

## Trip #2 Bingo Clues: Central Gorge (Ainsworth to Hood River)



This icon indicates some walking or biking is involved.

### TRIP #2: ROW 1

#### #2, 1B: MCCORD CREEK BRIDGE



The original 365-ft. McCord Creek Bridge was built in 1915 and was more utilitarian in design, lacking the beautiful arches and design elements of other Historic Highway bridges that Samuel Lancaster and Karl Billner designed. This bridge has been replaced a couple of times and the one standing today over McCord Creek was built in 2012 with a vintage Art Deco design. It is part of the six-mile, car-free section of the Historic Highway State Trail between the John B. Yeon trailhead and Cascade Locks. You can get to this bridge by walking east for about two-tenths of a mile from the John B. Yeon trailhead. This trailhead also accesses both the Elowah and Upper McCord Creek waterfalls.

#### #2, 1I: SELFIE WITH SACAGAWEA

While in Cascade Locks, pause outside the Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler building and take a selfie with the statue of Sacagawea. Share your photo on Instagram *#gorgebingo* if you'd like. The beautiful bronze statue, created by local artist Heather Soderberg, honors the only female member of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery. Soderberg's studio is across Wa Na Pa Street and open daily for visitors. Reservations are encouraged: <http://heathersoderberg.com/>.

Directions: From Wa Na Pa Street, turn north onto NW Portage Road. After crossing under the railroad tracks, turn right. Continue to the end of the road. The statue is in the circle to the left of the Port of Cascade Locks Sternwheeler building.

#### #2, 1N: RUCKEL CREEK FALLS



Take a short walk to see Ruckel Creek Falls, one of the more underrated Columbia Gorge waterfalls. Park at Eagle Creek and follow the Historic Highway State Trail east toward Cascade Locks. You'll walk alongside Interstate 84 until you reach the forest and a restored section of the Historic Highway. Arriving at Ruckel Creek cross over a small bridge and take a look below the low rock wall to find Ruckel Creek. Upstream is the strenuous Ruckel Creek hike, a real workout with a springtime payoff of meadows of shooting star wildflowers.

*We apologize for misspelling Ruckel Creek Falls on the printed bingo game.*

## **#2, 1G: EAGLE CREEK STAIRS**

The Eagle Creek stairs can be found adjacent to Exit #41, eastbound on Interstate 84. The stairs are the only way up or down as you walk or bike the Toothrock-to-Eagle Creek section of the Historic Highway State Trail. A trough at the side of the stair rail allows you to push your bike up or down the stairs a bit easier.

## **#2, 1O: WATERCRAFT ON COLUMBIA RIVER**

Be it for fishing, exploration, transportation or recreation, watercraft have been floating the Columbia River for centuries.

A good place to watch barges work their way through the locks at Bonneville Dam is near Toothrock. Park at Toothrock trailhead and walk east on the Historic Highway State Trail for a half-mile to the stone wall viewing area overlooking the river to see the barges. You can also see sailboaters, windsurfers, kite boarders, kayakers, and stand-up paddle boarders in Hood River. In Cascade Locks you may spot the Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler coming and going from Cascade Locks Marine Park to Bonneville Dam.

*Note: If you continue east on the Historic Highway State Trail from Toothrock you'll end up at Eagle Creek in 1.4 miles.*

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## **TRIP # 2: ROW 2**

### **#2, 2B: WA NA PA STREET**

In Cascade Locks, the Historic Highway doubles as Wa Na Pa Street, the town's main thoroughfare. Gas, food, lodging and much more can be found in Cascade Locks, so park and take some time to explore this charming community. Cascade Locks has some beautiful parks, a fine brewpub (Thunder Island Brewing), and very popular soft-serve ice cream cones at East Wind Drive-In.

### **#2, 2I: SPAWNING SALMON**

Salmon have been an important source of food and culture in and along the Columbia River for hundreds of years. Salmon are anadromous fish, meaning they travel to the ocean and return to die in the place they were born. You can see this occurring every fall when salmon return from the Pacific Ocean to the Columbia River and travel to their ancestral streams to reproduce (spawn) and die. The Eagle Creek Bridge, next to the fish hatchery, is a great place to witness this amazing seasonal journey. Tanner Creek along the Wahclella Falls trail is another place to find spawning salmon.

