

Route. From Hayden Pass, go S around Sentinel Peak on the W side of the ridge. Contour southerly, bypassing Sentinel's Sister (formerly Peak 6301) to the E. Continue S on game trails and meadows. Stay as high as possible to avoid the worst of the slide-alder fields and avalanche debris. Dropping too low means a long day of brushwhacking and eventually having to climb back up steep hills in order to get past a cliff that stretches across Silt Creek canyon.

After traversing about 1.5 miles, begin dropping toward Silt Creek. This is made easier by occasional large alpine meadows on gentle slopes. Eventually this path leads toward a hump in the landscape. Attaining this hump gives one the first full view of the moraine below Eel Glacier. Due to glacial shrinking in the last decade, it is nearly a mile to the tongue of the glacier from this point.

Eel Glacier is moderate but presents crevasse hazards up to 10 ft wide, encroaching one-third of the way in from either side of the glacier. Climb to the obvious notch (Flypaper Pass) at the head of the glacier W of the summit of Mt. Anderson. A very steep chute descends S to the moderate Anderson Glacier from the pass. Descend Anderson Glacier, which now reaches less than halfway to the terminal lake, and climb the moraine to the E of the lake. Heading SE, the route soon arrives at a small pond and several campsites in the meadows. A good way trail leads from the meadow to Anderson Pass. **Note:** A direct route to the Quinault drainage from the Anderson Glacier should not be attempted, as it leads to severe cliffs.

THE BAILEY RANGE TRAVERSES

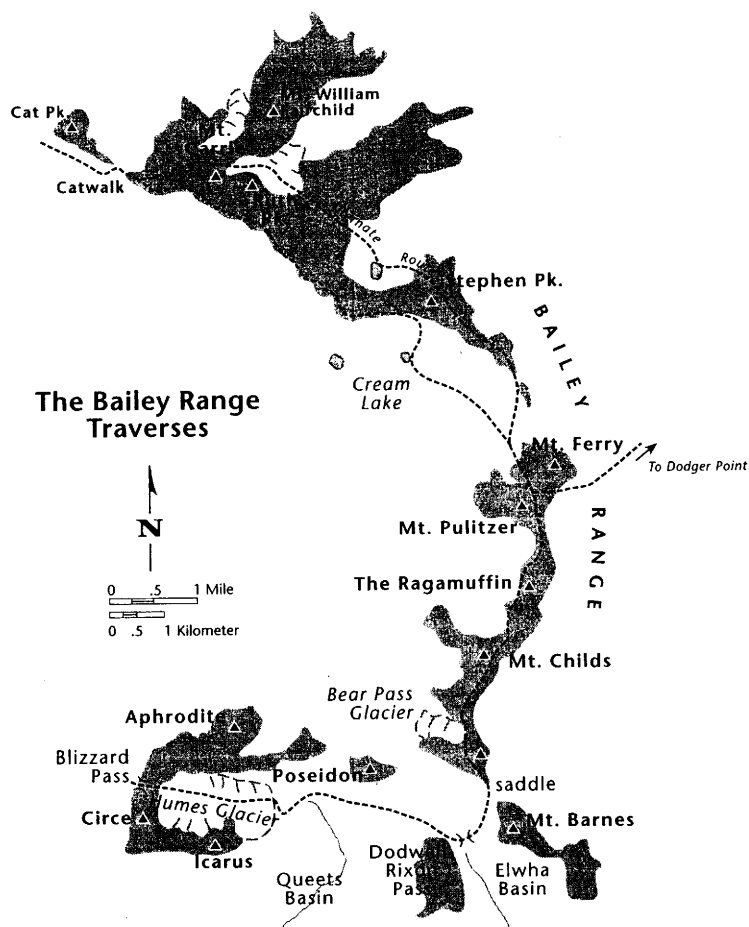
The spectacular Bailey Range is a crescent-shaped range of mountains with commanding views at every turn. This isolated range circles the Mt. Olympus Massif from N to SE following the curve of the Hoh River.

Through the use of these cross-country routes (plus the Skyline Trail from Low Divide to the North Fork Quinault River trailhead via the ridge between the Queets and Quinault rivers), it is possible to cross the Olympics from north to south almost entirely in high, scenic country. The routes are described in sections but can be done in one grand traverse or a few sections at a time. Some segments offer enjoyment as day trips for strong hikers. Examples of the many possibilities are:

- *five days:* one-way trip from Boulder Creek trailhead to Whiskey Bend trailhead via Appleton Pass to Cat Basin, Cat Basin to Mt. Ferry, and Mt. Ferry to Dodger Point, using trail from Dodger Point to Elwha River trail (record time: 13 hrs, Sam Baker, 1996)
- *six days:* one-way trip from Sol Duc trailhead to the Hoh Visitors Center via Sol Duc River trail to Appleton Pass, Appleton Pass to Cat Basin, Cat Basin to Mt. Ferry, Mt. Ferry to Queets Basin, and Queets Basin to Glacier Meadows and Hoh River trail

