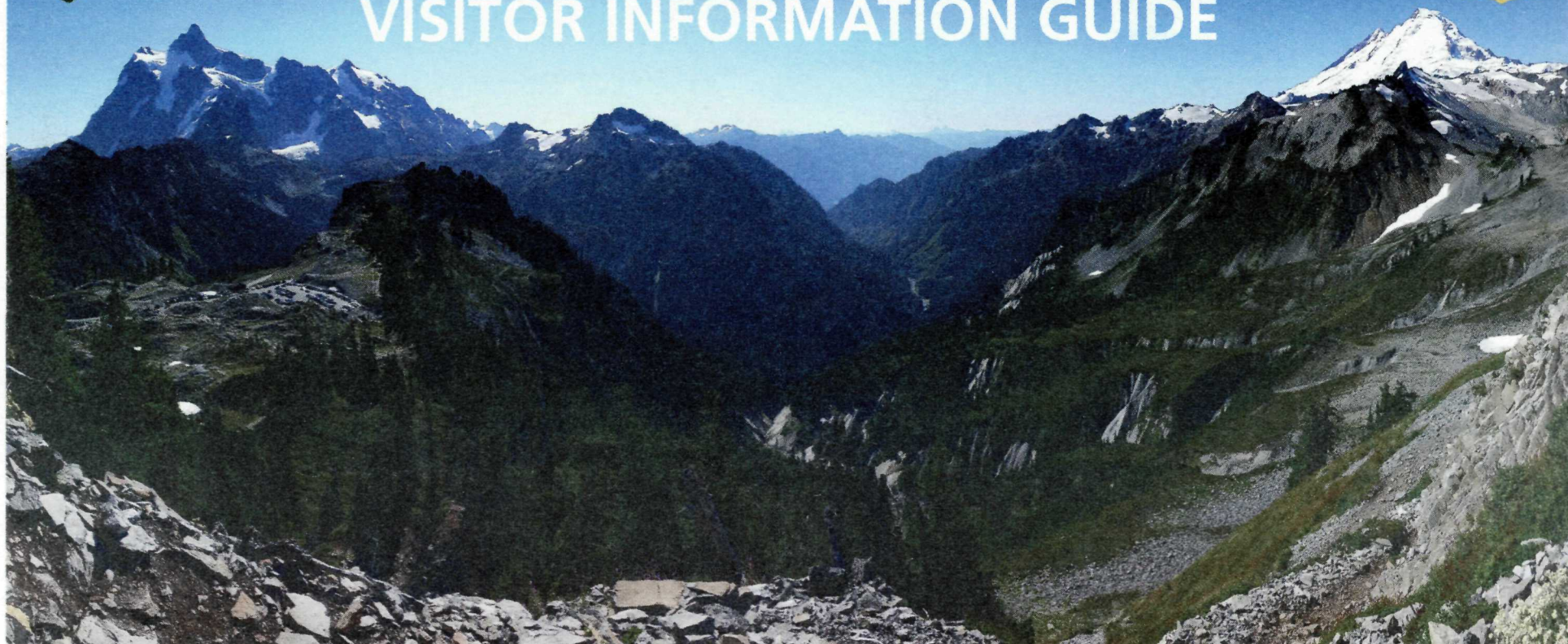




# NORTH CASCADES AND MT. BAKER

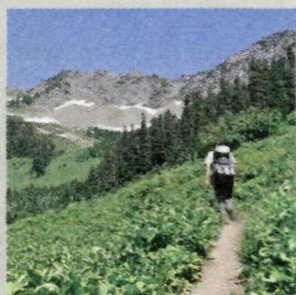
## VISITOR INFORMATION GUIDE



Mt. Shuksan of North Cascades National Park and Mt. Baker of Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest

### Recreational Opportunities

page 2



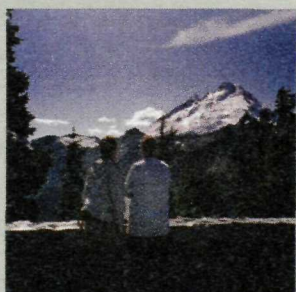
### Trip Planning and Safety

page 3



### Baker Lake and Mt. Baker Scenic Byway

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### North Cascades Highway

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### North Cascades National Park Service Complex

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### Key Partners and Volunteer Opportunities

page 11



FIND MORE INFO AT:  
[www.nps.gov/noca](http://www.nps.gov/noca)  
[www.fs.usda.gov/mbs](http://www.fs.usda.gov/mbs)

### Welcome to National Park and National Forest lands of the North Cascades.

Located east of I-5, there are many opportunities for you to enjoy this area with easy access from several major highways. Start in the north and take a drive on the Mt. Baker Scenic Byway (State Route 542). This route begins in Bellingham, winds along the North Fork of the Nooksack River, and, from the town of Glacier, climbs 24 miles to an elevation of 5,100 feet at Artist Point in Heather Meadows. This destination is legendary for spectacular views of Mt. Baker, Mt. Shuksan and surrounding peaks.

For other stunning vistas, follow the northern part of the Cascade Loop along the North Cascades Scenic Highway (State Route 20). A side trip up the Baker Lake Road, 16 miles east of Sedro-Woolley, leads into the Baker Lake Basin, which features campgrounds, water recreation, and numerous trails.

The 125-mile Skagit Wild and Scenic River System – made up of segments of the Skagit, Cascade, Sauk, and Suiattle rivers – provides important wildlife habitat and recreation. The Skagit River is home to one of the largest winter populations of bald eagles in the United States and provides spawning grounds for one-third of all salmon in Puget Sound.

The North Cascades Scenic Highway winds east through the gateway communities of Concrete, Rockport, and Marblemount before reaching Ross Lake National Recreation Area within North Cascades National Park Service Complex.

Along this route, visit the North Cascades Visitor Center near Newhalem and many viewpoints above Gorge, Diablo and Ross lakes which offer pristine perspectives of surrounding peaks. More than 300 glaciers, out of 600 in the ecosystem, cover mountains in the park.

Further to the east, Lake Chelan National Recreation Area features the third deepest lake in the nation. Gaze into the deep, clear waters of Lake Chelan as you boat to the remote community of Stehekin and the Golden West Visitor Center.

Enjoy your visit. Be safe and be prepared.

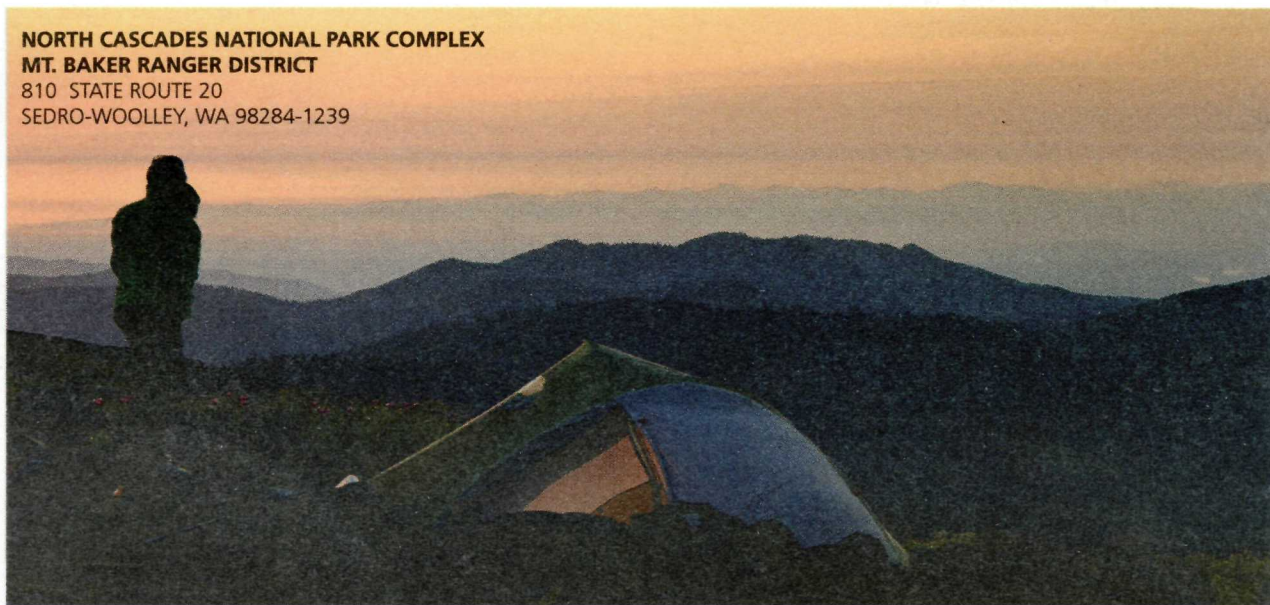
### JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

# 2016

## National Park Service CENTENNIAL

# FIND YOUR PARK

**NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK COMPLEX**  
**MT. BAKER RANGER DISTRICT**  
810 STATE ROUTE 20  
SEDRO-WOOLLEY, WA 98284-1239





# Explore, Experience and Enjoy



## HIKING TRAILS AND CLIMBING

**PEAKS** Hundreds of miles of trails lead into the North Cascades. Storm damage may affect your trip, so check road and trail conditions before you leave home. Most long hikes and climbs enter designated Wilderness Areas where special restrictions may apply. Climbers should choose experienced partners or licensed guides.

Use the links on the cover of this guide to check for current recreation reports and climbing information.

## BACKCOUNTRY National Forest:

Backcountry camping does not require a permit, but a Northwest Forest Pass is required at most trailheads. Campers in the Mt. Baker National Recreation Area and some areas of the Wilderness must camp at designated sites. Fires are not allowed in most wilderness areas and seasonal fire restrictions may apply.

**National Park:** Free permits are *required* for overnight stays in both backcountry camps and cross-country zones and are issued in person only on a first-come, first-served basis. There are more than 200 backcountry camp sites, from boat-in to high alpine backpacking camps. Backcountry camping is allowed only at established sites. Camps include pit toilets, tent pads, and, in some cases, tables and fire pits. Dispersed camping is permitted in cross-country zones most often used by climbers and mountaineers. For permit information, contact the Wilderness Information Center (360) 854-7245 or visit [www.nps.gov/nocal/planyourvisit](http://www.nps.gov/nocal/planyourvisit)

## DO I NEED A PASS?

North Cascades National Park Service Complex does not require an entrance fee or parking pass at trailheads. Use of most developed trailheads, picnic areas, and recreation sites in the National Forest requires a federal recreation pass.

The Northwest Forest Pass is valid in all Oregon and Washington National Forests. The Interagency Annual, Senior, Military, and Access Passes (formerly Golden Access and Golden Age Passports) are also honored at Northwest Forest Pass sites. When in the area, passes can be obtained at ranger stations and some local vendors. You may also purchase passes in advance by calling (800) 270-7504 or online at: [www.naturenw.org](http://www.naturenw.org)

Display passes from the rearview mirror or on the dashboard of your vehicle when at a Northwest Forest Pass site.

