

Bolt Mountain Recreation Opportunity Guide



Use Season: All Year

Fees: A small fee is required to park vehicles at the trailhead which is located within Fish Hatchery Park, a Josephine County Park. The park also has picnic tables, outhouses and a loop trail.

Elevation: 1,010 ft. — 2,180 ft.

Length: 3.2 mi. one way

Difficulty:
Moderate—Difficult

Activities: Hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding. Motorized vehicles are **prohibited** on the trail.

Facilities: Trail

Safety Concerns: Ticks, poison oak, rattlesnakes.

Location: T37 S, R6 W, Sec 9 and 16;
Latitude and Longitude:
42 21 21.44
-123 24 26.50

Medford District Bureau of Land Management
Grants Pass Interagency Office
2164 NE Spalding Ave.
(541) 471-6500

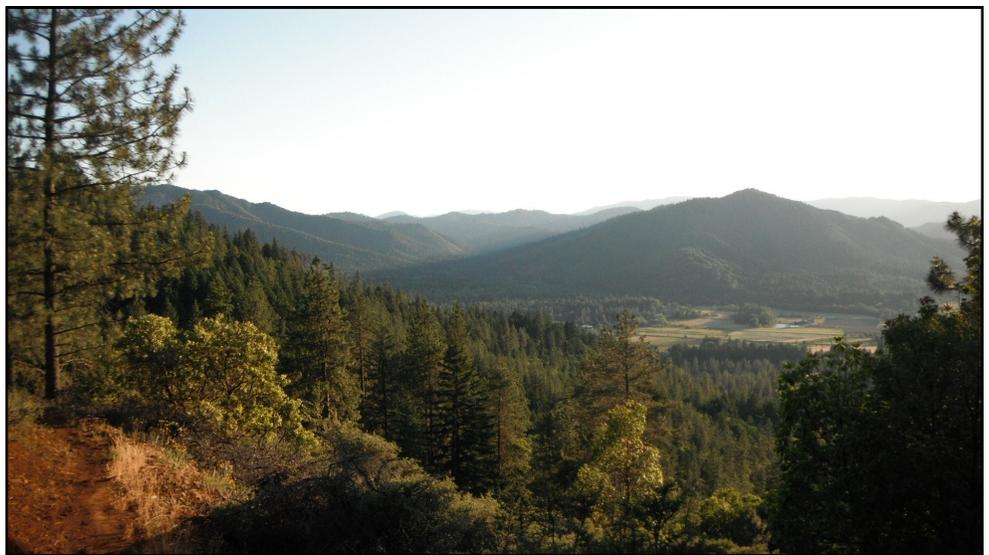
www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation



History and Visitor Information: Believe it or not, the origin of Bolt Mountain began under the sea. About 300 million years ago, the only animals living where southwestern Oregon is today were sea creatures. At that time, the coastline of North America was located near present-day Montana. No, Bolt Mountain did not rise up from the ocean floor from a strike of Poseidon's trident, but rather when an oceanic tectonic plate began to slowly crash into the North American continental tectonic plate from the west about 160 million years ago. The impact resulted in the pushing up of an enormous amount of material and caused the formation of a long chain of mountainous islands. Rocks from these ancient islands are today part of the Klamath Mountains, in which Bolt Mountain is found.