- *seven days*: a giant loop trip in reverse from Hoh Visitors Center via Hoh River trail to Glacier Meadows, Glacier Meadows to Queets Basin, Queets Basin to Mt. Ferry, Mt. Ferry to Cat Basin, then High Divide trail and Hoh Lake trail back to Hoh River trail

The traverse via Cat Basin to Mt. Ferry, Mt. Ferry to Queets Basin, and Queets Basin to Elwha Basin is the classic "Crisler Route" made popular by Herb Crisler, who photographed the Disney film *Olympic Elk* in the Bailey Range in the 1930s and early 1940s. The route was first traveled by Billy Everett, who reached Cream Lake Basin in 1885 at the age of 16. Billy made the traverse many times and may have been the first man to climb Mt. Carrie, Mt. Fitzhenry, and others in the range. Before the maintained trails were built in Olympic National Park, travel along the high ridges was easier in many places than crashing up



the brushy river valleys. Some of these high routes were followed years ago by hunters, trappers, prospectors, and mountain men.

The Baileys offer some of the finest high country the Olympics have to offer, and although much of it is "trail" now due to its worldwide attention and popularity, it is still a challenge for routefinding in many areas, especially in bad weather. These trails consist of long or short sections of continuous game trail that sometimes end at gullies, meadows, etc., where you need to descend, traverse, or ascend until you find the next section of trail. The best way to describe routefinding in the Baileys is: stop, drop your pack, and find the trail using your navigation aids before proceeding. These trails usually are the least difficult path through rugged terrain. When in open meadows, the path usually peters out, only to be picked up again at the next difficult spot.

Lone Tree Pass; Bailey Range Traverse (Tony DiBenedetto)



The GPS coordinates in this section [Waypoint] typically mark the beginning and end of trail sections. A Garmin Etrex was used for collection of this data. Map datum used was WGS84. Keep in mind that certain areas yield only 60–80 ft of accuracy because of geography, which equates to a large margin of error when trying to locate certain key spots on the route. It is therefore recommended that you use the route descriptions, maps, and a large amount of common sense when routefinding with a GPS.

Boulder Lake to Appleton Pass

This entire route is scenic and alpine, with less than 5 miles of off-trail travel. Since both ends of the route join trails from the Boulder Creek trailhead, this makes an excellent loop hike of 18 miles—13 miles on trail and 5 miles cross-country—which can be done in 2 days, or it can be done in a single day from the road by strong hikers.

Approaches

Boulder Lake. See Approach 1 in chapter 5, Mount Olympus–Bailey Range Group, Part I, Climbing Routes, to reach the Boulder Creek trailhead. The lake is 5.9 miles by trail from this trailhead.

Appleton Pass. See above to reach Boulder Creek trailhead; the pass is 5.2 miles by trail from this trailhead. Or see Approach 2 in chapter 5, Mount Olympus–Bailey Range Group, Part I, Climbing Routes, to reach the Sol Duc River trailhead. The pass is 7.7 miles by trail from this trailhead.

Map

Custom Correct (15-minute scale): Seven Lakes Basin–Hoh

Route. From Boulder Lake follow a way trail (see the peaks map for chapter 5 in Part I) that contours at 4500 ft S to Lower Three Horse Lake. Continue up the drainage a short distance W of lower Three Horse Lake. Look for a way trail beginning near a large rock, ascending the E side of the gully that drains the basin W of Everett Peak. Hike on trail into this basin. From the pass in the ridge joining Everett Peak with the main ridge, descend SE through meadows on trail to Blue Lake.

From here, the route is S again, on the flat ridge just E of Blue Lake. Follow this ridge S into another basin where scenic Mud Lake (not on the Custom Correct map) lies under the N face of Mt. Appleton. From Mud Lake, climb SW up a permanent 30-degree snowfield to a notch separating the basin from the Sol Duc drainage. If the snow slope is too icy, climb to a lower notch via elk trails, just WSW of Mud Lake, and north of the first notch.

Descend scree to the large basins of the tributary of the North Fork Sol Duc River. Hold to the upper basin and traverse S to reach the ridge separating this

drainage from the main Sol Duc River drainage. This ridge should be gained at about 5500 ft. Next, contour the S side of Peak 6100, located NW of Appleton Pass, reaching the Appleton Pass trail one or two switchbacks S of the pass. This unnamed 6100-ft summit, higher than Mt. Appleton, is located on the main ridge and thus is frequently confused with Mt. Appleton, which is 0.5 mile to the N.

