

# Little Crater Lake Trail #500



## Recreation Opportunity Guide

Distance..... 0.3 miles (one way)  
Elevation..... 3200-3250 feet  
Snow Free ..... June to October



Easier

**Trail Highlights:** This trail carves through Little Crater Meadow, to Little Crater Lake, and then on to the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. Little Crater Lake is 45' ft. deep and spring-fed from the bottom, and from Little Crater Creek. The lake was formed by dissolving limestone and is not of volcanic origin. It remains near 34 degrees Fahrenheit year round because of the properties of the aquifer that feed it. This trail also provides access to the many trails around Timothy Lake.

**Trail Description:** This trail is a flat, barrier-free trail from the trailhead to Little Crater Lake (0.15 mile). There is a viewing platform, bench, and information sign at Little Crater Lake. The trail continues 0.15 mile past the lake to the Pacific Crest Trail #2000.

### Regulations & Leave No Trace Information:

- Please stay on the developed trails.
- Swimming is not allowed in Little Crater Lake.
- To reduce user conflict, bikes are not allowed on this connector trail.

#### 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

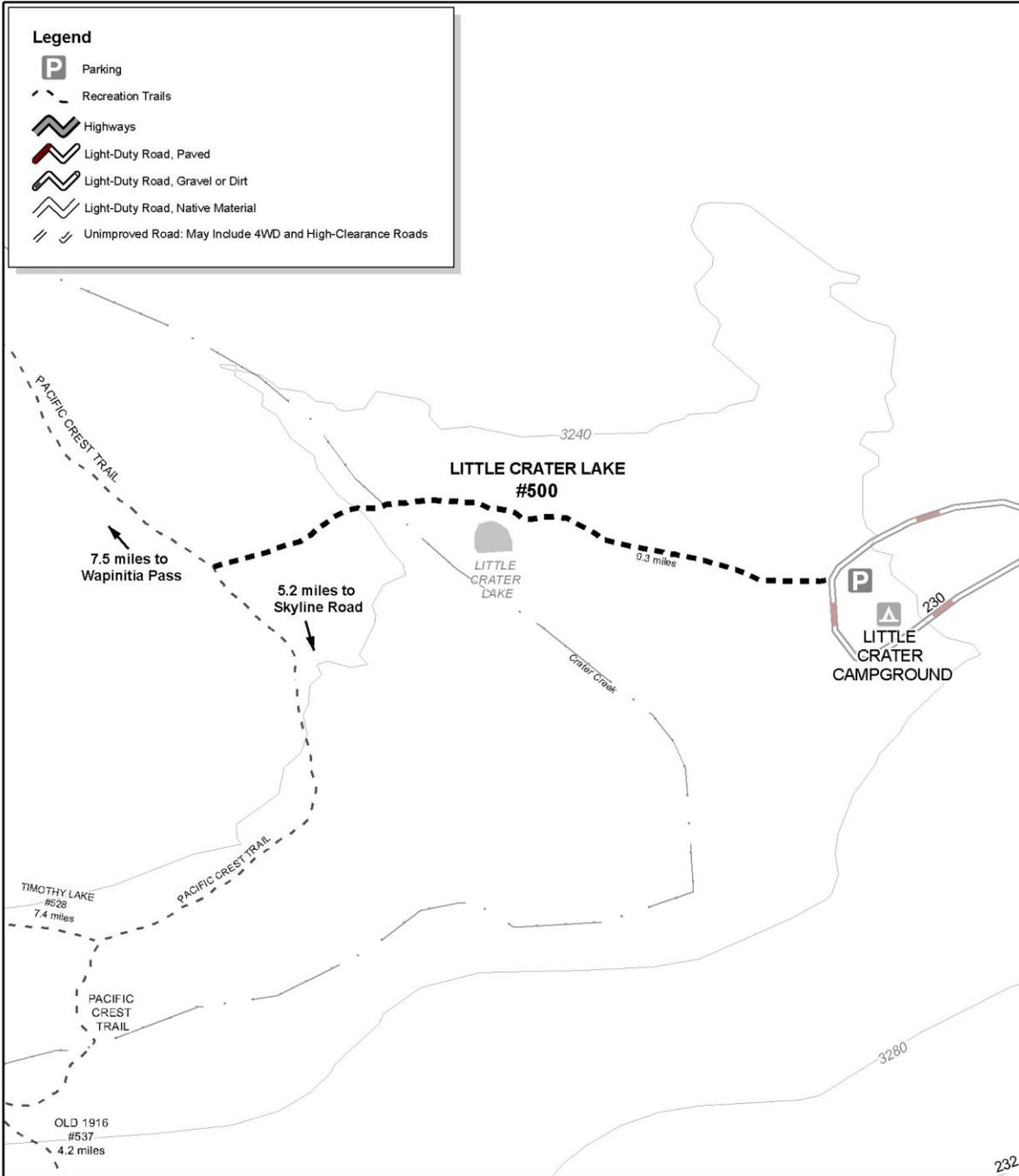
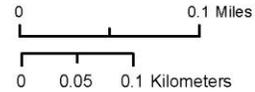
Zigzag Ranger District  
70220 E. Highway 26  
Zigzag, Oregon 97049  
503-622-3191

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**Directions to Trailhead:** From Portland, take U.S. Hwy 26 40.2 miles southeast of Sandy to Skyline Road (Forest Road 42). Turn right (west) at Skyline Road (Forest Road 42) and travel 1.1 miles to Forest Road 2660. Drive 2.5 miles on Forest Road 2660 and turn left at Abbott Road (Forest Road 58). Travel 1.7 miles to the Little Crater Lake Campground and turn right (west) into the campground. Follow the campground road west to the trailhead parking.

500 LITTLE CRATER LAKE  
0.3 miles 0.5 km



**Recommended maps:** Zigzag Ranger District

