

# Bluegrass Ridge Trail #647



## Recreation Opportunity Guide

Distance..... 6.1 miles (one way)  
Elevation..... 5150-5520 feet  
Snow Free ..... July to October



**Trail Highlights:** This trail is in the Mount Hood Wilderness Area on the east side of Mount Hood. The trail offers spectacular views of Mount Hood, Mount Adams and Mount Rainier.

**Trail Description:** This trail starts at its junction with Elk Meadows Trail #645/Gnarl Ridge Trail #652 (5,280') and ends at Elk Meadows Trail #645 (3,680'). Follow the trail uphill (east) from Elk Meadows Trail #645/Gnarl Ridge Trail #652 towards Elk Mountain. After 0.8 mile the trail reaches the junction with Elk Mountain Vista Trail #647C (5,600'). Turn left (north-northeast) on this trail (#647) and follow the ridge 1.3 miles to the junction with Elk Meadows- Bluegrass Tie Trail #647B (heads west, uphill). Continue north along the ridge 0.3 mile to the highpoint of the trail (5,680). Look for a rock outcropping with great views. The trail mainly follows the ridge, descending gradually for the next 4 miles to where the trail heads west-northwest (3,880). From here the trail descends 0.3 miles to Cold Spring Creek (3,620'). Cross the creek (BE CAREFUL DURING HIGH WATER!), continue 200 feet and cross another stream. From the creek, head uphill 0.1 mile to the end of this trail at the junction with Elk Meadows Trail #645 (3,680). To get to Polallie Trailhead(OR Hwy 35), turn right on Elk Meadows Trail #645 and travel 2.3 miles.

### Regulations & Leave No Trace Information:

- Group size is limited to 12. Stock are counted in the group size. For example, 3 people riding their own horse plus a spare horse in the group for packing would make a group of 7.

#### Leave No Trace

- Plan Ahead and Prepare: Prepare for extreme weather, hazards and emergencies.
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces: Use established trails and campsites.
- Dispose of Waste Properly: Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter.
- Leave What You Find: Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Minimize Campfire Impacts: Use established fire rings & keep fires small.
- Respect Wildlife: Control pets at all times.
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors: Avoid loud voices and noises.

For information on **Leave No Trace**, go to [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org) or call 1-800-332-4100

**For current trail conditions and more recreation information go to:**

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/mthood>

Map and driving directions on next page

Mt. Hood National Forest  
16400 Champion Way  
Sandy, OR 97055  
503-668-1700

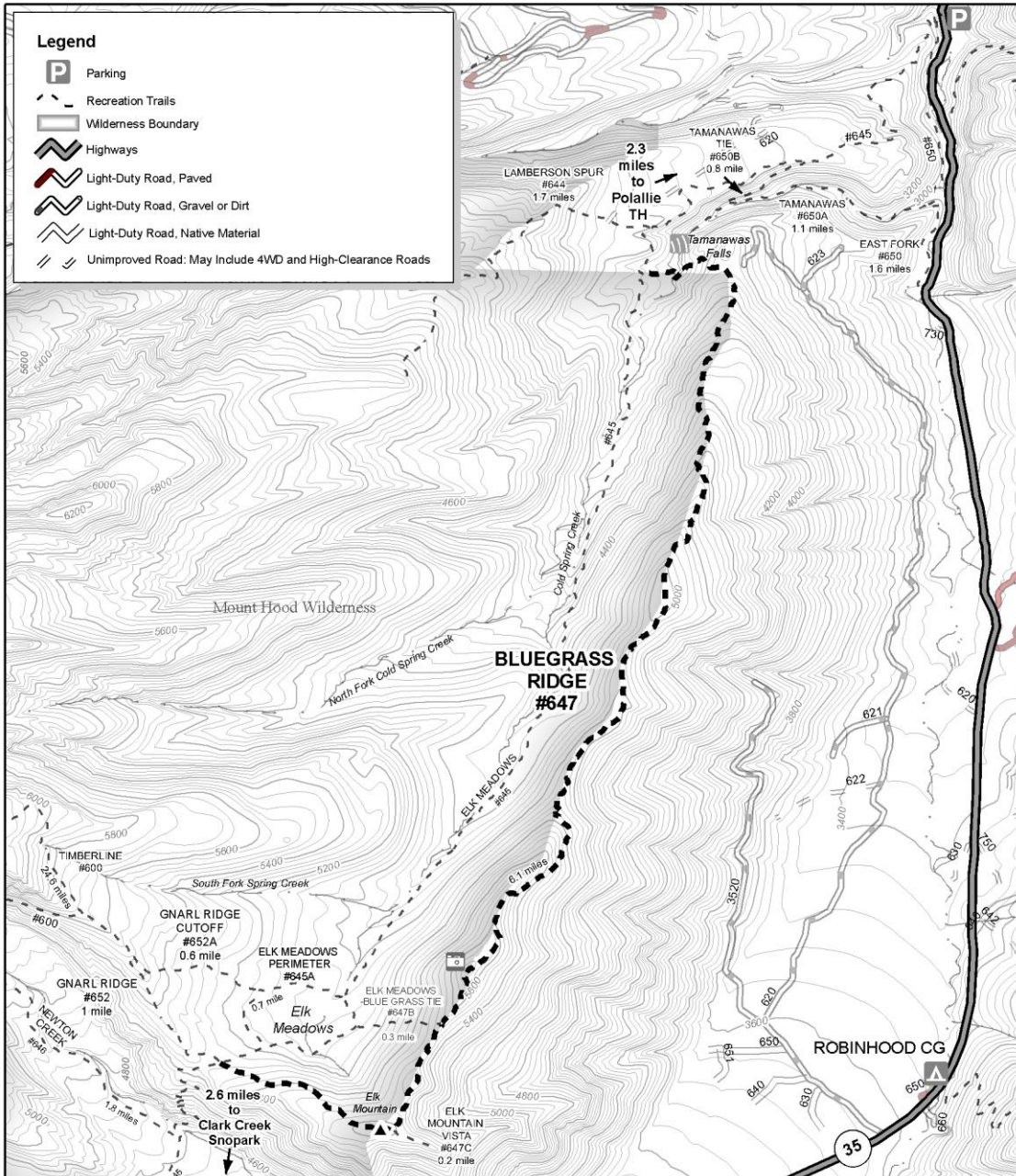
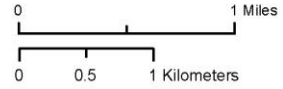
Hood River Ranger District  
6780 Hwy 35  
Parkdale, Oregon 97041  
541-352-6002

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



**Directions to Trailhead:** The trail is best accessed by Elk Meadows Trail #645 from the Clark Creek Snopark Trailhead or from Polallie Trailhead. To reach the Clark Creek Snopark from Portland, travel approximately 31 miles east of Sandy on US Hwy 26 to the intersection with Oregon Hwy 35. Turn north onto Oregon Hwy 35 and travel 8.1 miles to Clark Creek Snopark (Forest Road 3500-770). Follow Elk Meadows Trail #645 approximately 2.6 miles to the south end of this trail. To reach the Polallie Trailhead from Portland, follow the above directions to Oregon Hwy 35. Travel 16.5 miles north on Oregon Hwy 35 to Polallie Trailhead, approximately 0.7 miles north of milepost 73.

647 Bluegrass Ridge  
6.1 miles      9.9 km



**Recommended maps:** Hood River Ranger District

