

## Wilson River Wagon Road Trail

Continue across Beaver Dam Road on the Wilson River Wagon Road Trail to continue the loop.

This trail follows a portion of the historic wagon route along the South Fork of the Wilson River.

Opened in 1893 as a toll road, this was the only route between Forest Grove and Tillamook. It was traveled by stagecoach and ox carts. These days it's especially suited for hikers, mountain bikers, and horse riders.

This trail crosses several motorized trails while climbing above Browns Camp. Wild strawberries skirt the trail in open areas, and other sections follow a path established by migrating elk herds. One mile from Beaver Dam Road, the trail descends and meets Old Saddle Mountain Road, where remains of an historic railroad trestle are present. Turn right onto the road and follow the signs 100 feet where the Wilson River Wagon Road Trail continues to the left.

The trail levels out and crosses two additional gravel roads before it parallels a bubbling stream.

Another 1.4 miles brings the Wilson River Wagon Road Trail to University Falls Road and Gravelle Brothers Trailhead.



**Skunk Cabbage**  
(*Lysichiton americanum*)

Visitors may choose to follow the Wilson River Wagon Road Trail to Stagecoach Horse Camp or continue the loop on the Gravelle Brothers Trail. The Wilson River Wagon Road Trail picks up again 0.1 mile west on University Falls Road and is marked by log

railings. There are two trail segments that lead to the campground. The northern portion of Wilson River Wagon Road Trail parallels and crosses University Falls Road several times for 0.8 mile. Then it crosses Rutherford Road and drops down to Stagecoach Horse Camp in 0.4 mile. The southern Side Step Trail moves away from University Falls Road until it meets it again near the junction with Rutherford Road.

Nearby Horseshoe Loop offers a short ride from Stage Coach Campground.

## Gravelle Brothers Trail (including University Falls)

University Falls Trailhead marks the beginning of the Gravelle Brothers Trail. This trail is named for the Gravelle twins, Elroy and Edmund, who spent countless hours helping to develop and maintain the Tillamook State Forest trail system. To continue on the loop back to Rogers Camp Trailhead cross the road and take the Gravelle Brothers Trail north.

The trail begins with a short climb on rocky soil. As the trail levels off, it crosses two motorized trails, so be cautious. In 0.4 mile the trail drops down to a junction. To reach the falls, look for the painted sign marking the way and continue 500 feet to the falls.

University Falls is a great spot to cool off during the summer or to enjoy a peaceful lunch. The level of water flowing over the falls varies greatly throughout the year, from a rushing cascade that covers the entire rock face to little more than a trickle after a dry summer.

To finish the Historic Hiking Loop, return to the trail junction and continue on the Gravelle Brothers Trail which is marked by a sign. Scorched stumps line the trail telling the story of the Tillamook Burn. Stay right and follow the old road grade to Rogers Camp. A right turn here leads quickly up to a gravel road. Follow the road to the top of the hill to the ODOT maintenance shed and proceed behind the cement barriers on this shared-use segment of the Elliott Creek OHV Trail. Follow Beaver Dam Road 0.2 mile to Rogers Camp Trailhead.

## Tillamook Treasures



**Vine Maple** (*Acer circinatum*)

This lovely shrub glows during the fall providing splashes of color throughout the forest. It can range from bright yellow, to orange and red as seen here. It is not uncommon to see a leaf that has all of those colors mixed with green. This shrub is a food staple for deer and elk, and Native Americans used its flexible twigs for drum hoops, spoons, and dishes. Now we mostly just enjoy the color and throwing the helicopter-like seeds.

### Be Prepared

- Let someone know your travel plans
- Lock your vehicle
- Read trailhead signs
- Pack plenty of water

### Protect the Forest

- Stay on designated trails
- Share the trail
- Pack it in, pack it out
- Check current fire conditions



### For More Information

Oregon Department of Forestry  
Forest Grove District Office  
801 Gales Creek Road  
Forest Grove, OR 97116  
(503) 357-2191  
[www.oregon.gov/ODF](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF)

