

D. L. Anderson

P h o t o g r a p h y

Panther Creek Falls

Directions

From the town of Carson drive 6 miles north on the Wind River Road to the second turn off for Old State Road. Turn right onto Old State Road and then make a quick left onto Panther Creek Road. Follow Panther Creek Road 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles, staying to the right at the unmarked intersection a couple miles past the campground. An unmarked pullout in an old gravel quarry marks the parking area.

The Trail

The start of the short path leading down to the falls is located a few yards back down the road. The path passes through old growth Douglas fir as it makes a switchback to meet the creek a few yards above the falls. After a brief stroll along the creek you come to the observation platform perched on the cliff just above Panther Creek falls. The entire west fan portion of the falls is spring fed with the water emerging just below the rim for the canyon. At the same time, the waters of Panther Creek follow a natural channel paralleling the canyon rim before tumbling over producing a 100 foot high horsetail.

Because of its unique shape and composition this can be a difficult waterfall to photograph. The best view is from the observation platform and the best light is on an overcast day or when the sun has passed below the tree line and the entire falls is in shade.

On your way back, take some time to watch the creek follow channel just before it tumbles over the cliff.

Photographing the Natural Pacific Northwest

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