

McKENZIE PASS NORTH - BELKNAP CRATERS PACIFIC CREST TRAIL HIKE

Please note: Be sure to log back into the OSB system (my.ava.org) to finish/complete your online registration after doing the walk. The OSB system does not deduct any walking fee from a walker's Event Bank until they have submitted walk completion information including the date the event was walked, the distance walked, and the selection of applicable special programs that walker is participating in. (Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded pdf is deducted from the user's Event Bank when the pdf is downloaded. This prepaid fee is applied against the credit fee(s) at the OSB Finish Table when you submit the walk completion info. However, the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF expires 60 days from download.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Event Information.**
- 2. Walk Directions – includes driving directions to the start.**
- 3. Map of entire route**
- 4. Other Pacific Crest Trail Hikes**

McKENZIE PASS NORTH BELKNAP CRATER EVENT INFORMATION

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If you are into dormant volcanos and black lava flows, this hike is for you. You visit the Dee Wright Observatory first for the **only toilet**. The Observatory has interesting displays about the two shield volcanoes, Belknop Crater and Little Belknop Crater. The last eruption in the area is estimated to have been around 480 A.D. The Pacific Crest Trail enters the Mount Washington Wilderness in these lava fields. The hike rises gradually. A side trail leads to Little Belknop Crater, a total 1100' elevation gain in 3.8 km. At it's summit you'll get views of Cascade peaks such as North and Middle Sister, Mt. Washington. For a higher viewpoint continue on the PCT. You'll soon be off the lava fields through stands of Hemlock and open meadows. A final side trail 800' ascent takes you to the summit of Belknop Crater – worth exploring at a total 1650' elevation gain.

Remember, you're in the mountains, so be prepared for changing weather conditions. Carry the ten essentials. Extra clothes, snacks and water. Sunscreen, a hat and bug repellent are good ideas. Hiking boots and poles are recommended. **There is no water on this hike, and very little shade!**

PLEASE NOTE: Mt Washington Wilderness **requires a \$1 permit** from June 15 - October 15. Permits are limited. Sales for permits begins at 7am June 5. Information for permits is at recreation.gov or 877-444-6777.

Please check current weather, and trail information with Oregon DOT. **Oregon SR242 may be open mid-June, but is often closed until mid-July.** You are in the Willamette National Forest. NFS office – Blue River, OR, 541-225-6300. Check their website for closures, fire status and weather updates – <https://www.fs.usda.gov> – Willamette National Forest. **NO DOGS DUE TO SHARP LAVA ROCKS.**

Emergency 911 Service may not be available north of the trail head.

Parking Passes: You must have either a Northwest Forest Pass, America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass, an Interagency Senior Pass, or a Military Pass to park on this National Forest Land.

Restrooms: The only restroom is at the Observatory parking lot.

For more information read
oregonhikers.org/field_guide/belknop_crater_hike.

Northwest Region Pacific Crest Trail (PCT)
McKenzie Pass North - Belknap Craters PCT Hike
Little Belknap Crater 7.6Km R/T (4.7 miles) 1,100' elevation gain - Rated 3C
Belknap Crater 10.4Km (6.4 miles) 1,650' elevation gain - Rated 3C
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Driving Directions: EB: From I-5, take Oregon SR 126 from the Springfield area east to Belknap Springs, then RIGHT on SR 242, the McKenzie Pass Hwy, to McKenzie Pass and the Dee Wright Observatory. **WB from Sisters, OR,** Take Oregon SR 242 to the Dee Wright Observatory. **Check with Oregon DOT before you go as SR242 is not open some years before mid-July. Portapotties/restroom available at Observatory parking lot - not the trailhead.** Then, drive 1/2 mile west on 242 through lava fields to an area of scattered timber on both sides of the road. Turn **RIGHT** into the small PCT parking area in the trees. Fill out your Wilderness Permit at the trailhead kiosk.

Make sure you have the proper parking pass on your vehicle. N44.15' 36.62" W121.48' 35.41

Hike Options: 1) To Little Belknap Crater and back to the trailhead is 7.6Km. 2) To Belknap Crater and back to the trailhead is 10.4Km. 3) Both craters as mapped is a 11.2Km hike. There is no water and very little shade along this entire hike. Be sure to carry lots of water, sunscreen and your own shade.