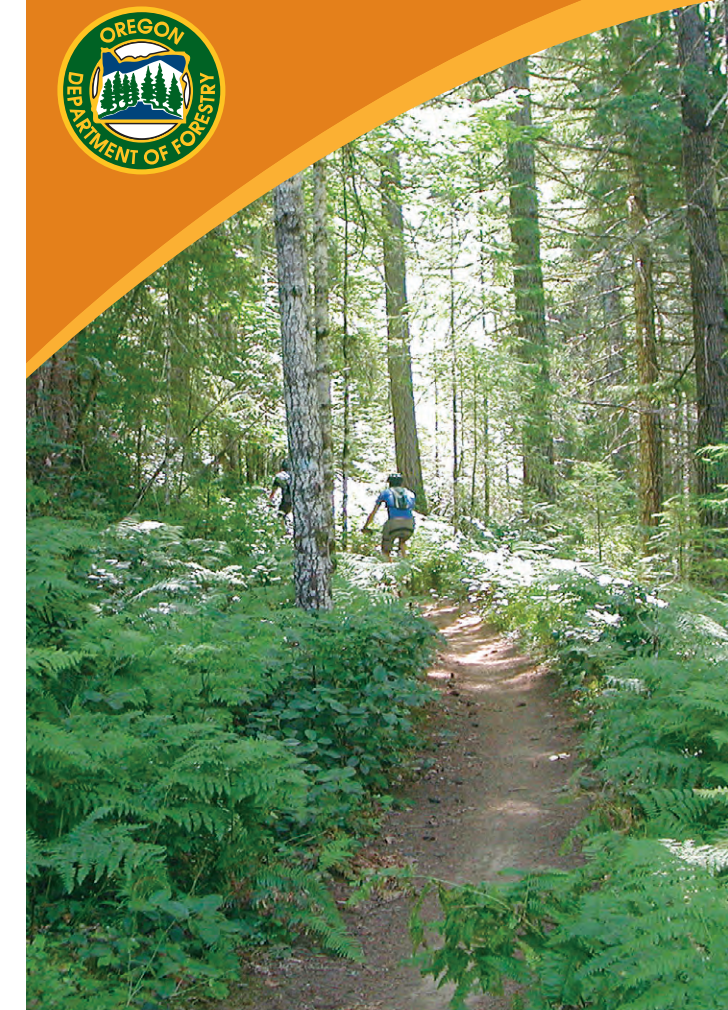
### \*\*CAUTION\*\*

Use extra caution when driving on single-lane gravel roads in the forest. Drive slowly and watch for truck traffic. Be prepared for changing trail and weather conditions, steep terrain and loose rock.

# Tillamook State Forest TRAIL GUIDE

## Historic Hiking Loop

Nels Rogers, Wilson River Wagon Road,  
Gravelle Brothers Trails and University Falls



**LENGTH:** 8.6 miles  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**Nels Rogers Trail:** 1.6 miles  
**Wilson River Wagon Road Trail:** 4.2 miles  
**Gravelle Brothers Trail:** 2.4 mile

**To University Falls:** 0.4 mile



## TRAIL INFORMATION

### Trailhead Access

The easiest access to this trail system is from Rogers Camp Trailhead off of Beaver Dam Road. Two-wheel drive vehicles and trailers are advised **not** to take University Falls and Rutherford Roads directly from Highway 6.

### Rogers Camp Trailhead

Travel on Highway 6 to the summit of the Coast Range, just west of milepost 33, watching for signs to Rogers Camp. Turn south on Beaver Dam Road and proceed 250 feet to a “T” junction. Turn left for 0.1 mile to the trailhead. This trailhead is a staging area for both motorized groups and non-motorized groups.

### Deyoe Creek Trailhead

Travel on Highway 6 to the summit of the Coast Range (milepost 33) and turn south (right) onto Beaver Dam Road. At 0.7 mile, bear right onto University Falls Road and find the Deyoe Creek Trailhead on the left, just across a concrete bridge.

### University Falls Trailhead

Follow the directions above for Deyoe Creek Trailhead on University Falls Road. Continue on this road crossing a wooden bridge and heading uphill to the right. At 2.6 miles from the highway, follow a small sign reading “Horse Camp.” Travel another 0.5 mile to the University Falls Trailhead.

### Stagecoach Horse Camp

Equestrians may access the Historic Hiking Loop from Rogers Camp Trailhead, but most prefer to use Stagecoach Horse Camp. To reach the horse camp follow the directions for University Falls Trailhead. Continue on University Falls Road 1.0 mile to the junction with Rutherford Road and follow the signs.



Nels Rogers Trail

### About the Trail

The Historic Hiking Loop is located at the summit of the Coast Range. This trail system consists of the Nels Rogers Trail, the Wilson River Wagon Road Trail and the Gravelle Brothers Trail. It may be enjoyed as an 8.6 mile loop or in sections. These three trails travel through scenic second-growth forest planted after the Tillamook Burn. Make sure to visit one of the most photographed spots in the Tillamook State Forest, University Falls. A short side trip from the loop, or a 0.4 mile hike from the trailhead, leads to the majestic University Waterfall. Along this historic route you will cross old railroad grades, seasonal streams, forest roads, and off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails.

The Oregon Department of Forestry manages the Tillamook State Forest for multiple recreational opportunities. The non-motorized Historic Hiking Loop travels through a motorized trail zone and crosses OHV trails. You may hear sounds of motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles. Please make sure to remain on the appropriate designated trails.

### Nels Rogers Trail

To follow a loop on the Historic Hiking Loop begin at Rogers Camp Trailhead and travel uphill on Firebreak One Road to the log railings that mark Nels Rogers Trail. This 1.6 mile trail passes through forest planted in 1949. This area is dedicated to Nels Rogers, state forester from 1940-49. After crossing Beaver Dam Road near the 1.3

mile mark, the trail reaches a “T” junction at the bank of the Devil’s Lake Fork of the Wilson River. Right leads to Deyoe Creek Trailhead along a steep, rocky trail. Nels Rogers Trail continues left. Once you have reached the water’s edge, turn left and skirt along the bank to a log bridge. Horse riders should ford the creek downstream from the bridge. During high water, take the Highwater Trail which heads right and passes through the Deyoe Creek Trailhead in 0.2 mile. After crossing the footbridge, stay left to continue on the Historic Hiking Loop. Visitors will travel through a dense, mossy forest and meet Beaver Dam Road, which marks the end of Nels Rogers Trail and the beginning of the Wilson River Wagon Road Trail.

