

You're invited to an early morning hike with Reco & Brit

Umtanum Creek Falls Trail

Easy • ★ 4.3 (623)

Wenas Wildlife Area



BIG TENT
OUTDOOR RECREATION COALITION

Tuesday June 25, 2024

6:30 a.m. Meet and Depart from the Hampton Inn, 2705 Triple L Loop, Ellensburg, parking lot to carpool or meet us at the trailhead at 7 a.m. (25 minute drive to trailhead) [Directions from hotel](#)

7:00 a.m. Arrive at Umtanum Creek Trailhead

7:25 a.m. Arrive at half way point/waterfall

8:00 a.m. Arrive back to Umtanum Creek Trailhead and depart to the Kittitas Valley Event Center

8:30 a.m. Arrive at Kittitas Valley Event Center - informal gathering – coffee pastries and conversation.

About Umtanum Creek Falls Trail

Weather along the trail on Tuesday June 25 at 7:00 a.m. will be 55 – 58 degrees based on past, current and forecasted local weather.

Wenas Wildlife Area; 1.9 mile; Waterfall; 137 ft elevation gain; 41-minute average out and back

*Discover Pass required to park at trail head. High clearance vehicles with sturdy tires recommended.

An easy stroll along a burbly creek, the Umtanum Creek Falls Trail has something for everyone in the family to enjoy. The way is shaded by Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine. Look closely for wildflowers like yellow desert-parsley, bluebells, wax currant and bitterbrush. Listen to the different bird songs, using binoculars to spot bluebirds, woodpeckers and more.

The trail is confusing at about 0.3-mile in. The trail goes straight up the rocks along logs. Don't go right and cross the creek. Many hikers have made this mistake.

Identify the sweet fragrance of sagebrush, while keeping an eye out for bighorn sheep on nearby canyon walls. The trail opens to reveal Umtanum Creek Falls, a pretty little waterfall that cascades into a pool surrounded on three sides by basalt walls. Hikers can take a rough trail to the bottom of the of the falls or stay at the top and enjoy the view.

Getting There

From Ellensburg, drive west on Umtanum Road from Canyon Road. Stay on Umtanum Road for 10.0 miles to a signed trailhead area. The last 5 miles of the road is unpaved dirt road with washboards. Watch out for speeding dump trucks.

Recent reviews mention encounters with rattlesnakes on the trail so hikers are advised to be aware of their surroundings. This trail can be popular. It has a new gravel parking lot that can fill up quickly. The road to the parking log is well maintained until the last mile where it becomes a less well-maintained primitive gravel road recommended for AWD/ 4x4 vehicles.

In terms of trail conditions this time of year, reviews mention muddy spots near the falls with slick rocks during rainy weather more typical in May. This is a good option for families with children.

Welcome to the Outdoor Equity Coalition

<https://bigtentcoalition.info/Outdoor-Equity-Coalition>

The Outdoor Equity Coalition of Washington is a group of passionate and committed individuals who want to make a difference in the outdoor recreation sector.

Our mission is to: Reduce, Support, Amplify, Collaborate, Advocate

- Reduce the nature gap by increasing the participation and representation of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) communities in outdoor recreation activities and leadership roles.
- Support small outdoor recreation businesses that serve and employ BIPOC and other marginalized communities and help them thrive in a competitive and changing market.
- Amplify the voices and stories of marginalized communities in the outdoor recreation sector and celebrate their contributions and achievements.
- Collaborate with outdoor recreation agencies at all levels to ensure compliance with DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) goals and objectives, and to share best practices and innovative solutions.
- Advocate for legislative policies that promote environmental justice, climate action, land conservation, and outdoor recreation for all.

Some examples of marginalized communities are people of color, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, low-income people, immigrants and refugees, and indigenous people.

Who can Join?

We welcome anyone who shares our values and vision to join us in our efforts to create a more unified and inclusive outdoor recreation community. Some examples of marginalized communities are (BIPOC) people of color, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, low-income people, immigrants and refugees, and indigenous people.

December 8, 2023, the Outdoor Equity Coalition incorporated as a not for profit 501c3 organization

[Articles of Incorporation](#)

Directors

1. Reco Bembry (2024-2026), Bembry Consulting Services, **President**
2. Rob Sendak (2025) Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission, **Vice President**
3. Adam Powers (2024-2026) Key Tech Labs, **Secretary/Treasurer**
4. Christine Mahler (2025) Washington Wildlife & Recreation Coalition
5. Coner Marshall (2024-2026) The Mountaineers



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[Join or Donate](#)