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Day Pass                  | \$5      |
| Annual Pass               | \$30     |
| Interagency Annual Pass   | \$80*    |
| Interagency Senior Pass   | \$10**   |
| Interagency Access Pass   | free***  |
| Interagency Military Pass | free**** |

- \* Valid at U.S. Federal Recreation areas.
- \*\* Lifetime pass for U.S. citizens 62 and over.
- \*\*\* Lifetime pass for U.S. citizens with permanent medically-determined disability.
- \*\*\*\* Annual pass for active-duty U.S. military personnel.

**GO FISHING** Fishing in Washington, including in national parks and forests, requires a valid Washington State fishing license. Season and special regulations are listed in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Sport Fishing Regulations, available wherever licenses are sold and online at: [wdfw.wa.gov](http://wdfw.wa.gov)

In the national forest, Baker Lake is a popular destination for sockeye salmon and trout fishing. The Skagit River, part of one of Washington's major watersheds, is home to seven species of anadromous fish (all five species of Pacific salmon and two types of trout), freshwater trout, and char.

In the national park, Diablo and Gorge lakes are stocked with rainbow and cutthroat trout. Ross Lake offers quality sport fishing opening annually on July 1. Lake Chelan has fresh water cod, trout and kokanee, a land-locked species of salmon. The Stehekin River offers rainbow and cutthroat trout.

**WATER RECREATION** River floating is an excellent adventure to plan. Experienced boaters run the Skagit, Nooksack and Stehekin rivers. Ask for a list of local outfitters at any ranger station.

Kayaking, canoeing and motor boating are other options. No personal watercraft (jet skis, water scooters, etc.) are allowed in North Cascades National Park Service Complex. Motorboat and paddling rentals are available at Ross Lake and Lake Chelan. Boat ramps are located at Baker Lake, Gorge Lake, Diablo Lake, Lake Chelan and the north end of Ross Lake at Hozomeen.

**HORSEBACK RIDING** Stock animals are welcome on trails maintained to stock standards. Trail rules and seasons of use vary and special rules apply in wilderness.

- In designated wilderness, stock parties are limited to 12 pairs of eyes (people + animals) on trails.
- Grazing is permitted in the national forest without a permit. But stock must use weed-free or processed feed while on national forest lands.
- Grazing with a permit is allowed in the Ross Lake and Lake Chelan national recreation areas and can be obtained with your backcountry permit.
- Grazing is prohibited in the national park; pack in processed food pellets.

**TRAVELING WITH YOUR DOG** Leashed dogs are allowed in Ross Lake and Lake Chelan national recreation areas, along the Pacific Crest Trail, and along roads in the national park. Dogs are not permitted on trails or in cross-country areas within the national park.

Dogs are allowed in the national forest but must be leashed in developed recreation areas such as trailheads, campgrounds, picnic areas, and Heather Meadows. For safety reasons, dogs are not allowed on Table Mountain Trail 681 in the Heather Meadows Area.

**NORTH CASCADES BY BICYCLE** Many people tour across the North Cascades by bicycle. Ask for the bulletin, "Cycling the North Cascades Highway" at any ranger station. Mountain biking is not permitted on park or forest trails except where developed for that use. Riding is allowed on roads. Visitors should check for use restrictions on the trail system before heading out on a mountain bike trip.

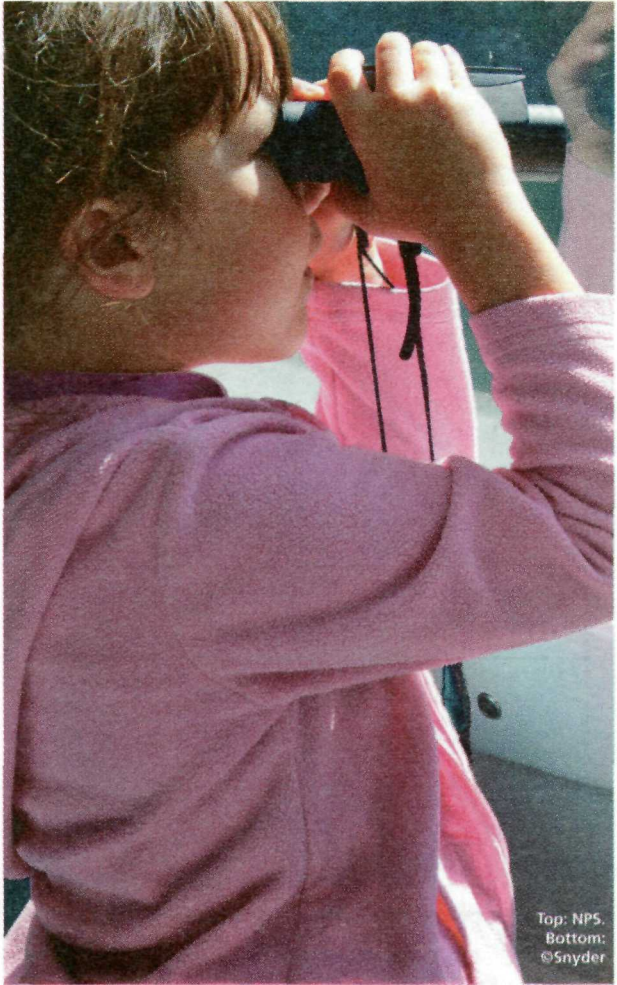
## TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN

- Make the most out of your adventure by taking special safety precautions.
- Children should remain with adults.
- Establish rules for keeping together.
- If separated, the child should hug a tree near an open area and stay put.
- Pick trails and adjust goals to children's ages and abilities.
- Bring along the ten essentials.
- Have children help make an emergency kit and make sure they know how to use the items.
- Help children develop responsible outdoor practices.

## ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR CHILDREN

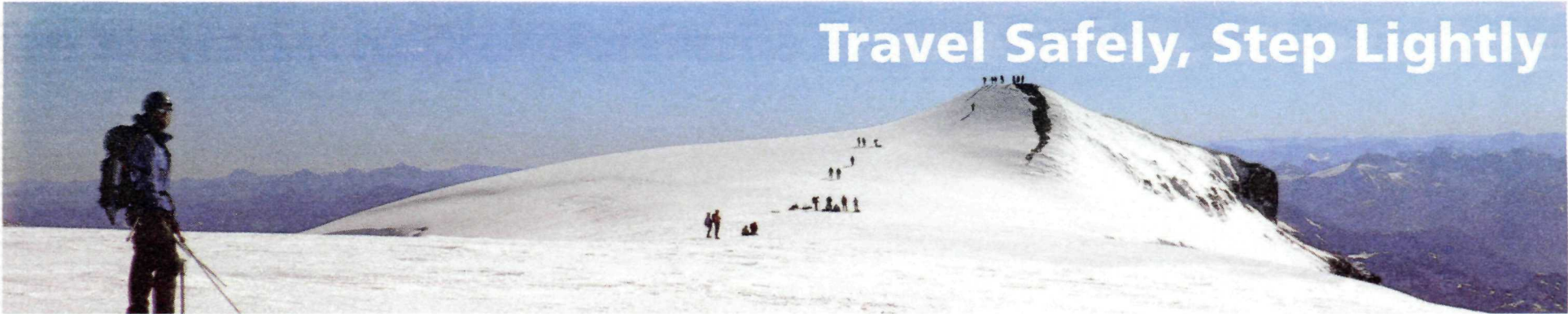
Explore with ears and eyes. Play observation games—watch for birds and identify plants, bugs and animal tracks. Listen for sounds of wildlife. Draw a picture or write a poem to remember the trip.

Spend time with a ranger or volunteer naturalist. Ask them for Junior Ranger and fun family activities and programs. Information is available at visitor centers and ranger stations.



Top: NPS.  
Bottom:  
©Snyder





Many people visit the North Cascades to enjoy its rugged beauty and remote wildness. Recreating in natural areas, however, has inherent dangers and responsibilities. Conditions in mountainous areas can change very rapidly, even during a day trip. These travel tips can help you have a safe and responsible journey so that you, and future travelers, can enjoy the landscape to its fullest.

**SAFETY TIPS**

**Use caution on access roads.** Watch for obstructions such as rocks, sharp turns, parked vehicles and pedestrians.

**Safeguard your possessions.** Lock your vehicle and keep possessions out of sight.

**Carry the ten essentials** listed on this page.

**Stay on trails.** Wear adequate footwear and use a topographic map and compass.

After hiking, **check yourself for ticks**, which can carry Lyme disease.

**Horses can startle easily.** When stock approach, make your presence known and stand on the lower side of the trail.

**Report trail damage** to the nearest ranger station.

**Do not depend on cell phones** as there are many 'dead zones,' even on highways.

**Always tell a friend your travel plans**, including destination and expected return time.

**Leave fireworks at home.** Visitors are reminded that due to the potential fire danger, use or possession of fireworks of any kind is illegal on all federal and state-managed public lands in Washington throughout the year.

**Hunting** on national forest lands, Ross Lake and Lake Chelan national recreation areas, is governed by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Game Regulations. Visitors should exercise caution when hiking during hunting season; wear bright clothing and make your presence known. Hunting is not allowed in North Cascades National Park.

**Know how to assess avalanche danger.** During winter months, the Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center posts current mountain weather and avalanche forecasts, online at [www.nwac.us](http://www.nwac.us)

**LEAVE NO TRACE**

**Plan ahead and Prepare**  
Know the regulations, permit requirements and special concerns for the area you are visiting. Prepare for emergencies and hazards.

**Dispose of waste properly**  
Pack it in, pack it out. Use toilets where available. Below treeline, you may dig a cathole 6 to 8 inches deep away from trails and water.

**Leave what you find**  
Observe, but do not take. Leave all natural and historical objects as you found them.

**Travel and camp on durable surfaces**  
Stay on the trail and camp in designated spots. Avoid fragile areas along waterways and in alpine meadows.

**Minimize campfire impacts**  
Use a stove when possible. If fires are allowed use established fire rings. Keep fires small and extinguish completely.

**Respect wildlife**  
Observe wildlife from a distance. Store food properly and never feed wildlife.

**Be considerate of other visitors**  
Be courteous; keep party size small and noise levels low.

**WHERE CAN I CAMP?** Many public campgrounds in the North Cascades are accessible by car. Most sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Group camps in the national park are located at Goodell and Newhalem Creek campgrounds. National forest group sites are available in the Baker Lake and Mt. Baker Scenic Byway areas.

At select national park and forest campgrounds, advance reservations can be made for group sites (12 months) or family sites (6 months). Visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or call (877) 444-6777 to check availability or reserve a site.

