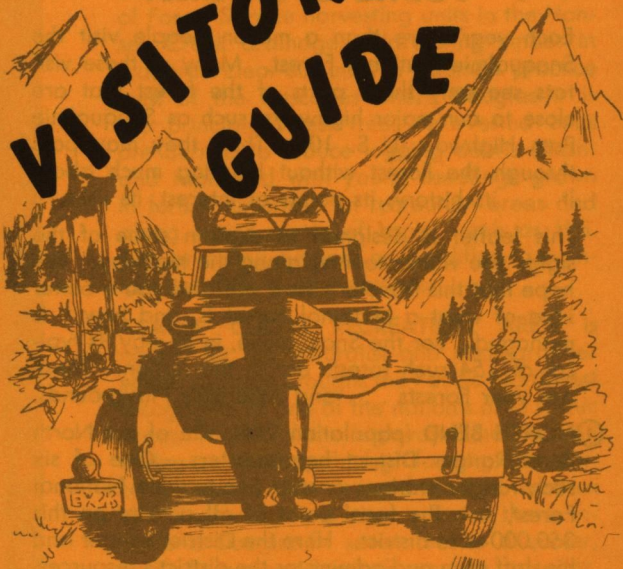


# VISITOR'S GUIDE



SMOKEY SAYS  
**BE CAREFUL**  
WITH MATCHES  
WITH SMOKES  
WITH ANY FIRE  
**REMEMBER!** ONLY YOU  
CAN PREVENT FOREST  
FIRES...

## SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST

U S Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
Pacific Northwest Region

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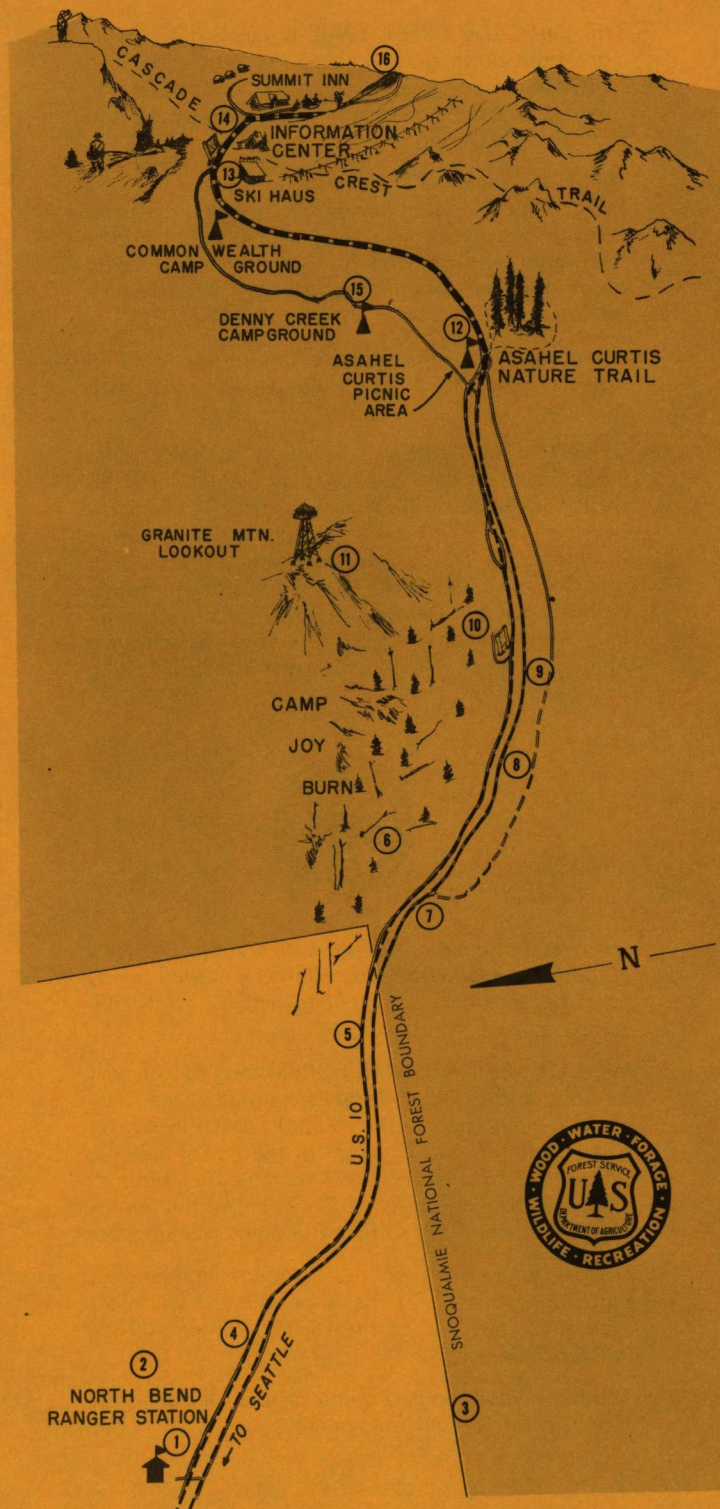
## POINTS OF INTEREST