## #2, 2N: TOOTHROCK VIADUCT



The huge rock formation west of Eagle Creek is known as Toothrock. Samuel Lancaster engineered a road around this rock by designing a viaduct which is a bridge over land.

Start from the Toothrock trailhead parking lot off the Bonneville Dam Exit #40. Before you start hiking, pause and look north across the freeway. Atop this hill once stood the mansion of Mona Bell, Sam Hill's mistress. The south side of the hill was removed for Interstate 84 construction. The north side was removed to build the second lock for Bonneville Dam. You can learn more about Toothrock and Mona Bell in John Harrison's book *A Woman Alone*.

Walk about a half-mile east from Toothrock trailhead/parking lot and you will notice interstate traffic passing directly beneath you. Traffic is entering the west portal of Toothrock Tunnel which was completed in 1937. Keep walking east toward Eagle Creek. After several yards, pay close attention to the surface you are walking along. You are now walking on a bridge, supported by pilings built into the ground below. You have found the viaduct! Enjoy the views and the beautiful displays of colorful leaves every autumn.

As you walk, notice the different styles of guardrails used along the Historic Highway State Trail.

## #2, 2G: LANCASTER FALLS



This waterfall is on the newest section of the Historic Highway State Trail being dedicated on Sept. 24. Travel to Starvation Creek Rest Area Exit #55. On this hike you'll pass several waterfalls on your short walk to Lancaster Falls. This waterfall was named in 1970 to honor the chief engineer and landscape architect of the Historic Highway Samuel Lancaster. Enjoy the new Wonder Creek viewpoint where you can catch a glimpse of Lancaster Falls. This was built by the restoration efforts of the Oregon Department of Transportation.

## #2, 2O: EAGLE'S NEST



This 1.4-mile section of the Historic Highway State Trail from Toothrock trailhead to Eagle Creek was abandoned for many decades when Interstate 84 was built in the 1950s. Later, during restoration of this section of highway, the Oregon Department of Transportation recreated a beautiful enclosed alcove to replicate the Eagle's Nest that was originally part of this stretch of the highway. The location of the current Eagle's Nest is west of where it was originally, but is still a great spot to stop and enjoy the views and have a picnic.

Directions: Drive to the Toothrock Trailhead, exit #40 from I-84.

## TRIP #2: ROW 3

### #2, 3B: BRIDGE OF THE GODS

The largest group of landslides in Washington state, the Cascade Landslide Complex, covered nearly 14 square miles north of the town of Bonneville. The most recent landslide of this complex, the Bonneville landslide, was triggered in 1450, most likely by a strong earthquake. It moved the Columbia River a mile south, creating a temporary dam and lake that rose to an elevation of 277 feet. The lake behind the dam was three times higher than the present Bonneville Dam and extended upriver 88 miles to The Dalles. This temporary dam undoubtedly gave rise to the “Bridge of the Gods” legend passed down by the indigenous inhabitants:

*The sons of Old Coyote, Wy'east (Mount Hood) and Pahto (Mount Adams) were powerful braves both in love with a maiden (Mount St. Helens). Because they crossed the “Bridge of the Gods” to fight over their love for her, Old Coyote collapsed the land bridge to keep his sons from fighting.*

The current Bridge of the Gods was built in 1926 and the following year the famed aviator Charles Lindbergh flew his *Spirit of St. Louis* under the bridge. Soak up the view when crossing the bridge – it’s one of the most beautiful views in the Columbia Gorge. This bridge is also on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) route. Every August, PCT through-hikers make their way across the bridge walking the 2,659-miles from Mexico to Canada. It’s where the PCT journey ended for Cheryl Strayed (and her onscreen counterpart, Reese Witherspoon) in the book and film *Wild*.