For information about camping and other lodging opportunities in Washington State Parks, call (888) 226-7688 or visit [www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)

**LODGING** Local Chamber of Commerce offices are happy to assist you with lodging in gateway communities. More remote accommodations include:  
Ross Lake Resort  
[www.rosslakeresort.com](http://www.rosslakeresort.com)

North Cascades Environmental Learning Center  
[ncascades.org/](http://ncascades.org/)

North Cascades Lodge at Stehekin  
[www.lodgeatstehekin.com](http://www.lodgeatstehekin.com)

Other lodging is available in Stehekin. Pick up the Stehekin Visitor Guide for a list.

| CAMPING AREAS                     |                   | Managed by | Accessible facilities | Drinking water | Flush toilets | Garbage facilities | Vault toilets | Boat ramp | Hiking trail | Dump stations | Fishing | Number of Campsites<br>* hook-ups available |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|---------|---------------------------------------------|
| SR 542                            | Silver Lake Park+ | CP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 100+*                                       |
|                                   | Douglas Fir+      | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 30                                          |
|                                   | Excelsior Group++ | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 2                                           |
|                                   | Silver Fir+       | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 21                                          |
| Baker Lake Road<br>Milepost 14-23 | Kulshan           | P          | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 104                                         |
|                                   | Horseshoe Cove+   | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 34                                          |
|                                   | Bayview Group++   | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 2                                           |
|                                   | Panorama Point+   | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 16                                          |
|                                   | Boulder Creek+    | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 10                                          |
|                                   | Park Creek+       | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 12                                          |
|                                   | Swift Creek+      | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 55                                          |
|                                   | Shannon Creek+    | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 20                                          |
| SR 20<br>Milepost 81-180          | Rasar State Park+ | SP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 38*                                         |
|                                   | Steelhead Park+   | CP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 59*                                         |
|                                   | Goodell Creek     | NP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 21                                          |
|                                   | Newhalem Creek+   | NP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 110                                         |
|                                   | Newhalem Group++  | NP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 2                                           |
|                                   | Goodell Group++   | NP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 3                                           |
|                                   | Colonial Creek    | NP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 142                                         |
|                                   | Lone Fir          | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 27                                          |
|                                   | Klipchuck         | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 46                                          |
|                                   | Early Winters     | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 13                                          |
| Cascade River Road                | Marble Creek+     | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 22                                          |
|                                   | Mineral Park+     | FS         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 22                                          |
| Via B.C.                          | Hozomeen          | NP         | ●                     | ●              | ●             | ●                  | ●             | ●         | ●            | ●             | ●       | 122                                         |

FS = Forest Service  
CP = County Park

SP = Washington State Park  
Campground: + Reservation available  
++ Reservation required

P = Puget Sound Energy

PS = National Park Service

**THE 10 ESSENTIALS** TO BRING ON EVERY TRIP:

- 1) Food and water 2) Extra Clothing 3) Navigation/map 4) Flashlight and extra batteries 5) Fire starter 6) Sun protection 7) First aid kit 8) Knife 9) Emergency signal 10) Emergency shelter



# Visit the National Forest



## BAKER LAKE

Nine-mile (14 km) long Baker Lake offers opportunities for camping, boating, fishing, picnicking, hiking and pack & saddle trips. Washington State regulations govern boating and fishing at Baker Lake. Developed campgrounds are located along the western side of the lake. The Baker Lake Trail extends along the eastern shoreline, crossing the Baker River at the north end. For camping information see page 3.

## MT. BAKER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

The Mt. Baker National Recreation Area was established in 1984 outside wilderness legislation to allow for snowmobile use when snow levels are sufficient. During the summer, hiking trails lead from the end of Forest Road 13 across this impressive landscape through the Mt. Baker Wilderness and the Middle Fork Nooksack river drainage.

Hikers can explore the trails after snow melt. Stock parties are welcome July 1 - October 31. Winter recreation includes skiing, snowmobiling and snowshoeing.

To help prevent resource damage and protect sub-alpine vegetation, backcountry campers must stay at designated sites and campfires are not allowed in this area. One-night-only campsites are established for hikers and stock parties at the trailhead at the end of Forest Road 13. Please ask for a detailed handout on campsites and area regulations at a ranger station.

## NATIONAL FOREST CAMPING

Forest visitors may camp in dispersed undeveloped forest areas with a maximum stay of 14 days. Developed campgrounds are operated by forest concessionaire, Hoodoo Recreation, [www.hoodoo.com](http://www.hoodoo.com), in the Mt. Baker Scenic Byway, Baker Lake and Cascade River corridors. Sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis or by reservation at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or (877) 444-6777.



### Mt. Baker National Recreation Area Trails

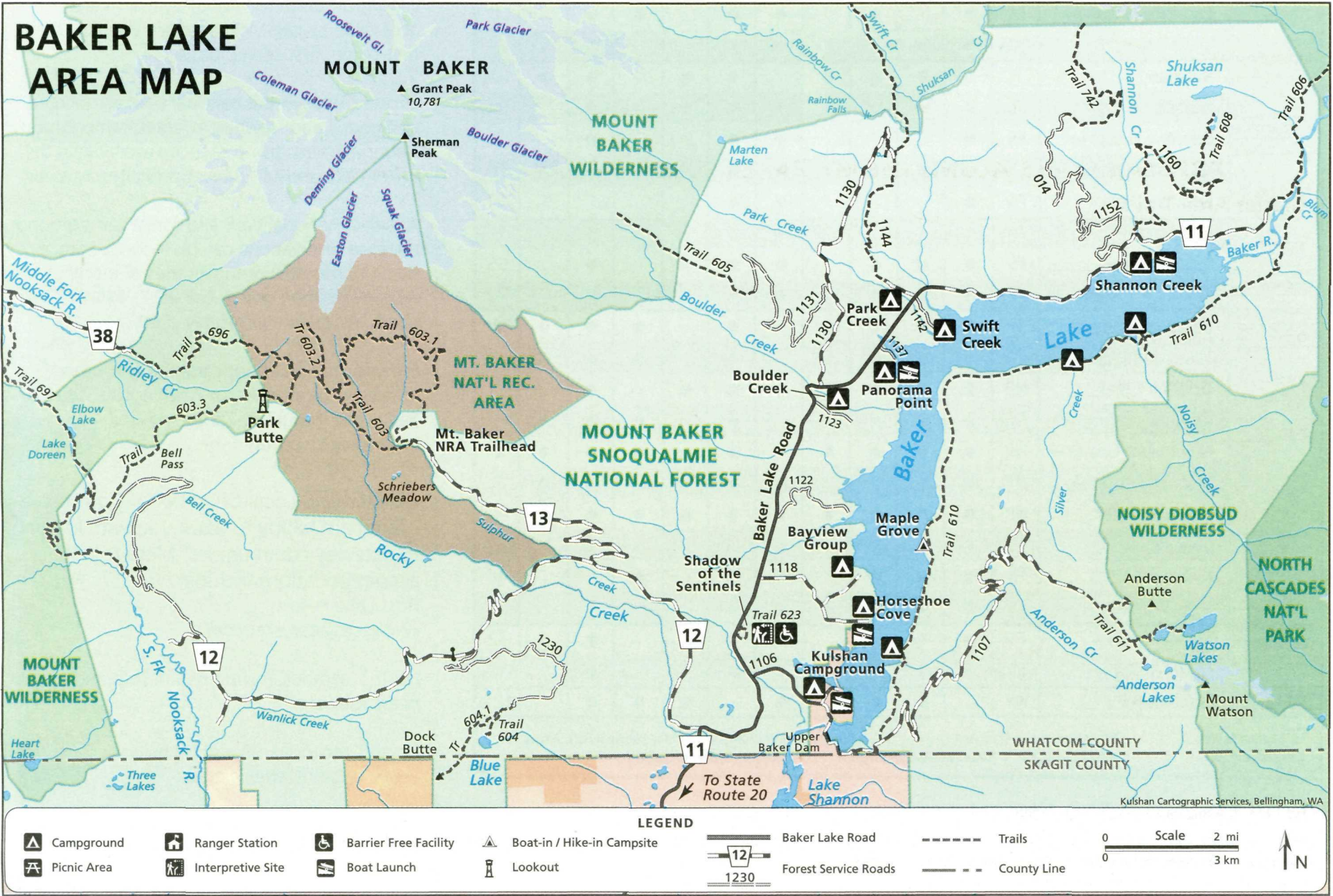
| Trail # | Name           | Access             | Distance one-way miles       | Remarks                                                              |
|---------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 603     | Park Butte     | Road 13            | 3.5 (5.6 km)                 | Enters wilderness, designated camps, no fires, stock ok 7/1 to 10/31 |
| 603.1   | Scott Paul     | Road 13            | 6.5 (10.5 km)                | No camping, hikers only                                              |
| 603.2   | Railroad Grade | Trail 603          | 1.0 (1.6 km)                 | Designated camps, no fires, hikers only                              |
| 603.3   | Bell Pass      | Road 12            | 5.0 (8.0 km)                 | Wilderness, stock allowed 7/1 to 10/31                               |
| 696     | Ridley Creek   | Road 38            | 5.5 (8.9 km)                 | Limited maint., connects to trail 603.3                              |
| 697     | Elbow Lake     | Road 12<br>Road 38 | 3.0 (4.8 km)<br>3.5 (5.6 km) | Wilderness, stock allowed 7/1 to 10/31                               |