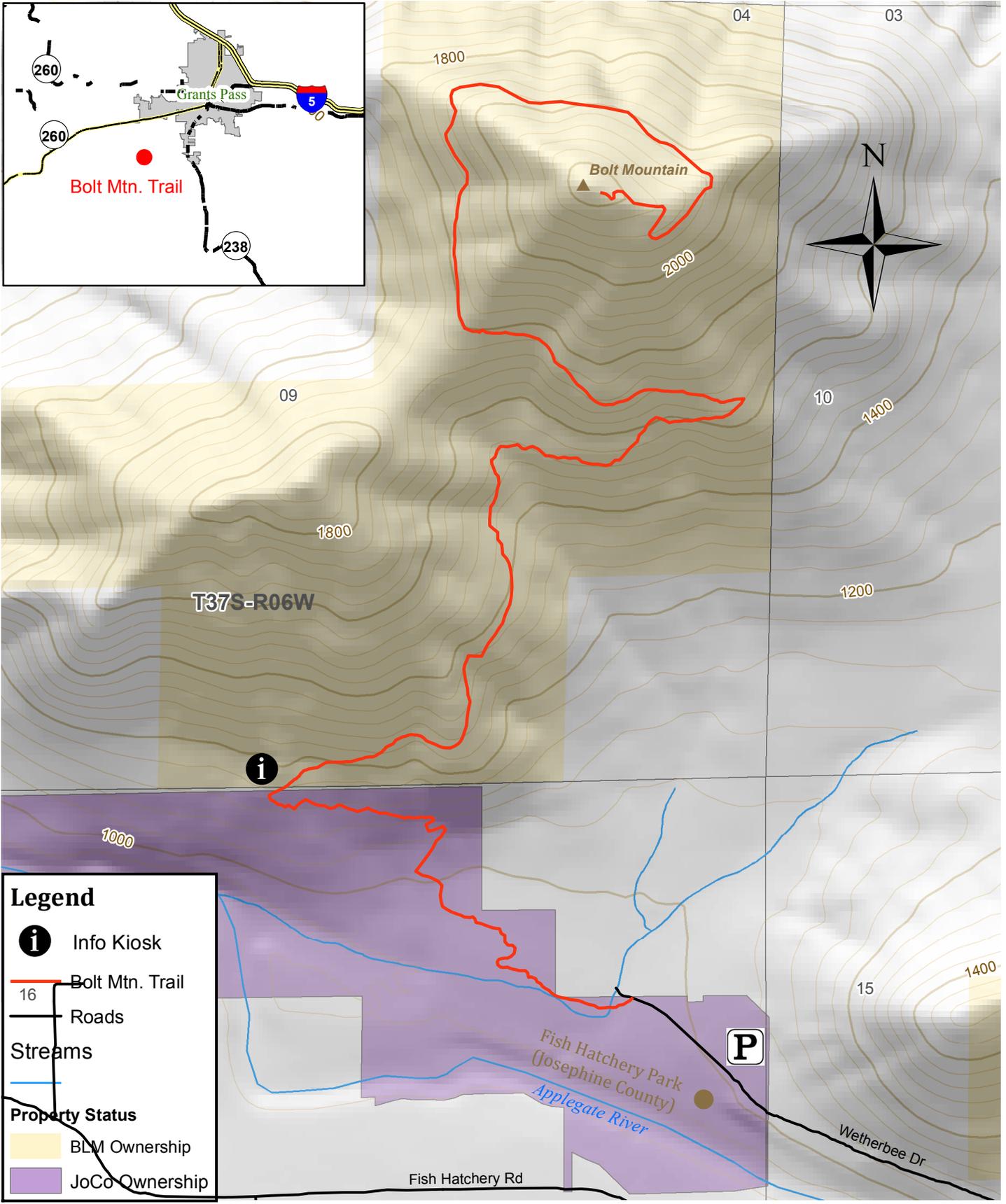
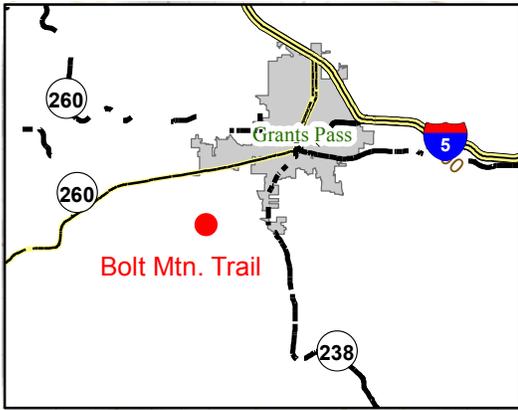
Bolt Mountain is situated in a geologically and biologically rich area known as the Klamath-Siskiyou Ecoregion. The rocks, soils and corresponding plant species found on Bolt Mountain display this wealth of biodiversity. A majority of the soils found on the mountain originate from the rock serpentinite. This rock was pushed up to the earth's surface from the ocean floor during the uplift activity mentioned earlier. Over time, the rock breaks down forming serpentine soil. Unlike most fertile soils, serpentine lacks calcium, nitrogen and other vital nutrients which most plants require to grow and thrive. Serpentine is also high in heavy metals and magnesium. Plants found growing on this soil, such as the Jeffery Pine, have adapted to tolerate these extreme conditions.

Remember to practice leave no trace principals by staying on the designated trail on your hike to the summit of Bolt Mountain. Keep an eye out for rocks with a bluish-green tint and slick-scaly texture. This is serpentinite. Once you reach the summit, enjoy the 360° view and imagine what this landscape may have looked like millions of years ago.



Driving Directions: From the intersection of Hwy. 199 and 238 in Grants Pass, proceed on Hwy. 238 towards Murphy. Continue on Hwy. 238 towards Murphy for 1.5 miles then turn right onto New Hope Road. In 3.2 miles, turn right onto Fish Hatchery Road. Just before the bridge over the Appelgate River, turn right onto Wetherbee St. which ends in the parking lot for Fish Hatchery Park and Bolt Mt.

Bolt Mtn. Trail



Legend

- Info Kiosk
- Bolt Mtn. Trail
- Roads
- Streams
- Property Status**
 - BLM Ownership
 - JoCo Ownership

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

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