An alternate route from the upper North Fork Sol Duc River is to climb to the saddle between the two peaks and then descend southeasterly to the Appleton Pass trail.

Appleton Pass to Cat Basin

The traverse from Appleton Pass to Cat Basin provides about 5 miles of off-trail travel, an easy one-day trip. It can be done from the road by strong hikers in a long day, returning to either the Boulder Creek trailhead via the preceding traverse or to the Sol Duc River road via the Sol Duc River trail. The total journey involves about 20 miles of trail travel in addition to the traverse.

Approaches

Appleton Pass. See Approaches in preceding traverse.

Cat Basin. The basin can be reached by 7.7 miles of trail via the High Divide trail, which can be reached by 12.5 miles of trail via the Sol Duc River trail.

Waypoint List

Note: The following GPS waypoints were taken with the Map Datum set to WGS 84.

2a	Trail to Cat Basin begins	N47° 55' 59.8"	W123° 42' 01.2"
2b	Trail crosses good running water	N47° 55' 51.0"	W123° 42' 49.5"
2c	Trail end in basin	N47° 54' 52.7"	W123° 42' 22.3"
2d	Swimming Bear Lake	N47° 54' 47.0"	W123° 42' 56.0"

Map

Custom Correct (15-minute scale): Seven Lakes Basin-Hoh

Route. From Appleton Pass, go E and S in scenic alpland along the ridge separating the Sol Duc River from Boulder and Schoeffel creeks. In about 1 mile, on the E side of a large, open meadow on the Sol Duc side of the ridge, pick up a well-beaten trail [2a] through the trees. Traverse on the trail past small but good running water [2b] and up through a notch in the ridge that intersects the ridge bounding Cat Creek on the W.

Continue SW from this notch on the trail through cirques and trees on the Cat Creek side of the ridge. The trail ends [2c] above 5000 ft in an open basin on the Cat Creek side of the ridge, located S of Haigs Lake on the Custom Correct

map. Descend WSW into the basin, traverse through it, then ascend a total of 0.4 mile WSW to Swimming Bear Lake [2d] (not on the map). Pick up the trail again just S of the lake and follow it 0.5 mile S to the High Divide trail.

Cat Basin to Mount Ferry

Though the distance is less than 10 miles, a full day should be allowed for this section, since routefinding between Mt. Carrie and Cream Lake Basin can slow the pace. An early start is advised, for campsites are infrequent and marginal between "Boston Charlie's Camp" and Cream Lake. In bad weather, a retreat out to Dodger Point and the Whiskey Bend trailhead on the Elhwa River trail can be done in one long day, but it is better to allow two days for most parties.

Approaches

Cat Basin. See the preceding traverse.

Mount Ferry. See the preceding traverse. Also see Mount Ferry to Dodger Point and Mount Ferry to Queets Basin.

Waypoint List

Note: The following GPS waypoints were taken with the Map Datum set to WGS 84.

Boston	Boston Charlie's camp on the Cat Walk	N47° 53' 27.5"	W123° 40' 00.1"
Trljnt	Junction with Carrie summit route	N47° 53' 25.2"	W123° 39' 47.2"
3a	Eleven Bull Basin	N47° 52' 57.9"	W123° 38' 24.2"
3b	Spur ridge of Peak 5978	N47° 52' 00.6"	W123° 37' 18.0"
3c	Trail en route	N47° 51' 59.2"	W123° 37' 07.2"
3d	Leave trail here, ascend up and right	N47° 51' 56.7"	W123° 36' 47.7"
3e	Pick up trail in meadow	N47° 51' 58.9"	W123° 36' 46.5"
3f	Trail en route	N47° 52' 04.0"	W123° 36' 41.0"
3g	Below cliffs in meadow above Cream Lake	N47° 51' 55.2"	W123° 36' 01.0"
3h	Descend through steep meadow, no trail	N47° 51' 47.1"	W123° 36' 01.4"
3i	Cream Lake	N47° 51' 38.0"	W123° 36' 05.0"
3j	Point to ascend up to Ferry Basin	N47° 51' 28.7"	W123° 35' 36.1"
3k	Upper Valley between Ferry and Pulitzer	N47° 50' 28.1"	W123° 34' 34.4"
Saddle	Ferry-Pulitzer saddle	N47° 50' 18.5"	W123° 34' 10.1"
LoneTr	Lone Tree Pass	N47° 49' 49.7"	W123° 34' 09.6"

Map

Custom Correct (15-minute scale): Mount Olympus (Climbers Map)

Route. From Cat Basin, the High Divide trail continues SE to a dead end in rock cliffs between Cat Peak and Mt. Carrie. This unfinished trail was under construction but was stopped at the beginning of U.S. involvement in WWII. It would have joined the trail at Dodger Point. From the trail end, climb a few hundred feet to the ridge crest, a narrow, steep, brushy arête known as "The Catwalk," which is less difficult than it appears (see traverse map in this section). Continue SE along "The Catwalk," either on the crest or a few feet down the N or S side, allowing an hour to traverse this arête. Just across "The Catwalk" is "Boston Charlie's" camp [Boston], named for an early mountain man.