### Baker Lake Area Trails

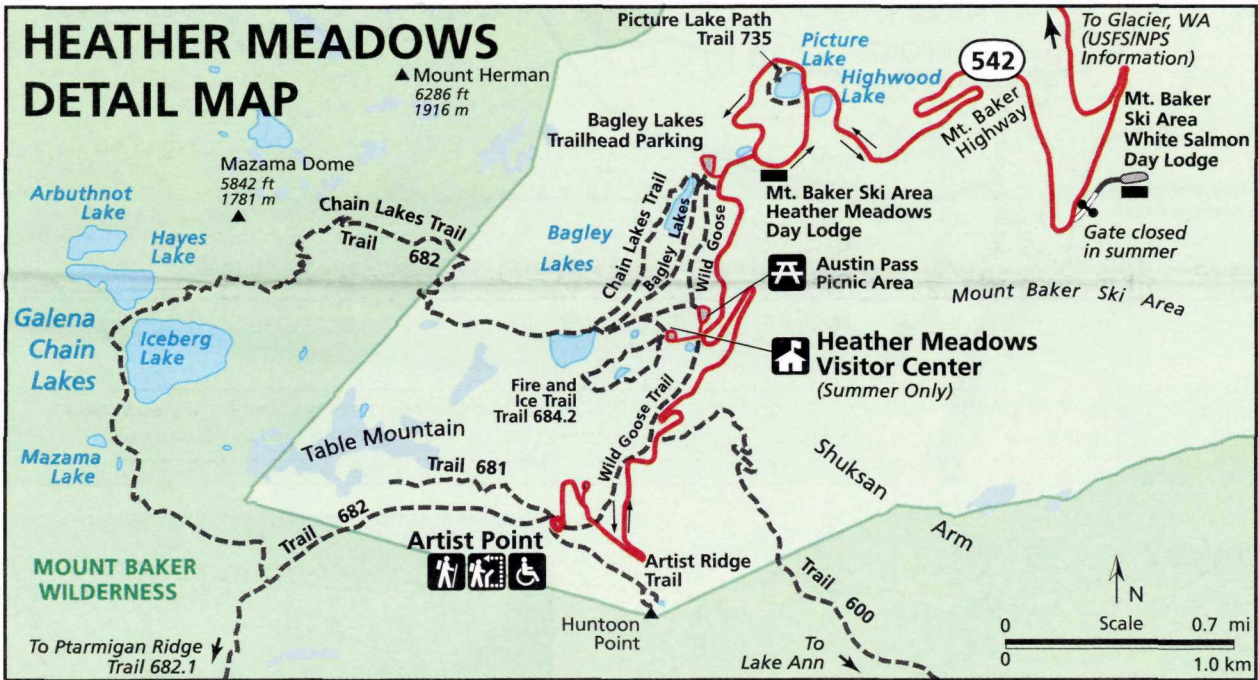
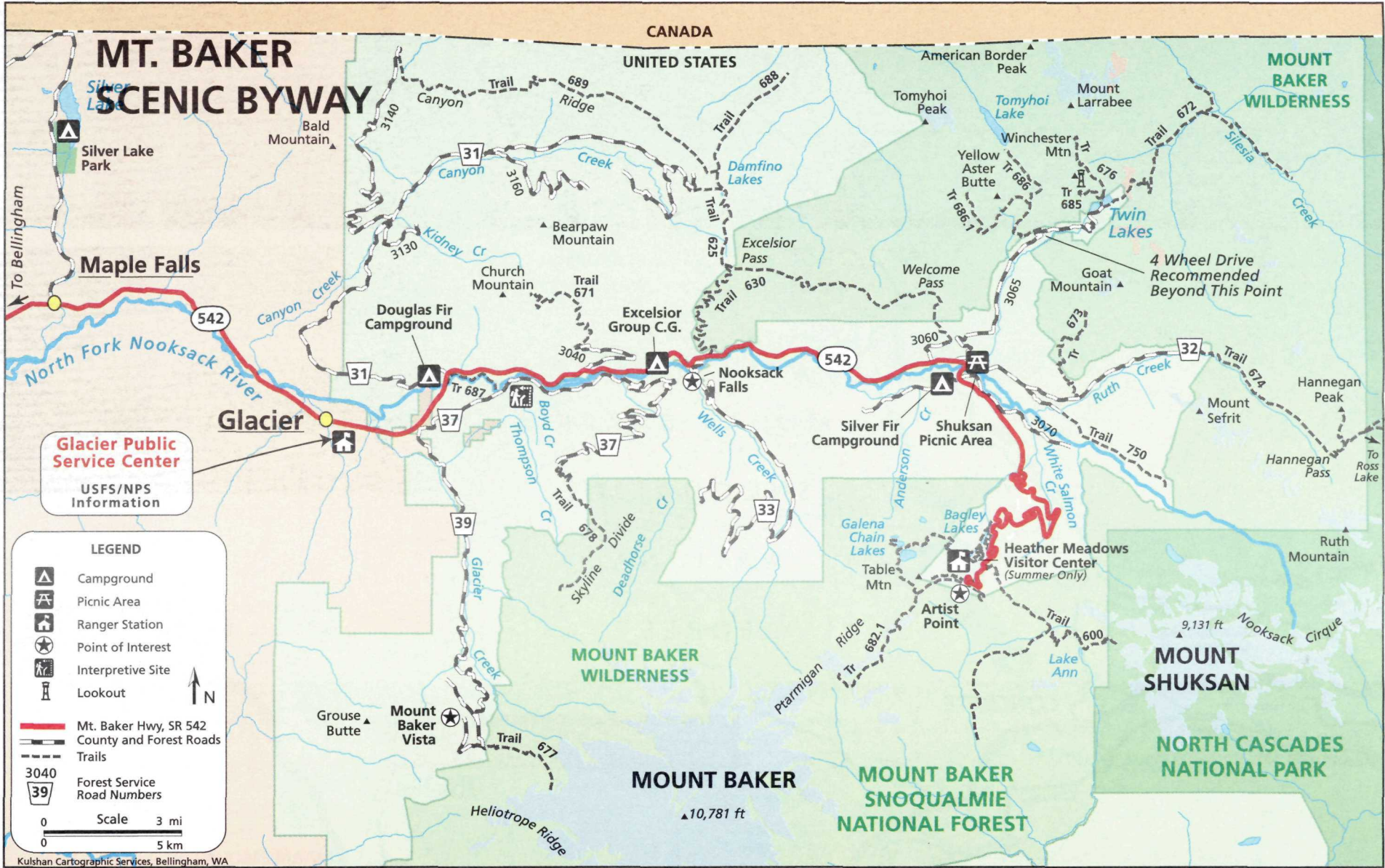
|       |                         |                           |                |                                        |
|-------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------|
| 604.1 | Dock Butte              | Road 1230                 | 1.5 (2.4 km)   | Leads to a scenic vista                |
| 604   | Blue Lake               | Road 1230                 | 0.7 (1.1 km)   | Short forest hike to lake              |
| 606 * | Baker River             | Road 11                   | 2.6 (4.2 km)   | Enters national park at mile 2         |
| 610   | Baker Lake              | Road 1107                 | 14.0 (22.5 km) | Stock allowed year-round               |
| 611   | Watson Lakes            | Rd. 1107-022              | 2.3 (3.7 km)   | Wilderness, no fires, designated camps |
| 611.2 | Anderson Lakes          | Rd. 1107-022              | 2.4 (3.8 km)   | Non-wilderness                         |
| 623   | Shadow of the Sentinels | Baker Lk. Road<br>Road 11 | 0.5 ( 0.8 km)  | Accessible, interpretive               |
| 742 * | Shannon Ridge           | Rd. 1152                  | 3.0 ( 4.8 km)  | Climbing access to Mt. Shuksan         |

A federal recreation pass is required at posted recreation sites and trailheads. Always check trail and road conditions at the Forest Service website or by calling a ranger station. \* NPS camping permit required.

## BAKER LAKE AREA MAP







MT. BAKER SCENIC BYWAY

The scenic Mt. Baker Highway winds along the north fork of the Nooksack River, ending at Artist Point at 5,100 feet (1545 m) in Heather Meadows. The last 24 miles (39 km) is designated as a National Forest Scenic Byway. At the road's end, trail systems lead into the Mt. Baker Wilderness. During winter months motor traffic ends at the Mt. Baker Ski Area three miles (6 km) below Artist Point.

POINTS OF INTEREST

**GLACIER PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER - MP 34:** Stop by to get current conditions from U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service staff.

**Boyd Creek Interpretive Trail, FS Road 37:** This short, self-guided nature trail focuses on components of healthy fish habitat.

**Nooksack Falls, MP 40:** A dramatic waterfall plummets more than 100 feet over rocky outcrops. A pathway leads to a fence-lined viewpoint.

**Shuksan Picnic Area:** Riverside day use area at the start of Forest Road 32 (Hannegan Road). Steel grills available. Federal recreation pass required.

HEATHER MEADOWS AREA

Visit this spectacular sub-alpine setting along the upper reaches of the Mt. Baker Scenic Byway. Spread out a picnic lunch at Austin Pass Picnic Area and check in with staff at the Heather Meadows Visitor Center, open daily in summer from 10 am to 4 pm. A valid federal recreation pass is required in the area during the summer season.

Hike along a network of scenic trails and enjoy several self-guided interpretive opportunities and accessible viewpoints. Several longer hikes lead into the surrounding Mt. Baker Wilderness, where wilderness regulations apply. When entering such areas, be prepared for risk and challenge. The terrain can be rugged and the weather unpredictable.

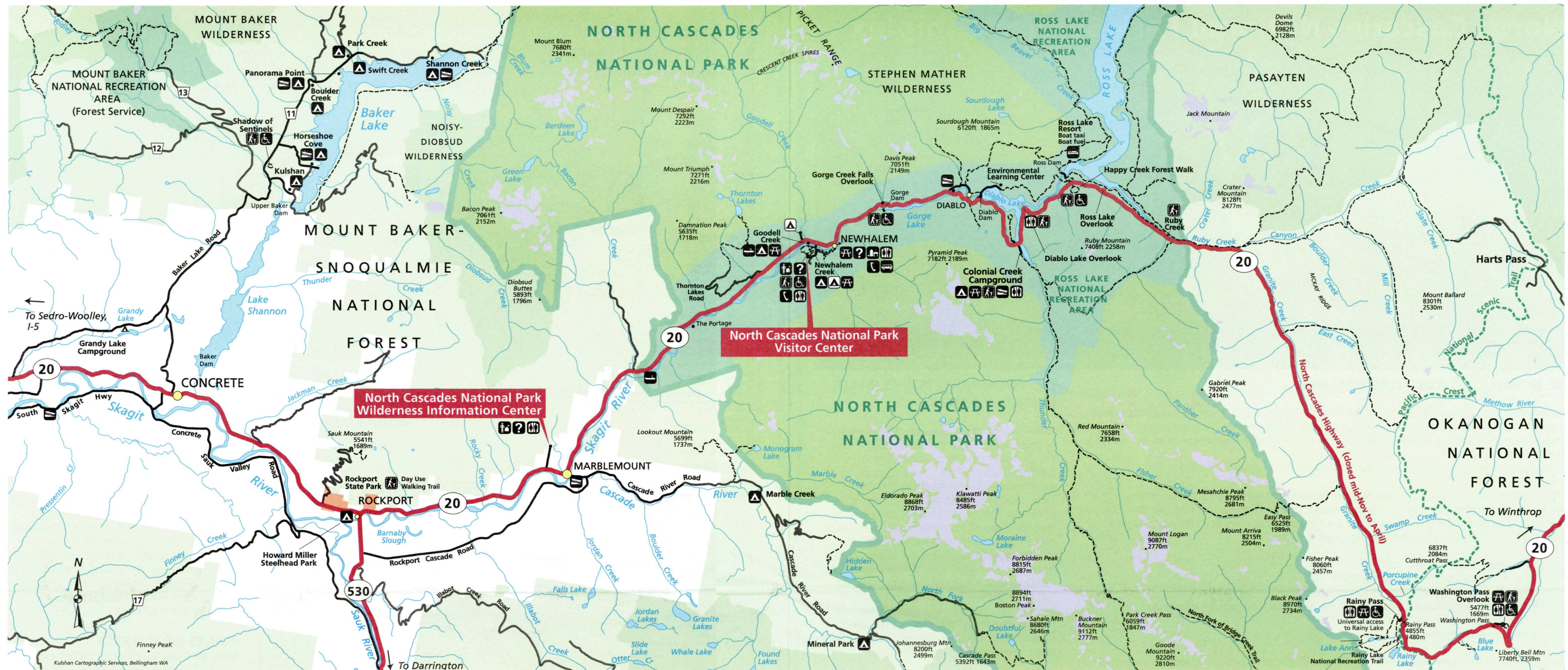
During winter months, check avalanche forecasts at [www.nwac.us](http://www.nwac.us)