Each year more than a million people visit the Snoqualmie National Forest. Many of these visitors see only those parts of the forest that are close to our major highways, such as Snoqualmie Pass Highway (U.S. 10). Thus, they may pass through the Forest without learning much about it . . . its history, its points of interest, its uses.

This leaflet is designed to explain some of the sights you will encounter along the highway. We hope that this traveler's view will give you a better idea of what a National Forest is, and how it is managed. For the Snoqualmie, in its way, is typical of 154 such forests across the nation. These are **your** Forests . . . and America's Playgrounds.

- ① **NORTH BEND** (population 945), site of the North Bend Ranger District headquarters. One of six such ranger stations on the Snoqualmie National Forest, it is the focal point of all activity on this 350,000-acre district. Here the District Ranger and his staff plan and administer the district's resources: wood, water, recreation, wildlife and forage. The forest shops for equipment maintenance, radio, and carpentry are also here. The central fire warehouse can supply fire-fighting equipment for 600 men when a forest fire breaks out.
- ② **MOUNT SI** (elevation 4190 feet) local landmark, and popular climbing peak, is visible north of the highway.
- ③ **SEATTLE'S WATER SUPPLY** comes from the Cedar River drainage, south and east of the highway. Tacoma, Everett and Yakima also receive domestic, industrial, and irrigation water from the Forest. Lakes and streams are popular recreation spots.
- ④ **SMALL SAWMILL** where logs are manufactured into lumber and shingles. Lumber, plywood, pulp, paper and specialty mills are important industries in Washington.
- ⑤ **SOUTH FORK SNOQUALMIE RIVER** parallels the highway during most of your trip. As you travel up the valley you will see signs of the glacial action which shaped this valley in centuries past. The sheer rock cliffs that crowd the highway here are the haunt of the mountain goat.

The highway just east of the bridge was washed out by unusually high flood waters in the Fall of 1958. Warm Chinook (easterly) winds melted mountain snowpacks in a matter of hours, swelling the South Fork until it flooded the valley and washed away this section of the highway, taking a car and its driver along with it.



- ⑥ **CAMP JOY BURN:** extensive burns cover the ridge north of the highway. These resulted from a fire which started in 1959; burned more than 1,000 acres of state, private, and National Forest timberland; and destroyed enough trees to build 800 average-size homes before it was brought under control. The charred timber in the burn was salvaged, and the area has been reforested.
- ⑦ **CAMP MASON BRIDGE**, spanning the South Fork, is typical of the reinforced concrete bridges built for the Forest Service under contract. This bridge will tap timber resources on the south side of the valley, and provide access to that area for administration and protection of the forest resources.
- GEORGE B. McCLELLAN** (1826-85), Union General in the Civil War and unsuccessful candidate for President — against Abraham Lincoln — camped near here while surveying the Northern Pacific RR route across the Cascades (1853-54). Until recently, an old log cabin near the river marked the campsite.
- ⑧ **YOUNG DOUGLAS-FIR STANDS**, mixed with various hardwood trees, are seen on both sides of the highway. Those to the south cover an area logged in the early 1900's. Visible also are clearings for the railroad, and for the Bonneville transmission lines, which carry power generated at Rocky Reach Dam on the Columbia River to the south Puget Sound area. Improvements such as these reduce the amount of National Forest land available for other uses, and challenge the forester to more effectively manage the land remaining.
- ⑨ **BANDERA AIRPORT**, an emergency airstrip administered by the Washington State Aeronautic Commission.
- ⑩ **CAMPFIRE GIRLS PLANTATION** is marked by a rustic sign north of the highway. As part of their fiftieth anniversary program, local Camp Fire Girls planted 23,000 Douglas-fir seedlings, with the assistance of the Forest Service. In 20 years, these seedlings will be young trees about the size of those along the highway in this area. Some of these larger trees were planted by high school youth in years past.
- ⑪ **GRANITE MOUNTAIN LOOKOUT** is barely visible atop the peak of that name (elevation 5820 feet) north of the highway. One of three such lookouts serving the North Bend Ranger District, it is a vital link in the communications and fire detection network for the Forest. A lookout is on duty from July through late September, relaying information on fires he spots to the ranger station.



