

2022 UFO Skywatch Party Information for Attendees

Dates and Times: Friday, July 8th – Sunday, July 10th, 2022

Location: Just above Lonesome Lake in the Snoqualmie National Forest

Google Map Coordinates: 47.00991911468359, -121.67379479389116

Sponsored by: The Seattle UFO Network and Adventure Books of Seattle

Organizers: Troy Bacon (SUFON), Mary Kennedy (SUFON), Robert Blevins and Susan Rapp (AB of Seattle).

Directions to Campout:

(Coming from anywhere in Western Washington)

1. Drive to Enumclaw, WA and then head out of town east on WA Highway 410, aka the Crystal Mountain Highway.
2. When you reach the village of Greenwater, this is your last stop for gas and supplies, but you are better off gassing up back in Enumclaw. The Greenwater Store is not only expensive, but the gasoline service can be spotty at times. The store is NOT open after dark.
3. Continue east past the Greenwater store for about two miles, past the fire station, until you see a sign that says Crystal River Ranch Road E.
4. Turn RIGHT at Crystal River Ranch Road E.
5. After you cross the bridge, bear LEFT at Alpine Drive East.
6. Take the next right onto Forest Service Road 75.
7. **Do NOT take Forest Service Road 74.** It goes along the river and is washed out a few miles up the road. Take 75.
8. If you see a sign that says 'Hackamore Drive' you missed your right turn taking you up Forest Service Road 75. Just turn around, go back about a block, and turn left onto the 75 road. You will be going uphill on 75.
9. Continue heading up FS 75 for several miles until you reach Haller Pass. You can't miss it because it is a four-way intersection. Do not take any side roads. Stay on 75.
10. Go straight through the Haller Pass intersection and out the other side.
11. About two miles beyond Haller Pass, you will come to another split in the road that goes to the LEFT. (Forest Road 7300) DO NOT TURN LEFT THERE. Stay on the main road and continue.
12. At the next intersection, about a mile further, bear to the LEFT this time. It may have a sign marked 7550. If so, that is the road you want. If the roads are not marked, just take the one on the left.

13. Follow 7550 to the next intersection. At that intersection, turn LEFT. Lonesome Lake is at the end of this road. There are vault toilets there, and although you need a Discover Pass to park there, no one cares if you park there for a bit to use the toilets.
14. Just before you reach the lake, there is an uphill turn to the RIGHT. Follow it up about a quarter of a mile and you will find our campsite at the top of the road. You cannot get lost there. The road dead ends a short distance beyond the camp area anyway. There will be a large sign and a white flag with SUFON printed on it at the entry to the camp site. Check in with Robert or Susan when you arrive and then pick a spot that looks good to you. The camping area is very large, with many spots to pick from. It is first come, first served on the camp sites, but there are plenty.
15. **The total distance from the 410 Highway to Lonesome Lake is about 15 miles and the road is good.** It gets a bit rough along the last quarter mile between the lake and going up the hill to the camp site, but nothing that any car or truck cannot handle.

Coming from Eastern Washington:

16. The directions are the same, except you will be turning LEFT at Crystal River Ranch Road E. If you are coming from that direction, your last stop for gas was quite a few miles behind you, so we recommend that anyone coming from Eastern Washington go into Greenwater first (two miles further) and gas up before they go back and take Crystal River Ranch Road E.

In case you get lost after you turn onto Forest Road 75:

It's doubtful you will get lost, but you can try calling us on our ham radios, which are on Family Radio Service Channel 1. You can wait for someone to drive by, flag them down, and tell them you are trying to find Lonesome Lake. Or if they aren't going that far, ask them where FS 75 is from where you are now. Most of the side roads for the first few miles are gated off anyway. Further along some are not. Just watch for the SUFON signs, which we will post at every possible turn. They will have the face of an alien gray on them and say SUFON in big letters. If you see a sign at an intersection, take the road with the sign on it.

A note on using GPS to find us with your smart phone: The GPS might try to tell you to take the river road, the FS 74 road, because that WAS the way to Lonesome Lake before the river road got washed out. Now the route is on 75 instead. If your phone or GPS tries to take you up the 74 road, just take 75 anyway and then re-program it to get you to Lonesome Lake from there.

