

Wilderness.net's The Brothers Wilderness Fact Sheet



Credit:
Forest Service

Introduction

The United States Congress designated The Brothers Wilderness in 1984 and it now has a total of 16,343 acres. All of the wilderness is in Washington and is managed by the Forest Service.

Description

The Brothers Wilderness is located on the eastern flanks of the Olympic National Forest just South of Buckhorn Wilderness and north of Mt. Skokomish Wilderness. Between moss- and fern-laden banks, the Dosewallips and Hamma Hamma Rivers run cold and clear north and south, respectively, of the borders of

The Brothers Wilderness. At 6,866 feet, The Brothers is the highest peak in the area, with a distinct double summit that ranks among the most popular climbs in the Olympics. Through the center of the Wilderness the Duckabush River splashes down a wide and lovely glacier-carved valley shadowed by tall hemlock, fir, and cedar. From the Duckabush the terrain rises steeply into a mazelike network of forested ridges that peak on The Brothers to the south and 5,701-foot Mount Jupiter to the north. In the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains, the area collects about 80 inches of precipitation each year, and temperatures stay temperate, rarely rising above 80 degrees Fahrenheit and seldom freezing along the river. The higher elevations get their fair share of snow.

Leave No Trace

How to follow the seven standard Leave No Trace principles differs in different parts of the country (desert vs. Rocky Mountains). Click on any of the principles listed below to learn more about how they apply in The Brothers Wilderness.

1. [Plan Ahead and Prepare](#)
2. [Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces](#)
3. [Dispose of Waste Properly](#)
4. [Leave What You Find](#)
5. [Minimize Campfire Impacts](#)
6. [Respect Wildlife](#)
7. [Be Considerate of Other Visitors](#)

For more information on Leave No Trace, [Visit the Leave No Trace, Inc. website.](#)

Area Management

The Brothers Wilderness is part of the 109 million acre National Wilderness Preservation System. This System of lands provides clean air, water, and habitat critical for rare and endangered plants and animals. In wilderness, you can enjoy challenging recreational activities like hiking, backpacking, climbing, kayaking, canoeing, rafting, horse packing, bird watching, stargazing, and extraordinary opportunities for solitude. You play an important role in helping to *"secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness"* as called for by the Congress of the United States through the Wilderness Act of 1964. Please follow the requirements outlined below and use Leave No Trace techniques when visiting The Brothers Wilderness to ensure protection of this unique area.

General Wilderness Prohibitions

Motorized equipment and equipment used for mechanical transport is generally prohibited on all federal lands designated as wilderness. This includes the use of motor vehicles, motorboats, motorized equipment, bicycles, hang gliders, wagons, carts, portage wheels, and the landing of aircraft including helicopters, unless provided for in specific legislation.

In a few areas some exceptions allowing the use of motorized equipment or mechanical transport are described in the special regulations in effect for a specific area. Contact the Forest Service office or visit the websites listed below for more specific information.

These general prohibitions have been implemented for all national forest wildernesses in order to implement the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964. The Wilderness Act requires management of human-caused impacts and protection of the area's wilderness character to insure that it is "unimpaired for the future use and enjoyment as wilderness." Use of the equipment listed as prohibited in wilderness is inconsistent with the provision in the Wilderness Act which mandates opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation and that wilderness is a place that is in contrast with areas where people and their works are dominant.

Wilderness-Specific Regulations

Wilderness managers often need to take action to limit the impacts caused by visitor activities in order to protect the natural conditions of wilderness as required by the Wilderness Act of 1964. Managers typically implement 'indirect' types of actions such as information and education measures before selecting more restrictive measures. When regulations are necessary, they are implemented with the specific intent of balancing the need to preserve the character of the wilderness while providing for the use and enjoyment of wilderness.

The following wilderness regulations are in effect for this area. Not all regulations are in effect for every wilderness. Contact the Forest Service office or visit the websites listed on the 'Links' tab for more specific information about the regulations listed.

STOCK USERS

- Groups are limited to no more than 8 head of pack or saddle stock.
- Tethering of livestock to trees or other vegetation, except for incidental use not to exceed 30 minutes.
- All hay or crop products must be state certified weed free.

Fees

The following user fee system(s) have been implemented for this wilderness: TRAILHEAD PARKING. Fees are most often used to offset the operating costs of a permit system or to help fund management activities such as trail maintenance. Contact the national forest office or visit the websites listed below for more specific information on this fee system.

Contacts

Hood Canal Ranger District/Quilcene
295142 HIGHWAY 101 S
PO BOX 280
QUILCENE, WA 98376

Phone: 360-765-2200

Links to Other Websites

[Olympic National Forest, The Brothers Wilderness](#)

Links on Wilderness.net

[National, Regional and Local Wilderness Organizations \(NGOs\)](#)

A listing of societies, organizations, coalitions and other wilderness-related advocacy and stewardship groups.

[Career and Volunteer Opportunities](#)

A listing of sites providing information about wilderness- and environmentally-related career and volunteer opportunities.

Applicable Wilderness Law(s)

Law	Date	Acreage Change (in acres)
Public Law 98-339	July 3, 1984	17,239
Washington State Wilderness Act of 1984 - Public law 98-339 (7/3/1984) To designate certain National Forest System lands in the State of Washington for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes.		

— [download 98-339](#)

Public Law 99-635	November 7, 1986	-557
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(No official title, revise boundaries of Olympic National Forest wildernesses) - Public law 99-635 (11/7/1986) To revise the boundaries of Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest in the State of Washington and for other purposes

— [download 99-635](#)