From "Boston Charlie's" the trail gains several hundred feet in elevation and traverses the grassy S shoulder [Tr]Jnt of Mt. Carrie. Continue on trail SE to Eleven Bull Basin [3a] in 1.5 hours travel from "Boston Charlie's." There is good running water here. Proceed SE on the well-beaten path, traversing between 5000 ft and 5500 ft, to the spur ridge [3b] SW of Peak 5978. This is the prominent forested ridge that juts out and is visible from the shoulder of Carrie. This path stops at the larger gullies but is attained again usually by descending to the other side. The main difficulty is the many gullies to be crossed.

Contour around the spur ridge [3b] SW of Peak 5978. Continue around on the trail [3c] for about 0.5 mile where the first view of lower Cream Lake is visible. Leave the main trail at the point [3d] just before the trail begins a steady descent. A cairn may mark the spot. (The reason for leaving the trail, which is very major at this point, is because it funnels people down and ends in less than 0.5 mile in dense slide alder and avalanche debris.) After leaving the trail at the cairn, the route ascends NE, traversing several hundred feet to a meadow [3e]. Find faint game trails [3f] that become more prominent below cliff bands but above tree bands. Continue traversing around until you are directly above Cream Lake [3g] on a large, grassy bench below cliffs.

At this point, don't be fooled by staying high. The terrain is not as easy as it appears. Descend 700 ft to Cream Lake on steep meadow [3h], entering forest just E of the lake. From Cream Lake [3i], which is an old Crisler campsite, head ESE 0.5 mile, staying to the N of the basin. The route crosses the stream a few times and goes through stands of trees to [3j] the gradual rising terrain of lower Ferry Basin. The area to the W of Mt. Ferry is open, travel is easy, campsites abound, and tarns dot the landscape. From Mt. Ferry Basin, there are three possible routes to the crest of the Bailey Range.

(1) The summit of Mt. Ferry can be traversed, and though not difficult, this entails the most work.

(2) The valley [3k] between Mt. Ferry and Mt. Pulitzer is easy to ascend past the remnant glacier to the broad saddle [Saddle] and is the most popular route.

(3) A more difficult, scenic route is the heather meadows S of Pulitzer leading up to Lone Tree Pass [LoneTr] S of Pulitzer.

Once on top of the Bailey Ridge crest, travel is simple to the E of both Pulitzer and Ferry on broad, grassy benches. From the saddle, routes continue either S to Queets Basin or E to Dodger Point (see below).

Boston Charlie's to Mount Ferry via Mount Carrie

On this scenic and interesting climbing route, there is considerable elevation gain and loss. Allow a full day for this. The route involves glacier travel and should not be attempted by inexperienced climbers. Crampons are recommended. This route should only be attempted in early season due to a steep pitch of snow on the eastern finger of the Carrie Glacier, which becomes ice midseason (or be prepared to ice climb!).

Approach

See the preceding traverse.

Waypoint List

Note: The following GPS waypoints were taken with the Map Datum set to WGS 84.

Boston	Boston Charlie's camp on The Catwalk	N47° 53' 27.5"	W123° 40' 00.1"
Trljnt	Main route and Carrie summit junction	N47° 53' 25.2"	W123° 39' 47.2"
4a	Enter small canyon	N47° 53' 37.7"	W123° 39' 18.6"
4b	Begin traverse in cirque	N47° 53' 43.2"	W123° 39' 11.6"
4c	Mt. Carrie	N47° 53' 39.3"	W123° 38' 57.8"
4d	Drop onto glacier SE of Carrie	N47° 53' 34.6"	W123° 38' 55.0"
4e	Traverse on Carrie Glacier	N47° 53' 23.7"	W123° 37' 57.7"
4f	Notch in ridge	N47° 53' 15.9"	W123° 37' 31.0"
4g	Stephen Lake	N47° 52' 35.3"	W123° 36' 38.6"
4h	Base of Stephen	N47° 52' 28.4"	W123° 36' 11.1"
4i	Upper snowfield of Stephen	N47° 52' 19.9"	W123° 35' 50.3"
4j	NE ridge of Stephen	N47° 52' 13.7"	W123° 35' 42.0"
4k	SE ridge of Stephen	N47° 51' 57.3"	W123° 35' 18.6"
4l	Small peak	N47° 51' 40.4"	W123° 34' 43.0"
4m	Drop into Ferry Basin	N47° 51' 21.8"	W123° 34' 32.7"

Map

Custom Correct (15-minute scale): Mount Olympus (Climbers Map)

Note: There are discrepancies in glacier names between Custom Correct and 7.5-minute USGS maps regarding the Carrie and Fairchild glaciers.

