

# Special Place: Quartzville Backcountry Byway



Quartzville Back Country Byway runs directly through the heart of the proposed Douglas-fir National Monument. Quartzville Creek itself runs clear and free, right alongside the Byway. The western portion is so good, it is protected as a National Wild and Scenic River above the Green Peter Reservoir. The rest of the creek is even better and has been included in Senator Ron Wyden's proposed River Democracy Act, giving it too, Wild and Scenic protection.



Quartzville Creek

*Note: while the Byway is paved, it is not maintained for winter travel. As it rises to its highest elevation, (4100'), it becomes snow covered and impassable in winter.*

***Do not attempt to drive through the snow. If you get stranded, cell phone coverage is not available and help is far away).***

Considered the gateway to the proposed Douglas-fir National Monument, the Byway provides a great introduction to the monument. Opportunities abound for fishing, camping, hiking, road-biking, photography, nature study, scenic enjoyment and just plain solitude.



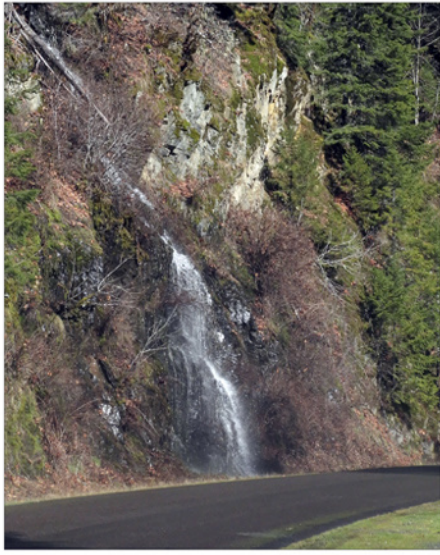
### Directions

*Approximately 5 miles east of the Sweet Home Ranger District office on Hwy 20, turn left onto Quartzville Rd. Approximately 17 miles further, stop at the large Wild and Scenic River sign and set your trip odometer at "0.0" The features shown below list the miles from that sign (all miles are approximate)*



*mile 0.0*

The western boundary of the proposed monument starts at the downstream end of the Quartzville Creek Wild and Scenic River.



*miles 0.0 - 8.6*

When the winter rains get going, the steep roadsides begin to leak with numerous “waterfalls” all along the Byway.



*mile 0.6*

Panther Creek ends its run in this waterfall  
*Note: there is no pullover here, be very careful.*



*mile 0.8*

Unnamed falls across Quartzville Creek



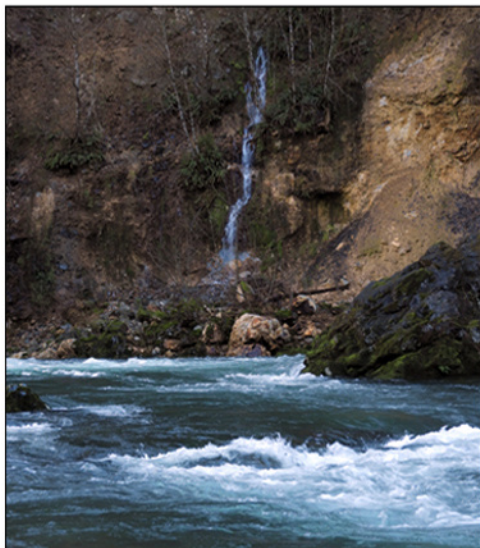
*mile 1.1*

Cascade Falls across Quartzville Creek.



*mile 1.4*

Dogwood Day Use Area features a restroom and picnic tables. A funky stairway provides access to the creek here.



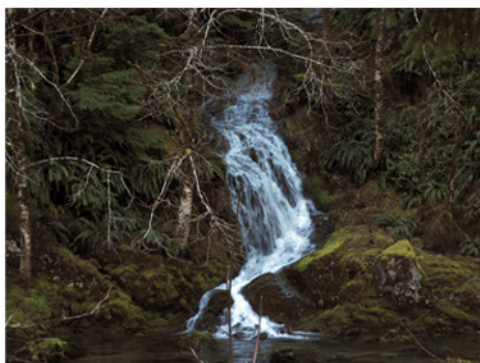
*mile 1.5*

Unnamed falls across Quartzville Creek



*mile 4.1*

Boulder Creek Falls, across Quartzville Creek



*mile 5.3*

Unnamed falls across Quartzville Creek



**Yellowbottom Day Use Area.** Follow the trail down to the creek to look at the clear water and the sandy bottom that gives this site its name. This site has the last restroom heading east on the Byway.

