

Mount Saint Helens Wildlife Area

Interstate 5 to exit # 49, (Castle Rock, Toutle, SR 504 East). Follow State Route 504 to milepost 30.70. Turn left and at the bottom of the slope at the T, turn left again and park in a gravel lot. 46.328610,-122.415483

Ride back up to SR 504 and cross over to the gated road on the other side of the highway.

Animals should be shod unless tough footed. Bring water for the animals at your trailer if you want to water your horse after the ride. There is one fairly shallow stream to cross just as you reach the valley floor. You can water there and again before going back up the hill on the way back.

No dogs allowed! Do NOT crowd the elk (supposedly you are being observed via telescope). State wildlife area.

Be careful about riding cross-country across the hummocks as there are patches of very bad boggy areas that horses have sunk into. The look of the ground is very deceiving.

Suggested items to bring along: binoculars, camera, lunch, and appropriate clothes for the day.

Ride suggestion: Head to the east after crossing the stream and ride the sandy road all the way to the end where there are trees to tie to for lunch. The elk tend to hang out down there out in the riverbed. Of course you are free to ride in any direction you choose as long as you don't crowd the elk.