Route. From Boston Charlie's [Boston], follow the trail ascending several hundred feet in elevation. At the trail junction [Trljnt] on the broad Carrie shoulder, follow the left path along the NE ridge to a small canyon [4a]. Traverse through the canyon, then move off the ridge [4b]. Follow a faint climbers path E then SE, traversing on sharp scree and snow through a cirque below Carrie's NW ridge. Attain the ridge just NW of Mt. Carrie.

From the Carrie summit [4c], descend 150 ft on the SE Carrie ridge [4d] and drop onto the Carrie Glacier. Descend E, 900 ft down the Carrie Glacier, along a visible and unique snow ridge. Continue ESE [4e], traversing well below Ruth Peak. Proceed ESE, ascending the steep eastern finger of the Carrie Glacier. Climb well to the right of the large rock buttress to avoid rockfall. Cross through a notch [4f] at 6400 ft in a NE spur ridge that intersects the Bailey Ridge crest and bounds the Carrie Glacier. This notch is directly S of Peak 6563. From the notch, follow a ramp down into a right-curving, snowy basin on moderate terrain to Stephen Lake [4g]. Stephen Lake is the large unnamed lake W of Stephen Peak.

From Stephen Lake, proceed E to the base of Stephen Peak [4h]. Ascend a broad couloir SE on steep scree and snow. Attain an upper snowfield [4i] and continue to a broad ridge [4j] NE and a few hundred feet below Stephen Peak. Descend SE from here, traversing to pick up a broad bench [4k] on the ridge SE of Stephen Peak. Follow the curving ridge SE then SSE, going over small peaks [4l] and traversing left or right to avoid difficulties. Drop into upper Ferry Basin [4m] where it is easy to do so, just before Peak 5616. For routes from Ferry Basin, see the preceding traverse.

Mount Ferry to Dodger Point

Distance for this section is about 4 miles, and it can be traveled in a half a day or less. This is a good route to use either as a retreat from the Bailey Range or to divide the Bailey Range traverse into smaller sections. Newcomers frequently get off route on this section by dropping off the ridge to Scott-Ludden saddle too soon or by missing the short 0.25-mile path from the saddle to the abandoned trail on Dodger Point.

Approaches

Mount Ferry. See the preceding and next traverses.

Dodger Point. See Approach 3 in chapter 6, Quinault Group, Part I, Climbing Routes, to reach the Whiskey Bend trailhead. Dodger Point is 13 miles from Whiskey Bend via the Elwha River and Long Ridge trails.

Waypoint List

Note: The following GPS waypoints were taken with the Map Datum set to WGS 84.

Saddle	Ferry-Pulitzer saddle	N47° 50' 18.5"	W123° 34' 10.1"
5a	Broad bench SE of Mt. Ferry	N47° 50' 29.1"	W123° 34' 02.8"
5b	Steep drop on to ridge trail	N47° 50' 28.8"	W123° 33' 56.1"
5c	Drop off ridge to Scott-Ludden saddle	N47° 51' 09.4"	W123° 32' 39.2"
5d	Scott-Ludden saddle	N47° 51' 03.0"	W123° 32' 17.0"
5e	Drop off from saddle	N47° 51' 04.3"	W123° 32' 11.1"
5f	Begin traverse on trail	N47° 51' 07.9"	W123° 32' 08.9"
5g	Trail en route	N47° 51' 13.3"	W123° 32' 08.8"
5h	Crisler's Ladder	N47° 51' 19.5"	W123° 32' 09.0"
5i	Beginning of abandoned trail to Dodger Pt.	N47° 51' 25.3"	W123° 32' 09.0"

Map

Custom Correct (15-minute scale): Elwha Valley

Route. From the Ferry-Pulitzer saddle [Saddle], ascend a small canyon NE 200 ft to the broad bench [5a] E of the summit of Mt. Ferry; proceed E a short distance, then descend [5b] the ridge E to the saddle at the headwaters of Long Creek. The descent is not difficult but has one short, steep place.

Continue NE on a well-beaten path in open meadows on the ridge that divides Long Creek and the Goldie River. The ridge becomes narrow and rocky but passable, the route crossing back and forth. Just before reaching the cliffs of Ludden Peak, the path traverses on the right (SE) side; here the path becomes major again and drops into the meadow [5c] directly above the Scott-Ludden saddle. Descend on trail through the meadow and forest to the Scott-Ludden saddle [5d], where there is an excellent camp, with water, in the meadow to the S.