Note the only developed campground on the Byway, across the road.



*mile 8.6*

Just before the bridge ahead, Canal Creek flows into Quartzville Creek. The bridge marks the upstream end of the currently protected portion of Quartzville Creek Wild and Scenic River. The rest of the creek is proposed for such protection in the 2021 River Democracy Act.

The Bridge also marks the division of our proposed Douglas-fir National Monument between Bureau of Land Management jurisdiction and US Forest Service jurisdiction.



*mile 9.4*

FS Rd 11 & 805 - drive the short distance to the bridge, look upstream for the calm, crystal clear water of Quartzville Creek.



*mile 9.9*

Pull into this dispersed campsite, head up the short trail to a seasonal cascade.



Pause on the bridge for a great look upstream at this turbulent section of Quartzville Creek.

*mile 10.6*



*mile 10.6*

Park on the pulloff at an overlook for waterfall rapids up stream.

*Carefully* find your way around large boulders for a look at the falls downstream.



*mile 11.4*

Pull into large gravel dump/campsite for a look upstream at a low falls and large log jam. Make your way down the steep primitive trail to the streambank below the logjam.



.Just east of FS Rd 1142 stop for a look to the right at a sweet little series of falls on Green Creek.

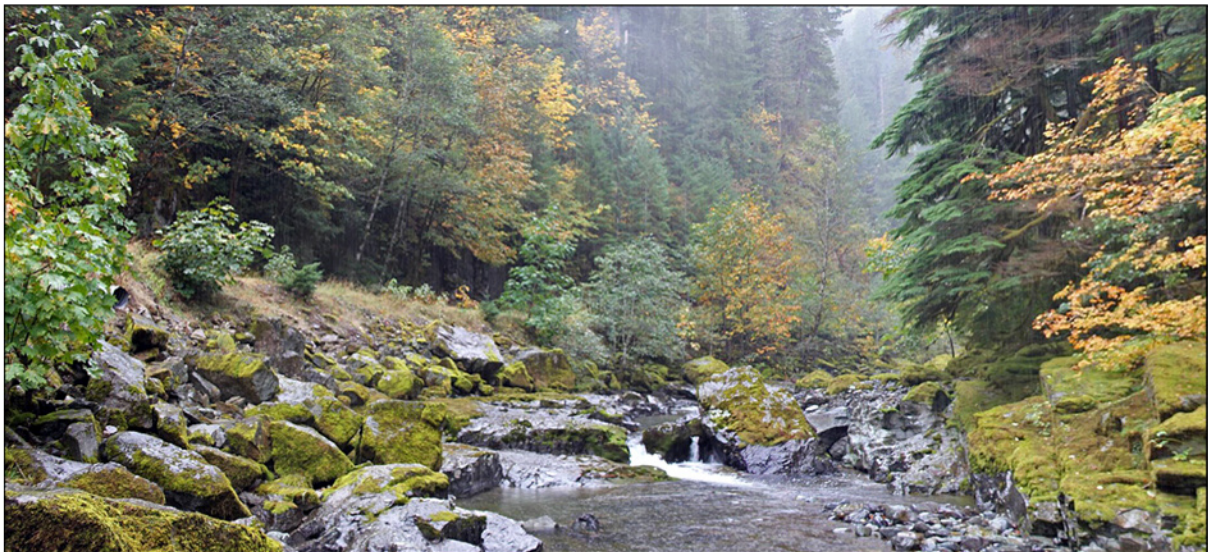
*Careful, there is no pull-off here.*

*mile11.5*



*mile11.6*

Pause on the bridge and look upstream at the waterfalls and downstream at the broken bridge. Imagine the power of the rushing water taking out that bridge during a rain-on-snow event years ago.



*mile 11.7*

Just past the bridge, pull over onto the large paved pull-out. Get out and study the geology of the area, laid bare by the eroding creek and construction of the Byway.