

# Rediscover the Suiattle: Hikes and Sights



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Photo: Paul Bulgier

## Boulder Lake Trail

- Venture into the Glacier Peak Wilderness along this 3-mile trail (one-way) to secluded Boulder Lake. Explore old-growth forest, Tenas Creek falls and meadows along the way. Scramble on to Pear Lake and Hurricane Ridge for more fun.
- Near mile 7 of the Suiattle Road, turn left onto Forest Road #2660 (Tenas Creek Road), and continue for 6 miles to trailhead. No Forest Pass required.



Photo: Kim Brown

## Huckleberry Mountain Trail

- Enjoy a new trailhead and climb up (and up!) the 5-mile trail (one-way) to lovely meadows with views of Huckleberry Mountain. Expansive views and a unique ridge walk await, with Tenas and Buck creeks roaring below. Glacier Peak beckons in the distance.
- At mile 14.5 of the Suiattle Road, new trailhead parking is available just off the road. No Forest Pass required.



Photo: Gary Paull

## Buck Creek Campground

- Situated under a canopy of old-growth forest, Buck Creek campground has pleasant campsites along rushing Buck Creek. Explore the trails along the creek, or use it as a base for exploring other trails in the Suiattle River Valley.
- The campground entrance is to the north near mile 16 of the Suiattle Road. This coveted campground is expected to reopen in late 2015/2016.



Photo: Kim Brown

## Green Mountain Trail

- Experience spectacular views, alpine meadows and a historic lookout along the 8-mile (round-trip) Green Mountain trail.
- Near mile 19 of the Suiattle Road, turn north onto Forest Road #2680. Continue 6.5 miles to the trailhead. No Forest Pass required.



Photo: Dawn Erickson

## Downey Creek Trail

- Just beyond the new Downey Creek bridge, take this gentle valley bottom trail through beautiful forest as long as you'd like. At 6 miles, the rugged Bachelor Creek trail leads to the Cub Lake and Dome Peak area—a worthy trip for hardy anglers and climbers. A handful of campsites dot the trail.
- Just past the Downey Creek bridge you'll find the trailhead and parking lot (near mile 21 of the Suiattle Road). Northwest Forest Pass/ Recreation Pass required.



Photo: Gary Paull

## Sulphur Creek Campground and Trail

- Sulphur Creek has lots to offer—a campground and a short trail along Sulphur Creek. The Sulphur Creek trail takes you through old-growth forest along an ancient route across the Cascade Crest to Stehekin. Muddy warm springs a short mile up the valley give off a distinctive sulphurous scent.
- The campground is located near mile 22 of the Suiattle Road. The trailhead can be found across the road from the campground. Note: Campground will reopen in 2016.

## Suiattle River Trailhead

At the end of the road, the Suiattle trailhead provides access to a multitude of trails for hikers and equestrians that can take you deep into the Glacier Peak Wilderness. There is also great river access at the trailhead. Northwest Forest Pass/Recreation Pass required.



Photo: Kim Brown

- **Suiattle River Trail.** The Suiattle trail begins in magnificent old-growth forest along the Suiattle River. Big trees and mossy woods make for an easy family outing. The trail continues to a large suspension bridge across Canyon Creek at 6.5 miles before intersecting with the Pacific Crest Trail at the 7-mile mark.
- **Sulphur Mountain.** For a steep and rewarding climb, hike the 5-mile (one-way) Sulphur Mountain trail and enjoy in-your-face views of Glacier Peak and

unobstructed views to the south and west. The trail begins less than 100 yards up the Suiattle Trail from the trailhead.