From the Scott-Ludden saddle, proceed NE, staying in the gully of the saddle, hiking over a small rock wall [5e]. Descend 250 ft on a faint trail over rocky terrain to pick up a good trail [5f] that is visible as you descend. Traverse N up and down on trail [5g] for 0.2 mile, ending at the "Crisler's Ladder" [5h]. From here, drop 30 ft straight into a major gully on roots and vines with good handholds. This spot is particularly difficult to find from the other direction. The gully, with running water, sometimes snow-filled, is a steep V-shaped ravine that narrows at the Crisler's Ladder, opens out, and drops into cliffs below.

Ascend N 400 ft up the right side of the very steep gully on a faint trail to "Hanging Rock" [5i] (a small rock hanging from a fir tree that has been there at least 15 years) and the beginning of the abandoned trail to Dodger Point.

An alternate and more difficult route from the Long-Goldie divide involves climbing over the summit of Ludden Peak and then descending steep cliff bands to the E to gain the trail to Dodger Point.

Mount Ferry to Queets Basin

This route covers about 6 miles and is an easy day in good conditions. However, like most of the Bailey Range, it is very exposed to storms and fog. Much of it is on snow or well-beaten path over easy summits along the Bailey ridge crest. There is a steep drop-off into the Goldie drainage to the E. Most of the route stays close to this drop-off. It is a good landmark in bad weather.

Queets Basin is spectacular and vast, offering many opportunities for camping, exploration, and wildlife viewing. Bears and coyotes are often seen in the basin. The upper basin at Dodwell-Rixon Pass may be snowed in, depending on the time of year and that season's snowfall.

Approach

See the preceding and next traverses.

Waypoint List

Note: The following GPS waypoints were taken with the Map Datum set to WGS 84.

Saddle	Ferry-Pulitzer saddle	N47° 50' 18.5"	W123° 34' 10.1"
LoneTr	Lone Tree Pass	N47° 49' 49.7"	W123° 34' 09.6"
6a	Top of snow slope	N47° 49' 36.6"	W123° 34' 16.3"
6b	Top of Peak 6073	N47° 49' 16.3"	W123° 34' 25.8"
6c	Point to drop off the broad barren ridge	N47° 49' 15.1"	W123° 34' 22.3"
6d	Faint trail down to snow	N47° 49' 12.0"	W123° 34' 28.4"
6e	Begin traversing to rock outcropping	N47° 49' 05.8"	W123° 34' 37.3"
6f	Rock outcropping	N47° 48' 50.9"	W123° 34' 53.9"
6g	Low point in ridge to cross	N47° 48' 47.0"	W123° 34' 51.3"
6h	Snow-filled canyon	N47° 48' 37.4"	W123° 35' 03.6"
6i	Traverse on snow and rock	N47° 48' 25.9"	W123° 35' 14.3"
6j	Join up with Bailey ridge crest	N47° 48' 15.2"	W123° 35' 16.8"
6k	Trail to saddle [6l]	N47° 47' 40.5"	W123° 35' 12.9"
6l	Saddle between Peak 5833 and Mt. Barnes	N47° 47' 28.6"	W123° 35' 01.0"
DodRix	Dodwell-Rixon Pass	N47° 47' 05.8"	W123° 35' 36.5"

Map

USGS 7.5-minute series: Mount Queets

Route. From the broad saddle [Saddle] between Ferry and Peak 6283 (Pulitzer), ascend the E shoulder of Pulitzer and descend to Lone Tree Pass [LoneTr]. Elk are often seen below here in the Goldie basin. From here, ascend S to the top



Mount Childs from the north; on the Bailey Traverse (Tony DiBenedetto)

of the snow slope [6a] and continue SSW along the ridge crest to the top of Peak 6073 [6b], 0.8 mile from Lone Tree.

Descend on trail SE 100 ft on the broad, barren ridge. Drop SW off the ridge [6c], descending 300 ft into a shallow, broad, snow-filled gully, following a faint trail [6d] then on snow to 5600 ft [6e]. Traverse SW 0.5 mile on a moderate, NW-facing snow slope to the top of a rock outcropping [6f] visible on the map NE of Peak 6193 (Mt. Childs). From here, cut left SSE, ascending 100 ft to a low point [6g] in the ridge, and drop into a snow-filled canyon. Hike southerly 0.8 mile with Mt. Childs and sharp needle peaks to the W. The route goes through the canyon [6h], then traverses on snow [6i] and rock to join up with the Bailey ridge crest [6j], 0.3 mile SE of Peak 5961.

There is much confusion and conflicting map data regarding the location of Bear Pass. For our purposes, we will consider Bear Pass to be the large unnamed glacier E of Peak 5833.