POPULAR TRAILS ALONG THE MT. BAKER SCENIC BYWAY

| Glacier Area Trails         |                    |           |                        |                                                                        |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Trail #                     | Name               | Access    | Distance one-way miles | Remarks                                                                |
| 625                         | Damfino Lakes      | Road 31   | 3.0 (4.8 km)           | No fires, connects with High Divide                                    |
| 630                         | High Divide        | Hwy 542   | 13.0 (20.9 km)         | Wilderness, no fires, stock 7/1 to 10/31                               |
| 671                         | Church Mountain    | Road 3040 | 4.2 (6.8 km)           | Steep hike up forested slopes                                          |
| 677                         | Heliotrope Ridge   | Road 39   | 3.7 (6.0 km)           | Wilderness, no fires                                                   |
| 678                         | Skyline Divide     | Road 37   | 5.5 (8.9 km)           | Wilderness, no fires, stock 7/1 to 10/31                               |
| 687                         | Horseshoe Bend     | Hwy 542   | 1.5 (2.4 km)           | Follows Nooksack River                                                 |
| 673                         | Goat Mountain      | Road 32   | 4.0 (6.4 km)           | Wilderness, stock allowed 7/1 to 10/31                                 |
| 674                         | Hannegan Pass      | Road 32   | 5.0 (8.0 km)           | Wilderness, no fires, enters national park, stock allowed 7/1 to 10/31 |
| 685                         | Winchester Mtn.    | Road 3065 | 2.0 (3.2 km)           | High clearance vehicle needed on road, wilderness, no fires            |
| 686                         | Tomyhoi Lake       | Road 3065 | 4.0 (6.4 km)           | Wilderness, no fires                                                   |
| 686.1                       | Yellow Aster Butte | Trail 686 | 2.0 (3.2 km)           | Wilderness, no fires, Jct 686 at 1.5 mi                                |
| 626                         | Boyd Creek         | Road 37   | 0.25 (0.4 km)          | Accessible, interpretive                                               |
| Heather Meadows Area Trails |                    |           |                        |                                                                        |
| 600 *                       | Lake Ann           | Hwy 542   | 4.8 (7.7 km)           | Wilderness, no fires                                                   |
| 682.1                       | Ptarmigan Ridge    | Trail 682 | 5.0 (8.0 km)           | Wilderness, no fires, camping restrictions                             |
| 681                         | Table Mountain     | Hwy 542   | 0.7 (1.1 km)           | Wilderness, no fires or dogs, camp. restr.                             |
| 682                         | Chain Lakes        | Hwy 542   | 6.5 loop               | Wilderness, no fires, camp at designated sites only                    |
| 735                         | Picture Lake       | Hwy 542   | 0.5 loop               | Accessible, interpretive, no camping                                   |
| 684.2                       | Fire and Ice       | Hwy 542   | 0.5 loop               | Accessible, interpretive, no camping                                   |
| 684.3                       | Wild Goose         | Hwy 542   | 2.5 (4.0 km)           | Camping restrictions                                                   |
| 669                         | Artist Ridge       | Hwy 542   | 1.0 loop               | Camping restrictions                                                   |

A federal recreation pass is required at posted recreation sites and trailheads. Always check trail and road conditions at the Forest Service website or by calling a ranger station. \* NPS camping permit required.





### How far is it? How long will it take?

#### SEDRO-WOOLLEY TO NEWHALEM

|                           |    |    |
|---------------------------|----|----|
| Sedro-Woolley to Concrete | 24 | 25 |
| Concrete to Rockport      | 8  | 10 |
| Rockport to Marblemount   | 8  | 15 |
| Marblemount to Newhalem   | 15 | 25 |

#### NEWHALEM TO WASHINGTON PASS

|                               |    |    |
|-------------------------------|----|----|
| Newhalem to Diablo Overlook   | 14 | 25 |
| Diablo Overlook to Rainy Pass | 26 | 35 |
| Rainy Pass to Washington Pass | 4  | 5  |

#### WASHINGTON PASS TO WINTHROP

|                           |    |    |
|---------------------------|----|----|
| Washington Pass to Mazama | 17 | 25 |
| Mazama to Winthrop        | 13 | 20 |

#### TOTAL TRIP:

| In Miles | In Minutes |
|----------|------------|
| 55       | 75         |
| 44       | 65         |
| 30       | 45         |
| 129      | 3 hrs      |

#### ACCESSIBLE INTERPRETIVE TRAILS

Some trails may be closed due to the 2015 Goodell Fire.

**Shadow of the Sentinels:** 0.5 miles (0.8 km) trail through old growth forest.

**Sterling Munro:** 330 ft (120 m) boardwalk with view of Picket Range.

**River Loop:** 1.8 miles (2.9 km) trail begins at North Cascades Visitor Center or in Newhalem Creek Campground for easier grade.

**Rock Shelter:** 0.3 miles (0.6 km) trail to Native American campsite above Newhalem Creek, moderate grade.

**Gorge Overlook:** 0.5 miles (0.8 km) 0.2 miles paved with views of Gorge Lake and Gorge Dam.

**Happy Creek Forest Walk:** 0.3 miles (0.5 km) boardwalk through ancient creekside forest.

**Rainy Lake:** One mile (1.6 km) paved trail leads to Rainy Lake with views of waterfalls.

**Washington Pass Overlook:** 810 ft (250 m) loop trail with view of mountains from a high bluff.

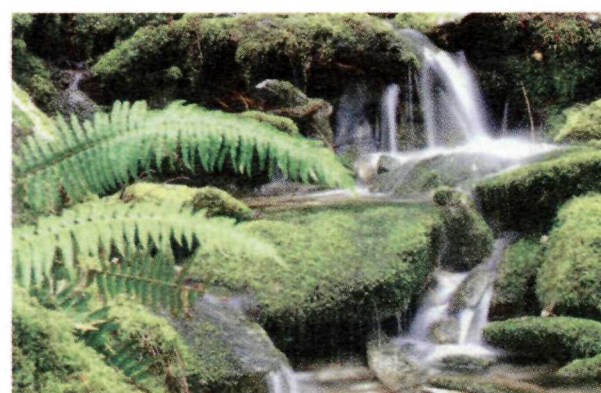


### FROM WEST TO EAST

#### BAKER LAKE AND MT. BAKER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

MP 82. From SR 20 turn north onto Baker Lake Road #11 for access to water recreation, hiking and campgrounds. After entering the national forest, Roads #12 and #13 lead to the Mt. Baker National Recreation Area for winter sports and hiking on the south side of Mt. Baker.

**ROCKPORT** MP 96-98. Two parks, Rockport State Park and Howard Miller Steelhead Park, offer excellent day hikes near the Skagit River. State Route 530 goes south along the Sauk River, part of the Skagit Wild and Scenic River System, and accesses roads to the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Forest Roads 1030 and 1036 provide access to the Sauk Mt. Trail.



**MARBLEMOUNT** MP 105-107. This is the last stop for full services and gas before Mazama and Winthrop. National park backcountry permits are issued at the Wilderness Information Center one mile (1.6 km) north of SR 20 on Ranger Station Road. East of town, the Cascade River Road leads through the national forest to campgrounds and Cascade Pass Trailhead.

**NEWHALEM** MP 120. Across the Skagit River is the North Cascades Visitor Center with several short trails including To Know a Tree, Rock Shelter and River Loop. Newhalem Creek and Goodell Creek Campgrounds offer tent, RV and group campsites. In town, Seattle City Light runs an Information and Tour Center with facilities, walking tours, trails including Trail of the Cedars and Ladder Creek Falls and a general store.

**GORGE CREEK FALLS AND OVERLOOK** MP 123. Rest stop and accessible loop trail offering views of the waterfall, gorge and dam.



**COLONIAL CREEK CAMPGROUND** MP 130. Located on Diablo Lake, this campground has camp hosts and offers naturalist programs in the summer, an accessible picnic area and fishing platform. Thunder Creek, Thunder Woods and Thunder Knob trails leave from the campground and go through diverse forests to scenic views.

**DIABLO LAKE OVERLOOK** MP 132. Viewpoint has a variety of vistas, toilets, a relief map, and shelter.

**ROSS DAM TRAILHEAD** MP 134. The Ross Dam, West Bank and Happy Panther trails are accessed from this area, as well as Ross Lake Resort. SR 20 winter gate closure November through April.

**ROSS LAKE OVERLOOKS** MP 135-136. View Ross Lake, mountains and displays about ancient glaciers, lakes and more recent fire lookouts. Walk the accessible Happy Creek Forest Trail.



**EAST BANK TRAILHEAD** MP 138. Panther Creek, East Bank and Ruby Creek trails converge near here. A new option is to follow the Happy Panther Trail west from here.

**RAINY PASS PICNIC AREA** MP 158. One-mile (1.6 km) accessible trail leads to Rainy Lake and waterfall views. Longer hikes go to Lake Ann (2 mi, 3.2 km) or around Maple Pass Loop (7.5 mi, 12 km). Typically not snow-free until late July.

**WASHINGTON PASS** MP 162. Highest point along the highway, enjoy views of Liberty Bell and Early Winters Spires.

**UPPER METHOW VALLEY** MP 180. Mazama turnoff to Hart's Pass (22 mi, 35.4 km). Road unpaved and usually not snow-free and passable until mid- to late summer.





### THE NORTH CASCADES ARE CALLING

*"The sublimity of true mountain scenery in the Cascade Mountains . . . must be seen, it cannot be described. Nowhere do the mountain masses and peaks present such a strange, fantastic, dauntless and startling outline as here. Whoever wishes to see nature in all its wildness must go and visit these mountain regions..."*  
 – Henry Custer, United States Northwest Border Commission topographer, 1859

North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area together make up the North Cascades National Park Service Complex. Whether you enjoy hiking, camping, fishing, climbing or just taking a drive along a scenic highway, the park has something for you! On this and the following pages learn how to:

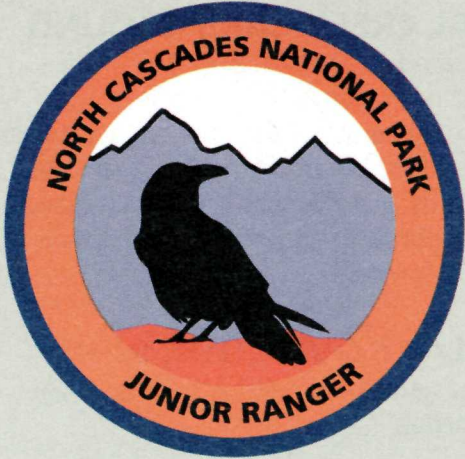
- Become a Junior Ranger
- Do Your Part! for Climate Friendly Parks
- Drive the scenic North Cascades Highway and take the family for a hike
- Travel picturesque Lake Chelan aboard the Lady of the Lake to the remote community of Stehekin
- Be involved: volunteer

Take advantage of the many opportunities to learn, recreate, and spend time with family in these special places that have been saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



### BECOME A JUNIOR RANGER!

North Cascades National Park Service Complex Junior Ranger program consists of four age-appropriate activity booklets. Each is designed to help get kids outside, have fun and learn about unique natural and cultural resources of your park. A "totem animal" guides kids through the activities and offers instruction, hints and ways to apply their new knowledge during their visit to the North Cascades.



- Pick up a **FREE** booklet at any of the following locations:
- Glacier Public Service Center
  - Park and Forest Information Center
  - Hozomeen
  - Wilderness Information Center
  - North Cascades Visitor Center
  - Golden West Visitor Center

Stay Connected

Facebook
 Instagram
 Twitter
 Youtube

**flickr** Explore our growing digital image library on Flickr:  
[www.flickr.com/northcascadesnationalpark](http://www.flickr.com/northcascadesnationalpark)  
 Be inspired by beautiful photographs and even submit your own!

