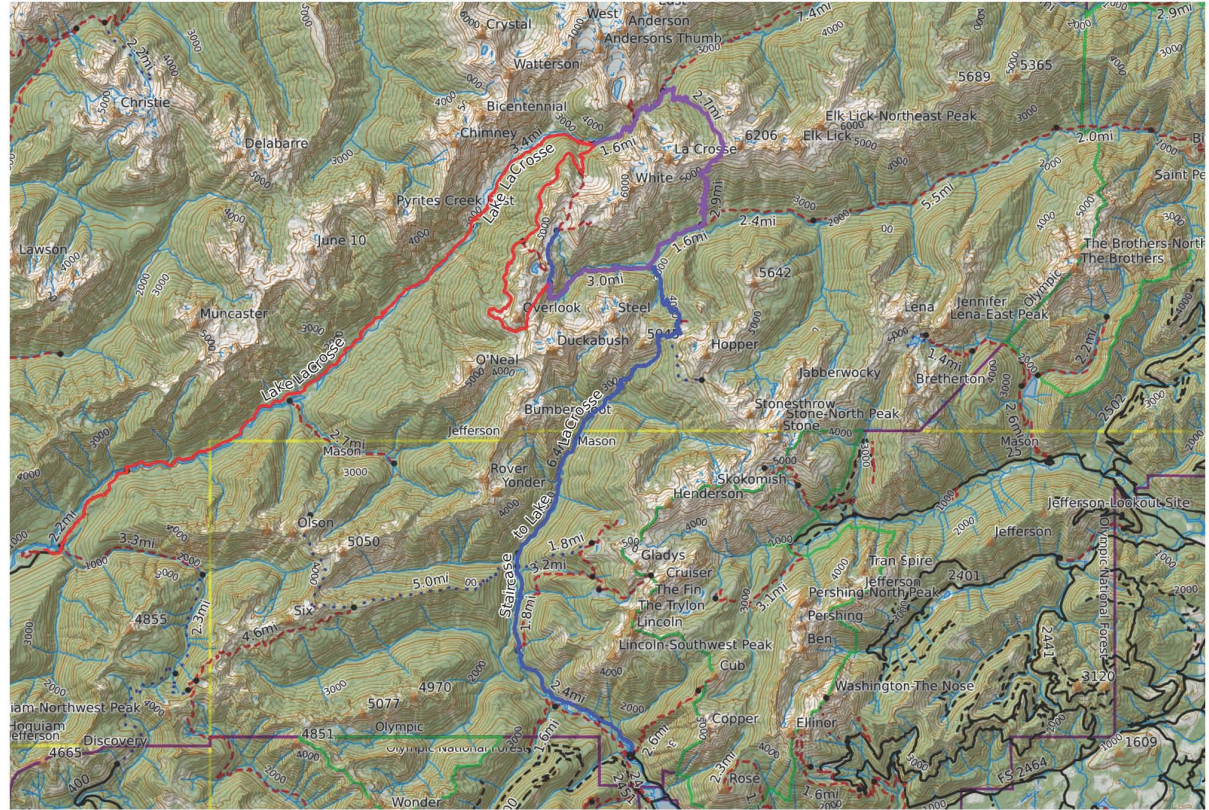
Backpacking
Washington
(Romano) #10

Lollipop via LaCrosse Pass, 59 miles

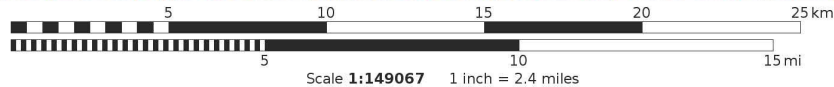
Backpacking
Washington #4
(Lorain)