<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/5266b2bde4b08e763cc132d2/t/556fc929e4b01eeb36c292b3/1433389359659/Bridge+of+the+Gods>

### #2, 3I: HISTORIC MILEPOST

Concrete mileposts have marked the miles along the Historic Highway since 1924 when indicating miles on the side of the highway first began. Keep your eyes open along the highway to spot one! The only original milepost left is #58 near Viento. Park at Viento State Park (exit #56 from I-84) on the south side of I-84 and walk west on the Historic Highway State Trail toward Starvation Creek. The milepost is on the south side of the trail in about ¼ mile, at the bottom of the first slope, across from the meadow.

### #2, 3N: BEAUTY SHOT

The highway’s engineer Samuel Lancaster looked for “beauty spots” in the Columbia River Gorge and found ways to take users to these waterfalls and scenic vistas. Find your own place along the Historic Highway that you find beautiful. Snap a photo and share it on Instagram ([#gorgebingo](https://www.instagram.com/gorgebingo)) or any other way you prefer. Make sure you park your car in an official parking area and stay on the trail when selecting your “beauty shot.”

## **#2, 3G: "BIG JOHN" USFS OLDEST FLUSH TOILET**

While in the Eagle Creek area be sure to visit "Big John," the U.S. Forest Service's oldest flush toilet in the country! Although this toilet is not the original one from 1915, the nickname stuck. "Big John" was rebuilt by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s.

## **#2, 3O: THUNDER ISLAND**

Thunder Island is a human-made island and park built between the Columbia River and the locks' waters. The locks at Cascade Locks were built to bypass the near-impassable Cascade Rapids on the Columbia River. When the waters were impounded behind Bonneville Dam, the locks were no longer needed. A brewery with the Thunder Island namesake is nearby. Both are worth a visit.

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## **TRIP #2: ROW 4**

### **#2, 4B: "TUNNEL OF MANY VISTAS"**

The most creative engineering accomplishment of the entire original Columbia River Highway was the Mitchell Point Tunnel. Highway designers Sam Hill and Sam Lancaster drew inspiration for Mitchell Point Tunnel from the Axenstrasse, Switzerland's scenic motorway. During the 1920s and 30s, the Mitchell Point Tunnel was a world-class tourist draw, but it was designed for beauty, not for commerce. The tunnel had five pocket windows, the source of its nickname "Tunnel of Many Vistas."

In the 1960s, the tunnel was blasted away and the rock and rubble were used to build the new interstate highway. As the Oregon Department of Transportation works to reconnect the Historic Highway, plans are in place to create a new tunnel at Mitchell Point, south of the original route, complete with viewing windows that would make Hill and Lancaster proud.

### **#2, 4I: HOLE-IN-THE-WALL FALLS**



A short walk along a newest section of the Historic Highway State Trail brings you to Hole-in-the-Wall Falls, formerly Warren Falls. Back in the day, this waterfall used to cause real problems along the Historic Highway. It would frequently flood the highway, making it impassable for road traffic. In 1939, a creative solution was engineered: A hole was blasted through a nearby cliff and Warren Creek was diverted through this hole, giving birth to Hole-in-the-Wall Falls. Warren Falls flows occasionally during high creek flows with just a trickle of water. Enjoy the view from the new viewing plaza.

**#2, 4N:**

**MOFFETT CREEK BRIDGE**



Moffett Creek Bridge is located west of Bonneville Dam along the Historic Highway State Trail. This beautiful bridge spans 205 feet and has a 170-foot arch. At the time of its construction in 1915, it was the longest three-hinged concrete flat arch bridge in the U.S. Visit this beautiful bridge by walking or biking approximately two miles from John B. Yeon Trailhead (also the trailhead for Elowah and Upper McCord Creek Falls) or 1.5 miles from Toothrock Trailhead.

**#2, 4G:**

**BIGFOOT ON BRIDGE OF THE GODS MURAL**

Find your way to Bridge of the Gods in Cascade Locks and park under the Bridge of the Gods. Have a look at the mural here. See if you can find Bigfoot (a.k.a. Sasquatch).