### DO YOUR PART! FOR CLIMATE FRIENDLY PARKS

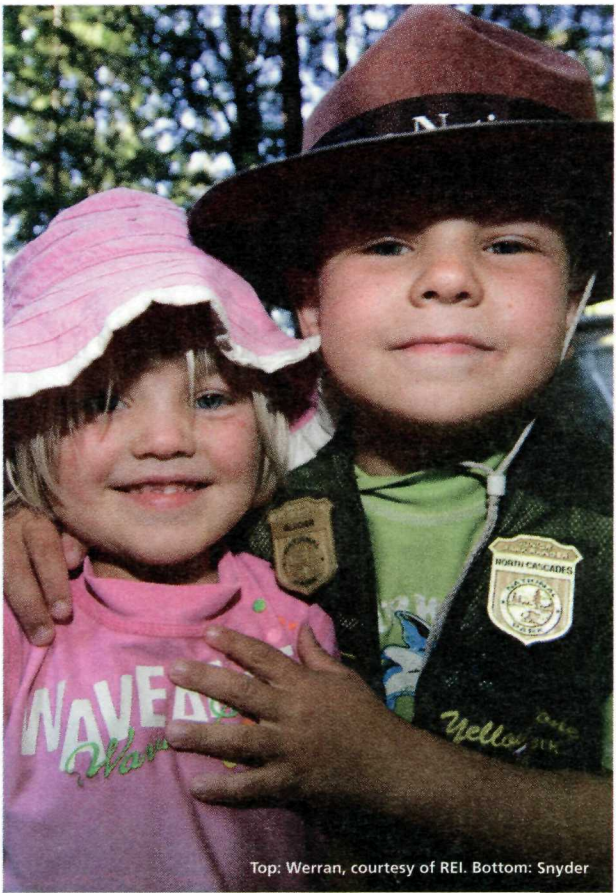
With over 300 glaciers representing one-third of those remaining in the lower 48 states, the ecosystem and landscapes of North Cascades National Park Service Complex will experience unprecedented change in the future. Recognizing the drastic consequences of climate change, park staff is committed to reducing the park's contribution to greenhouse gasses, supporting climate science, research and adaptive management and leading public awareness and education. "Do Your Part! for Climate Friendly Parks" is the first interactive online program in the country that provides national park visitors and supporters with the tools to understand and reduce their carbon footprint and thereby help protect our national parks from climate change.

**Learn more:**  
 Climate Friendly Parks:  
[www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks](http://www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks)

Do Your Part! for Climate Friendly Parks:  
[www.doyourpartparks.org](http://www.doyourpartparks.org)

The EPA Climate Change Kids Site:  
[www.epa.gov/climatechange/kids](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/kids)

U.S. Forest Service Climate Change Resource Center: [www.fs.fed.us/ccrc](http://www.fs.fed.us/ccrc)



Top: Werran, courtesy of REI. Bottom: Snyder



# Ross Lake National Recreation Area

The North Cascades Highway, or State Route 20, meanders through the upper Skagit watershed among forests and soaring peaks. A variety of outdoor activities can be accessed from the corridor including challenging hikes and paddling. A number of scenic vistas, picnic areas, campgrounds and short trails are available for those seeking a more relaxing trip.

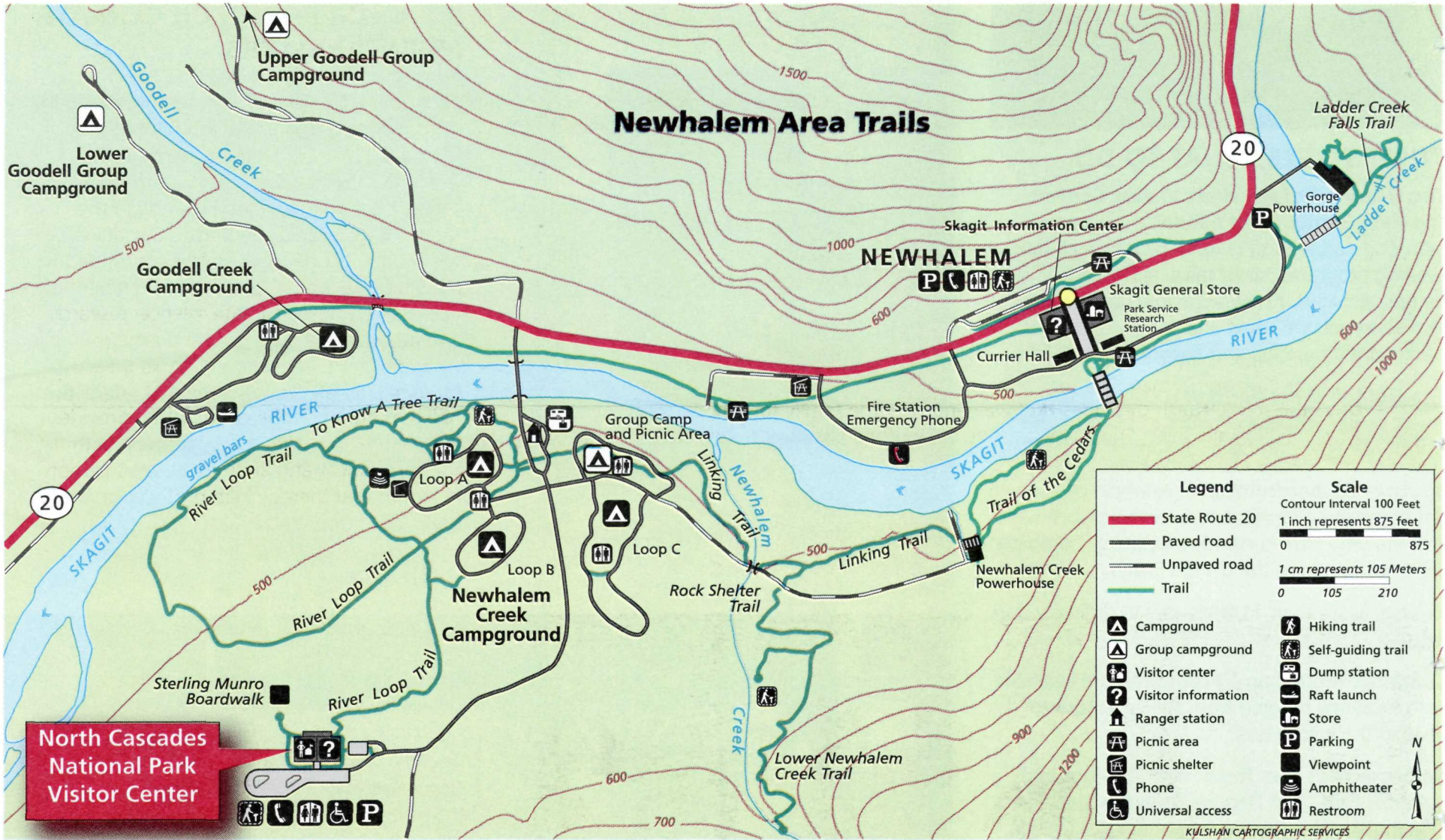
Below Newhalem, the free-flowing portion of the Skagit River offers excellent wildlife viewing and rafting opportunities. A raft launch is located next to Goodell Creek Campground, but careful planning is required to float the swift Skagit as there can be seasonal hazards and closures.

Diablo Lake offers the only easy access for launching watercraft from State Route 20. The lake, surrounded by glaciated peaks, is a brilliant turquoise blue in summer. This unique color is caused by refracted light on fine rock sediment called glacial flour, carried into the lake by glacier-fed streams. There are three small boat-in campgrounds where a backcountry permit is required.

Ross Lake, the largest of the three reservoirs, winds nearly 25 miles from Ross Dam to Hozomeen on the Canadian border. The only vehicle access is via Hope, British Columbia, but small motor boats and canoes/kayaks (14' and under) can be portaged around Ross Dam from Diablo Lake. Nineteen boat-in campgrounds (backcountry permit required) and Ross Lake Resort are available for those looking to spend multiple days in this remote landscape.

## NEWHALEM

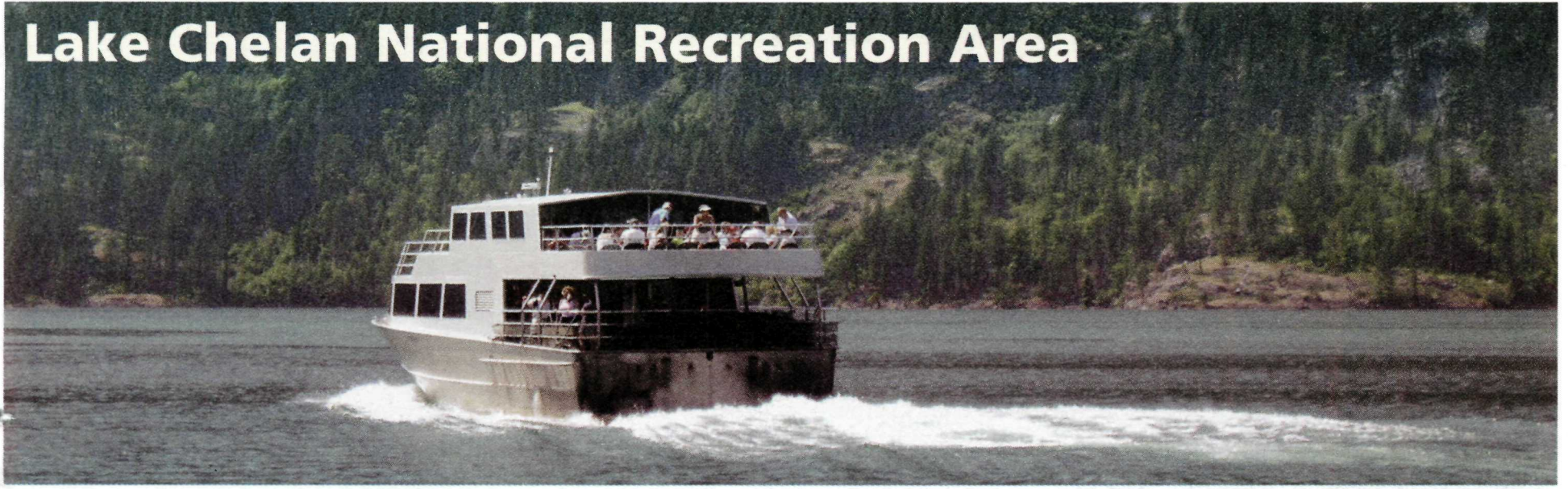
The North Cascades were still remote and wild in the 1910s, when the power of the Skagit River was first being harnessed. Newhalem was built as a company town for the men who worked at the dams and their families. Learn about the area's natural and cultural history by exploring interactive exhibits, watching theater presentations or talking with rangers at the North Cascades National Visitor Center. The interpretive staff at the center present a wide variety of programs including evening programs at both Colonial Creek and Newhalem Creek campgrounds.