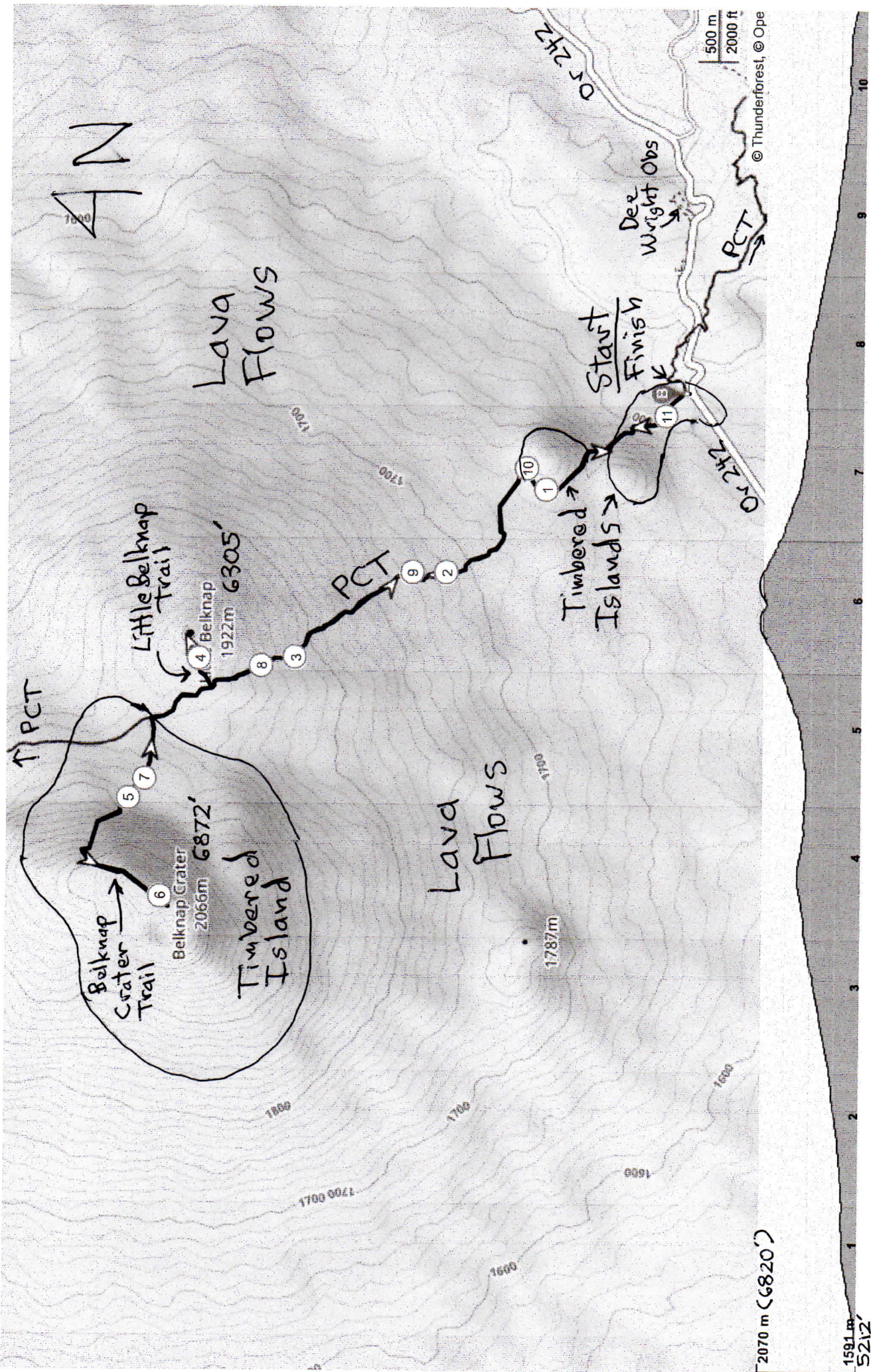
1. The trailhead is just off the parking area in the timber. 5,212' Elevation. Turn **LEFT** on the PCT. You will hike through the island of timber that is surrounded by lava flows.
2. At 0.6Km, the PCT leaves the timbered island to cross a small part of the large lava flow.
3. At 0.7Km, the PCT enters another timbered island and follows the edge of the island (lava field on your left and timbered island on your right).
4. At 1.2Km, the PCT leaves the island and goes out into a very large lava flow.
5. At 3.4Km, turn **RIGHT** off the PCT onto the Little Belknap Trail.
6. At 3.8Km, Little Belknap Trail ends at the crater. *6,305' Elevation at top of the crater.*
7. Turn **AROUND** and return on the trail to the PCT.
8. 4.2Km, Turn **RIGHT** on the PCT.
9. At 4.5Km, enter another timbered island and shortly after that, turn **LEFT** on the Belknap Crater trail.
10. *There are several way trails in this area. Stay on the main trail to the top of the crater and end of the trail. 6.0Km, top of Belknap Crater, 6,872' Elevation. (If you wish, explore the crater, not part of the hike.)*
11. Turn **AROUND** and return on the trail to the PCT.
12. Turn **RIGHT** on the PCT and return on the PCT to the trailhead.
13. At 11.2Km, back at the trailhead and your vehicle to finish.

We hope you enjoyed this hike on the PCT to the Belknap Craters.

To finish the 7.6km (8km) hike to Little Belknap Crater, turn LEFT on the PCT and return to the trailhead and your vehicle to finish. To continue to Belknap Crater ---

These directions and map may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association Athletic Waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

McKenzie Pass SR 242 Belknap Craters PCT Hike



PACIFIC CREST TRAIL HIKES
Washington and Oregon

WASHINGTON:

1. Chinook Pass – Sheep Lake and Sourdough Gap - Y2763
HQ: AVA Chair
2. Mt. Rainier National Park -- Naches Loop and Dewey Lakes - Y2050
Four Plus Foolhardy Folks
3. North Bonneville – Gillette Lake - Y2294
HQ: AVA Chair
4. Snoqualmie Pass – Kendall Katwalk - Y0786
HQ: AVA Chair
5. Snoqualmie Pass – Lodge Lake and Mirror Lake - Y3183
HQ: AVA Chair
6. Stevens Pass – Lake Valhalla - Y3182
HQ: AVA Chair
7. Stevens Pass – Josephine Lake - Y3184
HQ: AVA Chair
8. White Pass – North Four Lakes – Y3190
HQ: AVA Chair
9. White Pass – South Ginnette and Shoe Lakes – Y3191
HQ: AVA Chair

OREGON:

10. Cascade Locks – Herman Creek Pinnacles - Y1677
HQ: AVA Chair
11. Eugene, OR – Willamette Pass Rosary Lakes – Y2465
Albany Fitwalkers
12. Government Camp – Timothy Lake – Y1514
HQ: AVA Chair
13. McKenzie Pass – Belknap Craters – Y3246
HQ: AVA Chair
14. Wapinitia Pass – North Twin Lakes – Y3230
HQ: AVA Chair
15. Sisters, OR – McKenzie Pass Matthieu Lakes – Y2435
Albany Fitwalkers
16. Willamette Pass – South - Three Lakes – Y3240
HQ: AVA Chair