O'Neil expedition through route, 48 miles

Long car shuttle



Mercator Projection
WGS84
USNG Zone 10TDT
CalTopo

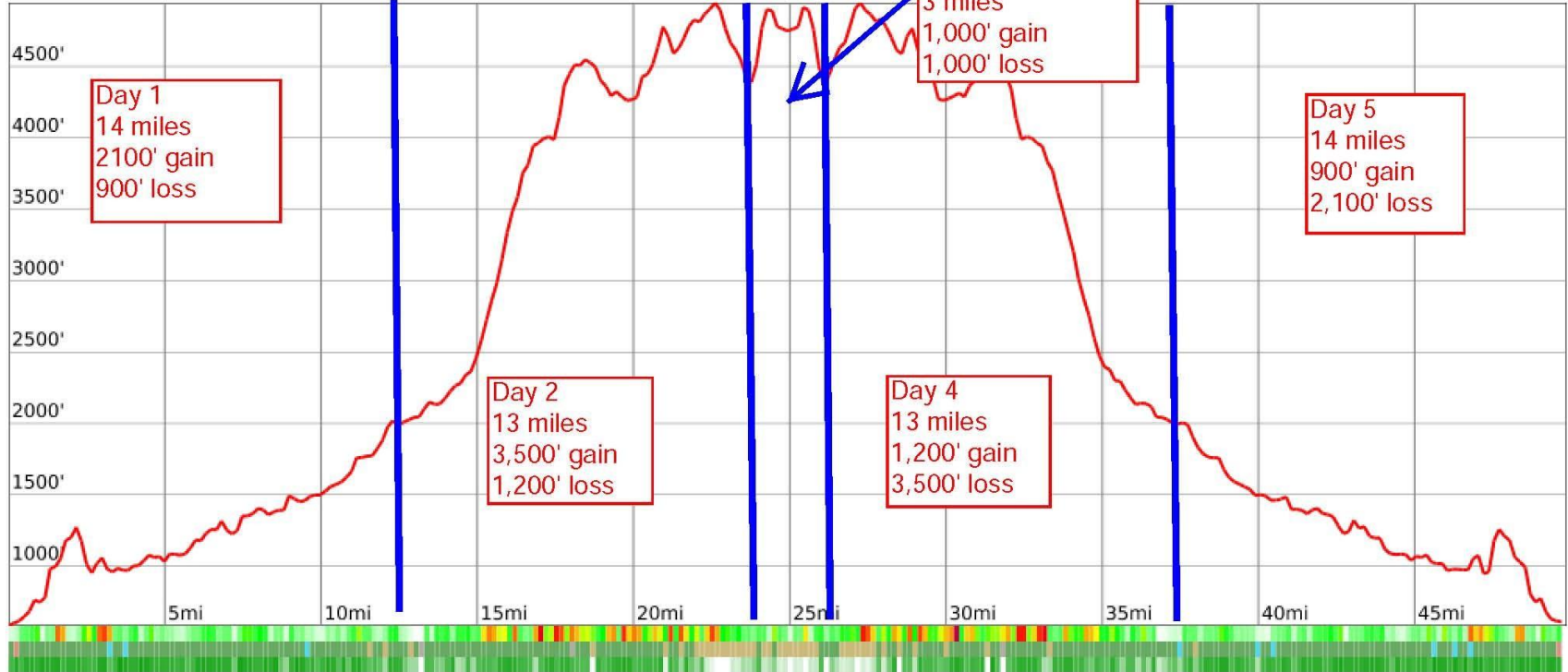


Lake LaCrosse Logistics

1. When to go
 - a. Late July through October
2. Maps
 - a. Green Trails 167, Mount Steel
 - b. Green Trails 166, Mount Christie
3. Guide books
 - a. 100 Classic Hikes in Washington, #96 (Spring and Manning)
 - b. Olympic Mountains Trail Guide, #143 (Wood)
4. Bear canisters now required in Enchanted Valley
5. Permits
 - a. Can reserve up to 6 months in advance
 - i. <https://www.nps.gov/olymp/planyourvisit/wilderness-reservations.htm>
 - b. None of the sites for my route are in a quota area, so don't need to reserve in advance
 - c. Expensive - \$8 per person per night, plus \$6 permit fee
 - i. 4 nights for 6 people, $4 \times 6 \times \$8 + \$6 = \$198$
 - ii. Annual Olympic National Park backcountry permit is \$45 per person - breakeven if plan to camp more than 6 nights

Lake LaCrosse entire route

range 577' to 4948' gain 8114' loss 8084' exaggeration 24.1x



Slope Angle (top), Land Cover (middle), Tree Cover (bottom)

Is this a good trip for you?

Pros

1. Spectacular views from ridge and camp (in good weather)
2. Great alpine lake swimming in Hart Lake and Lake LaCrosse
3. Old growth timber on trail to Enchanted Valley
4. Wildlife - elk and bears
5. Uncrowded beyond Enchanted Valley
6. Excellent campsites
7. No quotas on campsites

Cons

1. Long distance to Marmot Lake camp - about 26 miles over 2 days
2. Sections of trail are brushy
3. Not a good trip for bad weather
4. Bear cans now required
5. Permits are expensive

Questions?