| POPULAR TRAILS ALONG NORTH CASCADES HIGHWAY |          |                              |                |                                                                              |                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Trail Name                                  | Milepost | Round-Trip Distance in miles | Difficulty     | Remarks                                                                      | *Obtain a permit at the Wilderness Information Center in Marblemount for all backcountry camping. |
| Sterling Munro                              | 120      | 0.1 (0.2 km)                 | very easy      | Accessible boardwalk with view of the Picket Range                           |                                                                                                   |
| River Loop                                  | 120      | 1.8 (2.9 km)                 | easy           | Accessible, forested path to the Skagit River                                |                                                                                                   |
| Rock Shelter                                | 120      | 0.3 (0.5 km)                 | easy           | Accessible trail to historic site used by Native People 1,400 years ago      |                                                                                                   |
| Gorge Overlook                              | 123      | 0.5 (0.8 km)                 | easy           | Accessible trail with views of a deep gorge and waterfall                    |                                                                                                   |
| Pyramid Lake                                | 127      | 4.2 (6.8 km)                 | moderate       | Moderately steep hike through diverse habitat leading to a lake, no camping  |                                                                                                   |
| Diablo Lake                                 | 128      | 7.6 (12.2 km)                | moderate       | Offers views of glaciers and peaks, located on north side of Diablo Lake     |                                                                                                   |
| Thunder Knob                                | 130      | 3.6 (5.8 km)                 | easy           | Hike through dry forest terrain, views of Diablo Lake and surrounding peaks  |                                                                                                   |
| Thunder Creek*                              | 130      | 1.6-46 (2.8-74 km)           | easy-difficult | Excellent day hikes, extended trips to Stehekin Valley via Park Creek Pass   |                                                                                                   |
| Thunder Woods                               | 130      | 0.9 (1.5 km)                 | moderate       | Nature trail that highlights the unique habitat near Thunder Creek           |                                                                                                   |
| Ross Dam                                    | 134      | 1.5 (2.4 km)                 | moderate       | Short, steep trail down to Ross Dam                                          |                                                                                                   |
| Happy Panther                               | 134      | 10.5 (16.9 km)               | easy           | Follows south shore of Ross Lake, connects Ross Dam Trail to East Bank Trail |                                                                                                   |
| Happy Creek                                 | 134      | 0.3 (0.5 km)                 | very easy      | Accessible boardwalk interpretive trail through ancient forest               |                                                                                                   |
| East Bank*                                  | 138      | 0.5-62 (0.8-99.8 km)         | easy-moderate  | Winds along forested path, loops around Desolation Peak to Hozomeen          |                                                                                                   |



# Lake Chelan National Recreation Area



Embrace the pioneer spirit and journey to the remote community of Stehekin, located on the northern shore of Lake Chelan. Nestled in a serene valley and surrounded by wilderness, Stehekin offers a variety of attractions to suit all visitors. Whether you are seeking a quiet weekend or want to challenge your muscles on rugged peaks, Stehekin and the surrounding trails have plenty of new sights to discover.



## WHAT TO SEE, WHAT TO DO

### **The Historic Golden West Visitor Center:**

The visitor center offers naturalist programs featuring natural and cultural history, including evening programs, short talks, and Junior Ranger activities. Knowledgeable rangers can also assist you with trail and camp conditions, backcountry permits, and general information.

**The Golden West Gallery:** Located in the visitor center, displays artwork inspired by the North Cascades and Lake Chelan.

**Buckner Orchard:** An intact example of early entrepreneurial farming in the Pacific Northwest and the only farm currently producing Common Delicious apples in the United States.

**Hiking:** More than 11 trails vary in difficulty and length.

**Camping:** More than 13 campsites are available with locations ranging from the lakeshore to deep in the wilderness.

**Rainbow Falls Bus Tour:** Visit 312-foot high Rainbow Falls. Tour Departs from the Stehekin Landing shortly after the arrival of Lake Chelan Boat Company vessels. Adults \$8, ages 6-11 \$5. Prices and schedule subject to change.

## LODGING

A variety of accommodations are available in Stehekin ranging from resorts to backcountry camping.

For a complete list of lodgings, services and schedules, consult the National Park Service website ([www.nps.gov/noca/planyourvisit/stehekin.htm](http://www.nps.gov/noca/planyourvisit/stehekin.htm)) or call the Golden West Visitor Center at (509) 699-2080, ext 14



## TRAVELING TO STEHEKIN

### **Ferry**

Lake Chelan Boat Company provides round-trip service between Chelan and Stehekin with scheduled stops at Field's Point and Lucerne.

- Lady of the Lake II offers one daily round trip from May 1 through October 15.
- Lady Express offers one daily round trip from mid-June through September 15.
- Shoulder and winter season schedules are limited. Please contact the Lady of the Lake for a current schedule.

For up-to-date schedule and rates, regulations regarding transportation of freight and pets, or information regarding private charters visit [www.ladyofthelake.com](http://www.ladyofthelake.com) or call (888) 682-4584.

### **On Foot or Horseback**

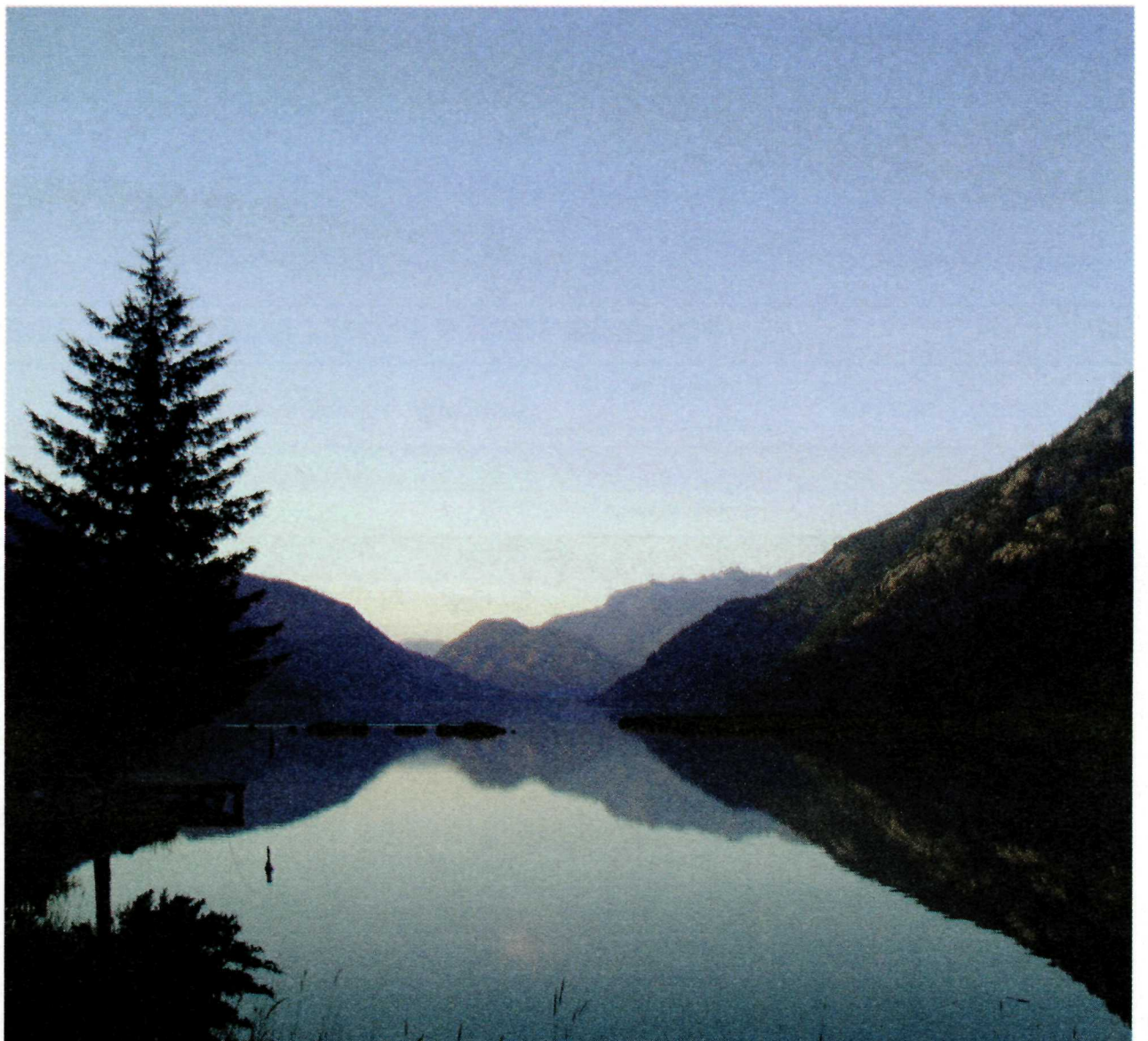
For a wilderness adventure hike or horseback into the Stehekin Valley, multiple routes traverse surrounding wilderness areas. Contact a ranger station for trail conditions and trip planning.

### **Private Boat**

There are over 16 public docks along Lake Chelan including four in the national recreation area. Boaters using any of these federal docks need a dock site pass from May 1 to October 31 (\$5 daily or \$40 for the season). This fee helps pay for maintenance costs. Passes can be obtained at the Chelan Ranger Station and from local vendors.

### **Float Plane**

Chelan Seaplanes offers daily flights during summer months. For more information or to schedule a flight visit [www.chelanseaplanes.com](http://www.chelanseaplanes.com) or call (509) 682-5555.



Learn more at: [www.nps.gov/noca/planyourvisit/stehekin.htm](http://www.nps.gov/noca/planyourvisit/stehekin.htm)

All photos: NPS



## Get Involved!



Volunteering in the national park and forest is an opportunity to give back to the resources and meet people with similar connections to the North Cascades. Participating in group work projects allows for a deeper understanding of the many issues related to management of public lands. No matter your skill level, a day spent combining friends, fun and stewardship is rewarding for all.

### VOLUNTEER WITH NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK

North Cascades National Park has an active volunteer program with as many as 500 volunteers participating in a variety of positions. Most positions are available from May through October. However, some are open year-round. The types of positions vary greatly and may include clerical; skilled and unskilled maintenance; trail trimming; highway clean-up; biology and hydrology data collection; exotic plant removal; visitor contact in campgrounds, on trails or at visitor centers; or backcountry patrols. Campground host positions are very competitive. Long term volunteers are provided with uniforms.

North Cascades National Park Service Complex partners with a variety of groups to organize volunteer work for trails, campgrounds and facilities maintenance. For information contact: jason\_bordelon@nps.gov

### VOLUNTEER WITH THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE

The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest works with several groups to help organize volunteers for trails and other restoration projects. Volunteer hours may help earn a Northwest Forest Pass.

