



# Roosevelt Grove Of Ancient Cedars Scenic Area

## Granite Falls Trail #301 Stagger Inn Picnic Area



Priest Lake Ranger District

### **ROOSEVELT GROVE OF ANCIENT CEDARS SCENIC AREA**

Fourteen miles north of Nordman, Idaho, there's a unique area of old-growth cedar named for President Theodore Roosevelt. Since the early 1900s, this area was noted for its beauty. On April 15, 1943, the grove was officially designated as a Scenic Area.

A fire in 1926, destroyed nearly 75 percent of the original grove and left two small remnants. The Lower Grove, approximately 2 acres, has 4 picnic sites available under the towering trees. The Upper Grove, approximately 20 acres accessible via a trail system following an old logging road, has been left undeveloped. Feel free to explore this grove on foot.

Estimating the age of these giants, which range from 4 to 12 feet in diameter and reach heights of 150 feet, is difficult due to heart rot which hollows out the center of the tree; therefore, an accurate count of the rings cannot be made. Through cutting windfalls and increment borings of healthy trees, the average age has been estimated at 800 years, with a few hearty survivors achieving the 2000-3000 year old status.

#### **PLANTS YOU MAY FIND**

Beargrass	Lily of the Valley
Bedstraw	Spring Beauty's
Bracken Fern	Stinging Nettle
Devil's Club	Trilliums
Foamflower	Violets
Huckleberries	Wild Ginger
Yew	

### **GRANITE FALLS TRAIL #301**

Two trails are maintained from the trailhead area.

An easy foot trail (365 feet) along the creek leads you to a viewpoint of the Lower Falls cascading over a sheer rock wall.

A 1-mile loop trail of moderate difficulty leads up the old road for 200 feet above the trailhead. The trail then turns left up the hillside in a series of switchbacks to viewpoints of both the Upper and Lower Falls. After about 1/2 mile, the trail again enters the old road. At this point it's an optional 1/2-mile return hike down the old road to the trailhead or an additional 1/2-mile hike to the Upper Grove, which extends for approximately 1/2 mile between the old road and the creek. Hiking is permitted among the trees. Be careful, some areas are boggy. The old road extends on beyond the grove for many miles and becomes very brushy.

**CAUTION IS ADVISED.**

**OFF-TRAIL CLIMBING ON ROCKS  
ABOVE THE FALLS CAN BE VERY  
HAZARDOUS.**

**PLEASE SUPERVISE CHILDREN.**

The area is environmentally sensitive. Please walk with care.

#### **STAGGER INN**

The trailhead was named after a fire camp that was used in 1926. At that time, The trailhead was named after a fire camp that was used in 1926. At that time, the road extended only as far north as Nordman. Firefighters weary from hiking and battling blazes more or less staggered into the camp and someone appropriately named it "Stagger Inn." A log smokechaser cabin was constructed on the site in about 1928 and, later, the Forest Service developed recreation facilities.

Four picnic sites, parking, and toilet facilities are available at the trailhead.

## ADDITIONAL TRAILS IN THE AREA

Almost directly across the main road (No. 302) lies the trailhead to Roosevelt Trail No. 266. This is a more difficult trail that ascends a hill with switchbacks to another stand of old-growth cedar. The total distance of this trail is 4.5 miles. From this trail you can access other trails to Little Grass Mountain, Boulder Mountain, and Zero Creek. These trails offer panoramic views of the surrounding area.

For the hearty hiker, there is Grassy Top Trail No. 379. The trailhead is 3/4 of a mile south of the Stagger Inn entrance. This is an 8-mile hike, with the terminus at Grassy Top Mountain.

**Priest Lake Ranger District**  
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