South of the highway you may get a glimpse of Forest Service harvesting units in the Hansen Creek drainage. Harvesting timber in scattered clear-cut units is common practice west of the Cascades where Douglas-fir is the principle forest tree. Harvested units are burned to reduce logging debris (slash) and replanted with young seedlings grown in forest nurseries. In recreation areas and along major routes of travel, such as U.S. 10, harvesting methods are modified to maintain the scenic attractiveness.

- 12) ASAHIL CURTIS RECREATION AREA** is named for the naturalist and photographer whose pictures brought the Pacific Northwest recognition as one of the nation's most scenic areas. South of the highway a nature trail makes a short loop through forest giants typical of stands that covered most of western Washington at one time. Trees there include a Douglas-fir seven feet in diameter, noble fir, western hemlock, western redcedar, silver fir and mixed hardwoods.

North of the highway, a picnic area is being developed under the Forest Service's "Operation Outdoors" program.

**CAUTION:** DO NOT ATTEMPT A U-TURN IN THIS AREA. THERE ARE DESIGNATED U-TURN AREAS BOTH EAST AND WEST OF HERE. TRAFFIC MOVES AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED ON U. S. 10.

- 13) SNOQUALMIE PASS RECREATION AREA** (elevation 3010 feet) one of the most popular spots on the Snoqualmie National Forest. The Forest Service building south of the highway houses an Information Center and quarters for the Snow Ranger. This ski area, like those at Stevens and White passes, is a commercial venture operated under permit from the Forest Service. Last winter (1961-62) nearly 200,000 winter sports enthusiasts visited this area. Many rode the three-quarter mile electric Sky Chair to the "Thunderbird" restaurant, which offers a magnificent view and dining 800 feet above the pass itself.

The "Skihaus" lodge and interfaith St. Bernard chapel also operate under Forest Service permit. Nearby private land accommodates two other ski areas, ski clubs, lodge facilities, private residences and service stations.

- 14) THE CASCADE CREST TRAIL** is marked by rustic signs both north and south of the highway. This trail offers the forest visitor the opportunity to hike, fish, mountain climb, take pictures, or just loaf along enjoying the scenery

There are some 1300 miles of forest trails on the Snoqualmie National Forest. Many of these trails reach into scenic high country which is the home of deer and bear, as well as the cony (rock hare), ptarmigan, and mountain goat. Wildlife depends on the forest for both food and shelter.

High country meadows offer a variety of wild flowers guaranteed to challenge the most avid weekend botanist.

- 15) DENNY CREEK AREA** is reached by taking the scenic route of the "old highway" which joins the westbound lane of the present highway just below (west of) the "Skihaus". There are two campgrounds close by: Commonwealth, near the summit, and Denny Creek, about 2-1/2 miles down the old highway route. Denny Creek is typical of the 59 improved camping areas on the Snoqualmie National Forest. These areas are gradually being



renovated and expanded under the Forest Service's "Operation Outdoors" program to meet the needs for a popular and fast-growing activity . . . family camping.

- 16) WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST** begins just east of Snoqualmie Pass. Like its neighbor, the Snoqualmie, it is one of 20 National Forests in Region 6 (Washington and Oregon) of the Forest Service. Information on the Wenatchee may be obtained from the District Ranger at Cle Elum, or the Supervisor's Office, Post Office Building, Wenatchee.

Further information on the Snoqualmie National Forest is available at the Snoqualmie Pass Information Center, and at the District Ranger's office in North Bend.

We hope your trip is a pleasant one, and that this leaflet adds to your enjoyment.

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