Descend to, then ascend S on "Bear Pass Glacier" to a point SSW of Peak 5833 that overlooks Queets Basin. Pick up a good trail [6k] below the peak and go down the SSE ridge to the broad saddle [6l] between Peak 5833 and Mt. Barnes. From here, descend on easy terrain SW into the Queets Basin to Dodwell-Rixon Pass [DodRix].

Queets Basin to Elwha Basin

The route through upper Queets Basin over Dodwell-Rixon Pass and down the Elwha Snow Finger to Elwha Basin is about 4 miles, with a 2000-ft loss in elevation. The descent takes several hours. This cross-country route ends at the terminus of the Elwha River trail in a meadow at the confluence of the Elwha River and the creek draining Mt. Noyes. This location is marked as Elwha Basin

on the USGS map. This is a good route for access to or retreat from the high country and a good way of ending a traverse of the entire Bailey Range. It is also a natural link with the trails or routes out of Low Divide.

Approaches

Queets Basin. See the preceding and next traverses.

Elwha Basin. See Approach 3 in chapter 6, Quinault Group, Part I, Climbing Routes, to reach the Whiskey Bend trailhead; see Approach 1 in chapter 6, Part I, to reach the North Fork Quinault River trailhead. Elwha Basin is 28.2 miles by trail from Whiskey Bend and 20.8 miles by trail from the end of the North Fork Quinault River road via Low Divide.

Map

USGS 7.5-minute series: Mount Queets

Route. Dodwell-Rixon Pass (see the preceding traverse) is located in a somewhat hidden notch in the SE corner of upper Queets Basin. This natural approach to the high country was one of the first used by explorers, surveyors, and mountaineers. The early historic ascents of Mt. Olympus were done via this route. The position of the pass should be determined and a compass bearing noted before traveling the area, in case of poor visibility en route.

From Dodwell-Rixon Pass, the moderate Elwha Snow Finger descends SE to the upper Elwha River. This is not a glacier, but it can be large and may last all year. Avalanches from Mt. Queets, Mt. Meany, Mt. Barnes, and Mt. Noyes pour tons of snow and debris onto the Elwha Snow Finger each year, mostly in winter and spring. The Elwha Snow Finger has receded dramatically in recent years. Hard glacier ice, crevasses, melt holes, snow bridges, and debris have been encountered, even in midseason. Lightweight crampons are recommended.

Proceed with caution down the snow finger to the "Big Snow Hump," a bulge caused by avalanches off Mt. Queets and Mt. Barnes. Follow the river down 0.9 mile on snow or rocks, depending on conditions. At 3400 ft look for cairns marking the start of a way trail leading to Elwha Basin. A faint trail leads up a brushy slope above where the river drops into a gorge. The route traverses a bench, crosses a ridge, then emerges into open meadows of Elwha Basin. This is near an unnamed stream and waterfalls from the E face of Mt. Queets. Descend open slopes to the river, which must be crossed to reach the end of the Elwha River trail.

An alternate route, which is a steep and difficult bushwhack, starts near the Big Snow Hump. Traverse a meadow on the NE side of the river 100 yards below the hump, cross a thin tree band, and follow game trail into the forest 30 ft above a 15-ft boulder. The trail rises 100 ft, then traverses, finally dropping to a stream. Cross and continue until the trail fades, then descend and

traverse toward a meadow visible across the river. Follow game trails to the maintained trail.

Queets Basin to Glacier Meadows

This route, across the NE side of Mt. Olympus, crosses three major glaciers and requires mountaineering skill, roped travel, and crevasse-rescue knowledge and equipment. Allow at least a full day for this traverse. For additional details on the area (including campsites), see chapter 6, Quinault Group, in Part I, Climbing Routes.

A note about travel once you get to the Humes Glacier and onto Glacier Meadows: Please be courteous of other climbers and prepare in advance to "blue-bag" your poop! There is a depository on the Blue Glacier Moraine. When the route is done in reverse, "blue bags" are available at the Glacier Meadows Ranger Station. They are required for glacier travel in this area.

Approaches

Queets Basin. See the preceding traverses.

Glacier Meadows. See Approach 3 in chapter 5, Mount Olympus-Bailey Range Group, Part I, Climbing Routes, to reach the Hoh River trailhead. Glacier Meadows is 17.5 miles by trail from the Hoh River road end.

Waypoint List

Note: The following GPS waypoints were taken with the Map Datum set to WGS 84.