Photo: Gary Paull

- **Milk Creek Trail.** Many have fond memories of the Milk Creek trail and the wonderful loop to the PCT and around Dolly Vista returning to the Suiattle. Unfortunately, the trail bridge over the Suiattle River was destroyed in the 2003 flood and has not been repaired. Many hope to see a new bridge and a revitalized Milk Creek trail in the near future.
- **Pacific Crest Trail (PCT).** From the junction with the Suiattle River trail, the PCT leads north to Suiattle Pass (11 miles) and beyond. Southbound travelers will find the trail climbing gently, then more energetically for the next 10 miles, before beginning the long drop into the Milk Creek Valley.
- **Miners Ridge Trail and Image Lake.** One of the most iconic views of the North Cascades awaits on the Miner's Ridge Trail at Image Lake. Requiring a multi-day commitment (it's 16 miles and 4,600-ft elevation gain each way), the trail heads north from the PCT about 2 miles east of the junction with the Suiattle Trail. The trail climbs steeply to Miner's Ridge and continues west to Miner's Ridge lookout and east to Image Lake and the vast meadows on Plummer Mountain, finally reconnecting to the PCT about 1.5 miles below Suiattle Pass.



Photo: Gary Paull

## Map and Permit Information

This map is intended to help you access hikes and sights along the Suiattle River Valley. Green Trails Maps are recommended for navigational purposes on hiking trails. You can purchase Green Trails Maps online at [www.greentrails.com](http://www.greentrails.com) or at a local vendor. Many recreation destinations require a pass:

**National Forest Recreation Day Pass:** \$5. Required at all Forest Service day use or entrance fee sites in Washington or Oregon. Available at National Forest offices and visitor centers, via private vendors, or [www.discovernw.org](http://www.discovernw.org).

**Northwest Forest Pass:** \$30. Annual pass honored at most National Forest day use or entrance fee sites in Washington or Oregon. Available at National Forest offices and visitor centers, via private vendors or [www.discovernw.org](http://www.discovernw.org).

**Interagency Annual Pass:** \$80. Annual pass honored at all federal recreation sites charging day use or entrance fees. Available at National Forest offices or [www.discovernw.org](http://www.discovernw.org)

**Interagency Senior Pass:** \$10. Lifetime pass for those 62 and older honored at all federal recreation sites charging day use or entrance fees. Passes issued in person; available at National Forest offices.

**Interagency Military Pass, Interagency Access Pass:** Free. Passes for active duty military and their dependents as well as individuals with a permanent disability honored at all federal sites charging day use or entrance fees. Passes issued in person; available at National Forest offices.

# About the Suiattle

After nearly a decade of closure and limited access, as of October 2014 the **Suiattle River Road** is open again to the public. It's time to rediscover this beloved place! The 23-mile road accesses the heart of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and the 566,000-acre Glacier Peak Wilderness. It also provides access to more than 120 miles of trail, two campgrounds, the wild and scenic Suiattle River, countless views, historic sites such as the Suiattle Guard Station and Green Mountain and Miner's Ridge lookouts, and the mighty Pacific Crest Trail. Get out and explore!



Photo: Gary Paull



## The Wilderness Society

[www.wilderness.org](http://www.wilderness.org), (206) 624-6430  
The Wilderness Society (TWS) protects wilderness and inspires Americans to care for our wild places in the North Cascades and beyond. TWS is committed to protecting the last great wild places of the region and making sure people can access and enjoy our public lands.



## Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

[www.fs.usda.gov/mbs](http://www.fs.usda.gov/mbs), (360) 436-1155 (Darrington Ranger District)  
The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is one of the most visited forests in the country, located east of Seattle, Washington on the west side of the Cascades between the Canadian border and Mt. Rainier National Park. The Darrington Ranger District serves the greater Darrington area and the ranger station is located just north of town on Highway 530.



## Washington Trails Association

[www.wta.org](http://www.wta.org), (206) 625-1367  
Washington Trails Association (WTA) preserves, enhances, and promotes hiking opportunities through collaboration, education, advocacy, and volunteer trail maintenance. Visit WTA's website to access a wealth of hiking resources, learn about volunteer opportunities and read trip reports for latest trail conditions.

*Visitor's Note: Due to the long closure of the Suiattle Road, it has been difficult to keep up with maintenance needs on the trails and campgrounds along the road. Expect some extra brush and potential obstacles. The Forest Service and partners like Washington Trails Association will be hard at work in the years to come to return the Suiattle to its former splendor. Lend a hand – visit [www.wta.org](http://www.wta.org) or the Darrington Ranger Station for more information.*

**Do your research. Be prepared. Carry the 10 essentials.**