Cell Service: Down at the main highway, cell service is spotty at best. But the higher you go, the better it gets. Don't expect much before you reach Haller Pass. The good news is that at the camp site itself, cell service is very good and you should get at least three bars and maybe four. This is because the camp site is at 5,800 feet and signal is excellent up there with several cell towers in range with good line-of-sight connection.

TV Reception: Believe it or not, although there is no TV reception almost anywhere else up in that area, including Lonesome Lake itself, the Federal website that has the maps showing where TV reception is available is showing it at the camp site itself, all of it out of Seattle or Tacoma. We will see if the Feds are right about that. Organizers Rob Blevins and Susan Rapp are bringing their small travel trailer, and have a TV antenna with a signal booster, and will be testing this theory.

Coming Early: The campout officially starts on Friday morning, July 8th. However, Susan and Rob will be on site several days prior setting up gear and scouting the general area. Below is a picture of what they are driving. *Should anyone wish to come early, you are more than welcome to do so, but no earlier than late Wednesday afternoon please.*



ABOVE: Nissan Xterra and the trailer. If you see it at the camp site, you will know you came to the right place.

BELOW: Rob and Susan. Your scouts and main organizers.



Suggested Gear You Should Bring:

1. **Bring a warm hat and warm clothing.** It gets COLD at 5,800 feet up near Mt. Rainier, even in July. That is higher than the highest place you can drive to in the Mt. Rainier National Park. It will be warm during the day, and cold at night.
2. If you want to use the travel trailer over the weekend to take a shower, bring six gallons of extra water with you for the trailer's hot water tank. The trailer can only carry 25 gallons of fresh water in its fresh water tank.
3. We will be running a propane generator with long extension cords and power taps available to everyone. Also a propane-powered fire bowl, since campfires will be prohibited due to wildfires. **Please consider filling that propane tank from your BBQ and bringing it along to help us.** There is no fee to attend, but we could sure use all the propane we can get. Please bring a full tank if you have one at your house.

4. **Have a telescope or some good binoculars? BRING THEM.** You will be up close and personal at Mt Rainier and might be able to spot climbers on the mountain.
5. It is 18 miles each way to the nearest store, and that store is not open very late at all. **Bring enough food, water, drinks, and anything else you might need, enough to last for at least three days.** Alcohol IS allowed, as well as anything designated legal by the State of Washington. As far as marijuana goes, it is legal in Washington state, but not by the Feds, who are in charge of the Snoqualmie National Forest. We only ask you be a bit discreet if you decide to get stoned out of your minds. Personally, we don't care if you do, just keep an eye out for the rangers. It's doubtful they will show up, but you never know. They drive light green trucks, or SUV's in the same color.
6. **Bring a chair for EVERYONE IN YOUR GROUP.** For your comfort against the hot summer sun, you might want to bring a portable table and some shade as well. Gets hot in July during the day, and the temperature drops like a rock at night.

General Program and What Will Be Available:

1. We bring a large First Aid Kit and some over the counter meds like Tums, ibuprofen, and the like. Ask and you shall receive.
2. **We have a microphone with a stand and a small PA system for giving talks or presentations.** There is also a 32 inch smart TV that does media via flash drive. Still images you control with the remote, or you can run videos if they are loaded onto the flash drive. You can do slideshows or videos in MP4 or AVI format. Want to play your stuff on a DVD? We can do that, but you must bring your own DVD player. If you have questions on any media you wish to present, just drop us your questions at adventurebooksofseattle@gmail.com That email address is your go-to source for any questions you have prior to the event. **We will be checking messages at that address even after we go up there early to do the setup stuff.** So if you get lost...you might want to try the email anyway.
3. **The whole event is pretty informal and is mostly aimed at everyone having fun.** We don't care who gets on the mike, or who wants to present what to everyone else. You feel like getting up there, *just do it*. No one judges. Evenings (at least last year) was often everyone sitting in a big circle and discussing issues. At least this year we have a propane campfire.
4. **Above all, this is a PARTY.** The main objective is to have fun. So have fun.

Sincerely,

Your SUFON organizers and the staff of Adventure Books of Seattle. Woo hoo!