**#2, 4O:**

**JOHN B. YEON TRAILHEAD**

This trailhead is in honor of John B. Yeon, the roadmaster of the Historic Highway. He was paid \$1 per year for his services on the Historic Highway. Yeon donated his time and \$1 was a formality to put him on payroll. Yeon was known as the Prince of the Woods. He left his home in Canada to find work in the U.S. He ended up in Oregon and in the timber business. A hard worker who learned his lessons well, Yeon twice started and sold his own timber business. After selling his second timber business, he moved into Portland and began buying real estate. Some thought him foolish when he bought the lot diagonally across from Meier and Frank's huge department store to build a large office building, claiming he'd never find enough tenants to fill its fifteen floors. Yeon was confident that the town's growth would prove him right, and he was. (Friends of the Columbia Gorge was a Yeon Building tenant from the late 1990s until Fall 2016.)

There are three trails that begin at Yeon's trailhead. One trail leads you to Elowah Falls, one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the Gorge. Another trail takes you higher up the creek to Upper McCord Creek Falls. The third trail is a restored six-mile section of the Historic Highway State Trail allowing you to bike or hike all the way to Cascade Locks car-free! This section opened in 2013.

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## **TRIP#2: ROW 5**

**#2, 5B:**

**THE "LOCKS" AT CASCADE LOCKS**

Before Bonneville Dam and the locks at Cascade Locks were built, this area was the site of the torrential, nearly-impassable Cascade Rapids on the Columbia River. These rapids were created by the Cascade Landslides. If you look north there's a mountain (Table Mountain) that looks like the south side of it broke off. It did break off in a massive earthquake, causing a landslide that created the Cascade Rapids.

The only way to continue downriver was to portage around these rapids. So the locks were built. The town of Cascade Locks grew during the construction of the locks from 1878-1896. Later in 1938, the impounding waters of Bonneville Dam backed up and flooded the rapids, making the locks unnecessary. Today, however, much of the infrastructure remains. A footbridge across the locks waters allows access to Thunder Island - a great place for a picnic and to watch the river flow by.

## **#2, 5I: HERMAN THE STURGEON**

Stop by the Bonneville Dam fish hatchery and find the sturgeon viewing facility. Here you will find 11-ft.-long Herman residing with several other smaller sturgeons. Herman is named after the long line of Hermans of the Herman Creek area (just east of here).

Sturgeons are the largest freshwater fish in North America. Some can grow as long as 20 feet, weigh thousands of pounds, and live to be over 100 years old. The hatchery is open daily from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Learn more: [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/visitors/bonneville\\_hatchery\\_herman.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/visitors/bonneville_hatchery_herman.asp).

## **#2, 5N: PICNIC TABLE**

Picnic tables can be found along the Historic Highway inviting you to stop, enjoy the view, and have a picnic. One interesting picnic table can be found along the Historic Highway State Trail east of McCord Creek. Smaller rocks, used for sitting, are arranged around a larger "table" rock, ideal for an impromptu picnic on the trail. Other obscure picnic tables can be found by referring to Appendix 5 on page 238 in the *Curious Gorge* hiking book. We encourage you to picnic in established picnic areas only.

## **#2, 5G: EAGLE CREEK BRIDGE**

This 103-ft. long bridge crosses Eagle Creek just before the stop sign in front of the fish hatchery. The bridge and adjacent stone observatory is a great place to view salmon returning up the Columbia River to spawn in Tanner Creek every fall. The bridge is constructed of reinforced concrete and is faced with native stone.

## **#2, 5O: 1<sup>st</sup> USFS CAMPGROUND**

The Eagle Creek Campground opened to the public in 1916. With the construction of the Historic Highway and more people owning vehicles, getting into the great outdoors was suddenly more accessible! But no Forest Service campgrounds existed. People were parking and camping anywhere and everywhere. The U.S. Forest Service, only ten years old at the time, established a beautiful campground at Eagle Creek. It hosted 100 campsites with concrete stoves, picnic tables and a parking lot. 15,000 people visited the campground in its first year and by the 1920s there were 1,000 visitors a day!