DodRix	Dodwell-Rixon Pass	N47° 47' 05.8"	W123° 35' 36.5"
8a	Cross river	N47° 47' 28.1"	W123° 36' 15.4"
8b	Small bench	N47° 47' 20.5"	W123° 36' 41.0"
8c	Trail begins	N47° 47' 22.4"	W123° 36' 48.3"
8d	Trail below cliffs en route	N47° 47' 22.3"	W123° 36' 51.7"
8e	Trail through trees en route	N47° 47' 22.6"	W123° 37' 02.2"
8f	Trail end in meadow	N47° 47' 27.4"	W123° 37' 10.7"
8g	S end of basin	N47° 47' 33.6"	W123° 37' 10.3"
8h	Trail down begins	N47° 47' 35.7"	W123° 37' 25.7"
8i	Trail over ridge en route	N47° 47' 30.0"	W123° 37' 34.0"
8j	Trail end above gully	N47° 47' 30.0"	W123° 37' 38.6"
8k	North tributary off Humes Glacier	N47° 47' 24.0"	W123° 37' 46.7"
8l	Flat spot below headwall	N47° 47' 25.6"	W123° 38' 00.1"
8m	En route up to snout	N47° 47' 23.9"	W123° 38' 00.8"
8n	Humes snout (terminus)	N47° 47' 23.6"	W123° 38' 07.2"
8p	Blizzard Pass	N47° 47' 37.1"	W123° 39' 47.0"
8q	Camp Pan	N47° 47' 51.6"	W123° 39' 53.9"
8r	Glacier Pass	N47° 47' 56.5"	W123° 40' 59.4"
8s	Blue Glacier lateral moraine	N47° 49' 20.4"	W123° 40' 50.1"



Above Camp Pan; from left: Athena's Owl, Upper Hoh Glacier, and East Peak of Olympus (Tony DiBenedetto)


Map

USGS 7.5-minute series: Mount Queets, Mount Olympus

Note: Routefinding from Queets Basin and onto the Humes Glacier is tricky. See sketch on page 175 for additional information.

Route. From Dodwell-Rixon Pass [DodRix], descend NW 400 ft on easy open slopes. Cross the Queets River [8a] at 4400 ft to avoid the deep chasm below. The route is just below the steep slopes of the N rim of the Queets Basin. Continue down WNW to just above a small bench [8b] at 4200 ft. This spot is 0.3 mile NW of Peak 4478.

Ascend W 200 ft through a steep open meadow swath to directly below the base of the last cliff band of the Queets Basin rim. A good game trail [8c] leads below cliff bands [8d] and through dense trees [8e] at 4400 ft. The trail goes W, ascending 200 ft in 0.1 mile, and takes you easily through some difficult forested terrain, opening out in more moderate mixed forest and meadow at



4600 ft. Continue traversing at 4600 ft NW for another 0.1 mile and go around the forested ridge, staying above steep, dense forest. It opens out in meadow [8f]. Ascend N 200 ft over meadow and open terrain (no trail) to the S end of a beautiful hidden basin [8g] at 4800 ft. Navigate through this basin to the NW corner of it, staying above the top of the deep canyon of a tributary of the Queets River, which is shown on the USGS map.

Begin descending SW, staying near the canyon to the E. Look for a good game trail [8h] at 4650 ft. Follow this game trail, descending SW through dense forest over the rounded ridge [8i]. The trail angles W, dropping you into the snow-filled gully [8j] of the next tributary of the Queets at 4200 ft. Traverse at this elevation 0.1 mile SW through a few small gullies and rocky terrain to the next tributary [8k] of the Queets, which is the N drainage of the Humes Glacier. Follow this river upstream to the headwall below the Humes Glacier terminus. A flat spot [8l] below the headwall marks the start of the best route up to the terminus. Head up SSW 100 ft on a mossy, rocky meadow [8m], then ascend slabby rock ledges W 200 ft up to the terminus [8n]. For more detail, see the Bailey Range Traverses map at the beginning of this section and the sketch on page 175.

Ascend the glacier to Blizzard Pass [8p], which separates the Humes and Hoh glaciers. From Blizzard Pass, descend NE on snow, W of Peak 6533, then steep snow NW to Camp Pan [8q]. See Chapter 5, Olympus-Bailey Range Group, in Part I, Climbing Routes, regarding Camp Pan. From Pan drop SW onto the Hoh Glacier. Difficulty on the Hoh Glacier will depend on the time of year and may vary from one year to the next. Cross the Hoh Glacier to the W and climb to Glacier Pass [8r], which is S of Peak 7156 (Mt. Mathias). From Glacier Pass, descend the Blue Glacier on moderate slopes. Ascend the steep lateral moraine at its upper end [8s] and follow the trail on top of the moraine 1 mile down to Glacier Meadows. The depository for "blue bags" is visible on the way off the moraine. Camping on the moraine is no longer allowed.

An alternate route off the Blue Glacier is on the NE side, near the snout, where a trail joins the main trail to Glacier Meadows.