Volunteers for Outdoor Washington  
(206) 517-3019 [www.trailvolunteers.org](http://www.trailvolunteers.org)

Backcountry Horseman  
[www.bchw.org](http://www.bchw.org)

Washington Trails Association (206) 625-1367  
[www.wta.org](http://www.wta.org)

Pacific Northwest Trail Association  
(360) 854-9415 [www.pnt.org](http://www.pnt.org)

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group  
(360) 336-0172 [www.skagitfisheries.or](http://www.skagitfisheries.or)

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association  
(360) 715-0283 [www.n-sea.org](http://www.n-sea.org)

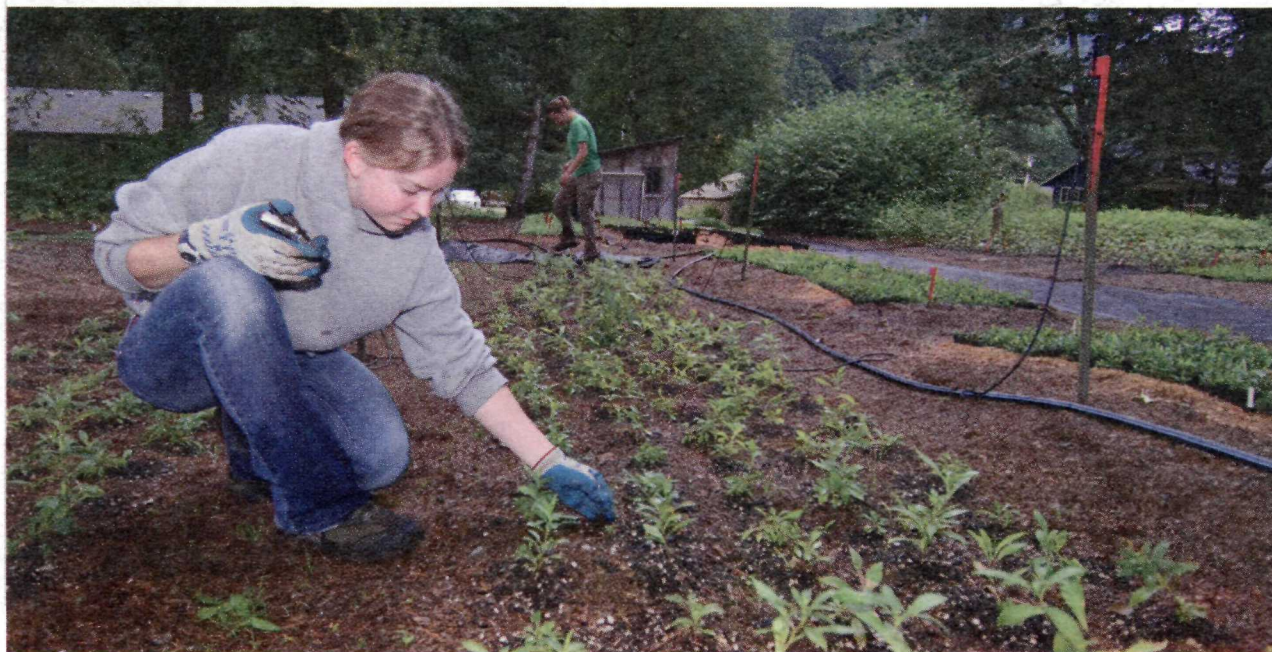
### MOUNTAIN STEWARDS

From late July through mid-September, Mountain Stewards assist with educational efforts along popular trails surrounding Mount Baker. These trails are well-traveled by day hikers looking for breathtaking vistas, as well as climbers attempting the summit of Mount Baker.

Mountain Stewards help teach the importance of "Leave No Trace," a program encouraging people to reduce their impact on wildlands and natural areas. The sheer number of feet on these trails leaves them vulnerable to damage and deterioration.

The Mountain Stewards program is an exciting way to become an advocate for the Mount Baker area. Participants need to be skilled in hiking and outdoor recreation, including snow travel, but are not required to travel on technical climbing routes.

Volunteers donate three trail days in addition to two days of training. Trail days take place during daytime hours, Friday through Sunday. If you are interested in becoming a Mountain Steward contact Barb Richey at the Mount Baker Ranger District (360) 854-2615.



### A FEW KEY PARTNERS...

#### North Cascades Institute

North Cascades Institute (NCI), a nonprofit founded in 1986, seeks to inspire closer relationships with nature through direct experiences in the natural world. Their mission is to conserve and restore northwest environments through education. They offer a broad range of programs for people of all ages, including Mountain School, Youth Leadership Adventures, a residential M.Ed. program, family getaways and adult classes ranging from geology to art to forest ecology.

For more information on Institute programs, visit [www.ncascades.org](http://www.ncascades.org) or call (360) 854-2599.

NCI offers a variety of day and overnight field seminars at the Environmental Learning Center. Open daily 9 am to 5 pm, the ELC is across Diablo Dam on the shores of Diablo Lake.

#### Washington's National Park Fund

Every year millions of people visit Washington State's spectacular national parks: Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic. Since 1993, Washington's National Park Fund has connected people to parks and inspired contributions of time, talent and money. The Fund helps to ensure visitors have high quality, memorable experiences by sponsoring educational, trail and wildlife projects. By securing funding from individuals, corporations, foundations and businesses, the Fund supports park restoration, enhancement and preservation.

For information about how you can help Washington's national parks, visit [www.wnnpf.org](http://www.wnnpf.org) or call (206) 770-0627.

#### Student Conservation Association

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is a nonprofit organization that offers conservation internships and summer trail crew opportunities to more than 3,000 people each year. SCA's mission is to build the next generation of conservation leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of our environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land.

For more information about opportunities with SCA in the Northwest, visit [www.thesca.org](http://www.thesca.org) or call (206) 324-4998.

#### Discover Your Northwest Interpretive Association

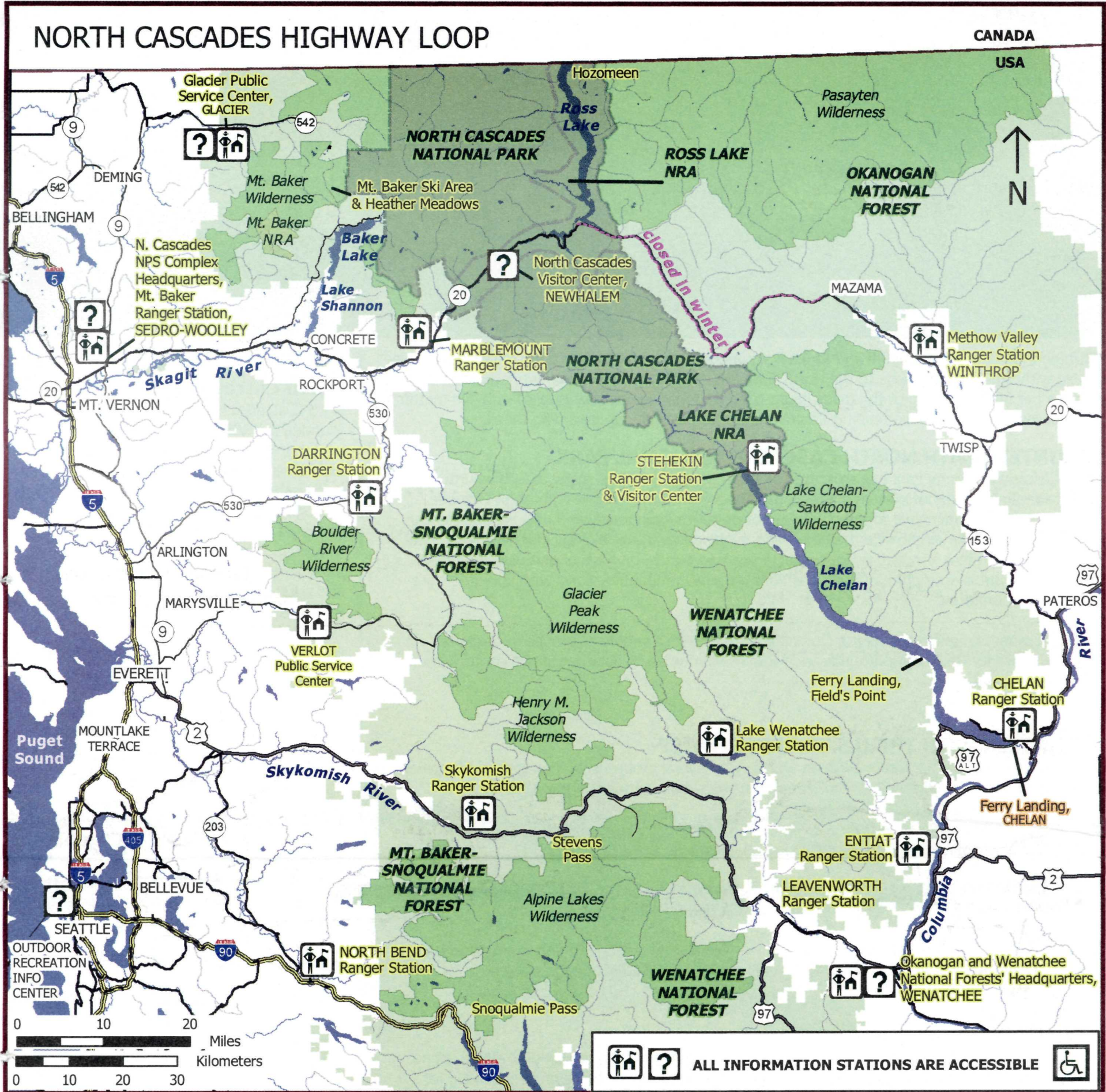
On-site and online provider of education materials and activities related to the national parks and forests in Washington State. [www.discovernw.org](http://www.discovernw.org)

#### National Forest Foundation

Bringing people together for public lands. [www.nationalforests.org](http://www.nationalforests.org)

Top: NPS/Karlie Roland  
Bottom: David Snyder





**North Cascades National Park;  
Mt. Baker Ranger District**

**Park and Forest Information Center**  
SEDRO-WOOLLEY

(360) 856-5700 ext. 515 (FS)  
(360) 854-7200 (NPS)

**Wilderness Information Center**  
**Backcountry Information/Permits**  
MARBLEMOUNT

(360) 854-7245

**North Cascades Visitor Center**  
NEWHALEM  
(206) 386-4495 ext. 11

**Golden West Visitor Center**  
Lake Chelan National Recreation Area  
STEHEKIN

(509) 699-2080 ext. 14

**Okanogan-Wenatchee  
National Forest**

**Methow Valley Ranger Station**  
WINTHROP

(509) 996-4000

**Chelan Ranger District**  
CHELAN

(509) 682-4900 (NPS and FS)

**Wenatchee River Ranger District**  
LEAVENWORTH

(509) 548-6977

**Entiat Ranger District**  
ENTIAT

(509) 763-3103

**Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie  
National Forest**

**Headquarters - Everett - no visitor services**  
Supervisor's office: (425) 783-6000  
1-800-627-0062 or TDD 1-800-272-1215

**Glacier Public Service Center**  
(360) 599-2714

**Heather Meadows Visitor Center**  
No phone, call Glacier Public Service Center

**Darrington Ranger District**  
(360) 436-1155

**Verlot Public Service Center**  
(360) 691-7791

**Skykomish Ranger District**  
(360) 677-2414

**Snoqualmie Ranger District**  
**North Bend Office**  
(425) 888-1421  
**Enumclaw Office**  
(360) 825-6585  
**Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Center**  
(425) 434-6111

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITES:**  
**North Cascades National Park Complex** [www.nps.gov/noca](http://www.nps.gov/noca)  
**Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest** [www.fs.usda.gov/mbs](http://www.fs.usda.gov/mbs)

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