

# Chinidere Mountain Trail #445



## Recreation Opportunity Guide

Distance..... 0.3 miles (one way)  
Elevation..... 4280-4670 feet  
Snow Free ..... July to October



**Trail Highlights:** This trail is in the Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness. Chinidere Mountain sits above Wahtum Lake and has one of the most expansive views in the Mark O. Hatfield Wilderness. You can see five glaciated volcanoes from here on a clear day. You can also see down Eagle Creek to the Columbia Gorge. There are possibilities for including a hike to the top of this mountain from several trails around Wahtum Lake. All of these make nice loops. Look for unique rock pits near the top.

**Trail Description:** This trail begins at the Pacific Crest Trail #2000 (4,280') and ends at the summit of Chinidere Mountain (4,670'). The easiest way to access this trail is to begin at the Wahtum Lake Trailhead and drop down to the Pacific Crest Trail #2000. Go east around the lake on #2000 and loop west up to the junction with the Herman Creek trail #406 and shortly afterward, the Chinidere Mtn Trail #445. This way is about 1.8 miles to the beginning of this trail from the Wahtum Lake Trailhead. A slightly shorter way starts at the Wahtum Lake Trailhead. Drop down to #2000 and go west 0.2 miles. Then follow the Eagle Creek Trail 0.1 mile to the lake's outlet and go north up the Chinidere Cutoff Trail #406M 0.1 mile to #2000. Follow #2000 300' west to the beginning of this trail. This route is steeper. Once at the Chinidere Mountain Trail #445, head northwest up several short switchbacks. The trail is easy to follow, and moderately steep. In only a half mile you are standing on one of the best summits around.

### Regulations & Leave No Trace Information:

- Wilderness Permits are required for trails leaving Wahtum Lake between May 15 and Oct 15. Permits are free and self-issued at a permit box station at the Wahtum Lake trailhead
- 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

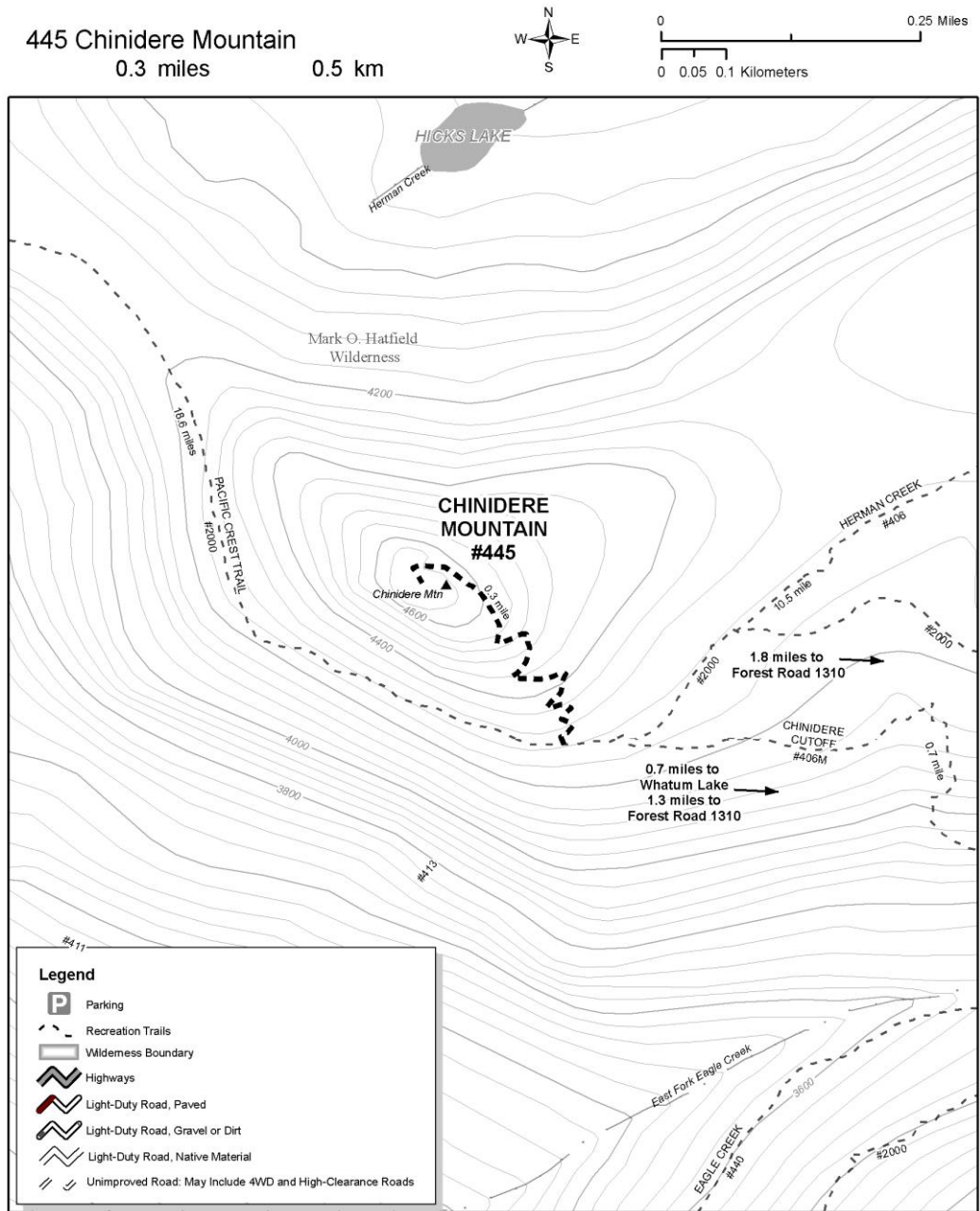
Mt. Hood National Forest  
16400 Champion Way  
Sandy, OR 97055  
503-668-1700

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

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**Directions to Trailhead:** From Hood River travel south on OR Hwy 281 Dee Highway (it goes past the Hood River airport) about 11.5 miles to the Lost Lake turn-off. Bear right here and cross the East Fork of the Hood River. Keep to the left and follow the signs as if going to Lost Lake. One half mile after crossing the West Fork of the Hood River, a signed junction will indicate Waatum Lake to the right (Forest Road 13); take this road. Although paved, this is a narrow road, during the summer expect heavy traffic. At the next intersection (4+ miles), keep right onto the Forest Road 1310. This road is even narrower and traffic may be just as heavy. Stay on the pavement until Waatum Lake Campground is reached. This is the trailhead for trails heading down to and around Waatum Lake. Chinidere Mountain Trail #445 begins to the north above Waatum Lake on the Pacific Crest Trail #2000. You will find it just west of the PCT #2000, #406M junction.



**Recommended maps:** Hood River Ranger District

