

Salmon Watch[®]

LITTLE LOBSTER (ALSEA BASIN) SALMON WATCH SITE

DIRECTIONS:

This is a fun one to find – just hope that none of your students easily gets car sick! The Little Lobster Creek site is located along the lower reach of Little Lobster Creek, just before it flows into Lobster Creek. To get there from Corvallis, head west on Highway 20/34, passing through the town of Philomath. At the west end of Philomath, turn left onto Highway 34, which takes you toward Waldport. Heading west on Highway 34, you will pass over the divide that separates waters that drain into the Willamette Basin from those flowing to the coast. Continue into the town of Alsea and turn left onto Road 201 (the turnoff sign on Highway 34 should indicate Alsea Falls). This will immediately take you over the Alsea River, then head south. Continue along this road (**ignoring** the turn which would take you to Alsea Falls!) as it winds and climbs its way out of the Alsea Valley. You'll drive **past** the Little Lobster Creek Road turnoff, climb further, then begin a winding descent into Lobster Creek Valley. The road then reaches a junction with Hazel Glen road. Stay to your right and head west down Lobster Creek Valley toward Lone Fir Cemetery. Just past Lone Fir, the road comes to a "T" –turn right and continue northwest on Lobster Creek Road. After *approximately* 1.5 miles, the road swings to the left, then crosses a concrete bridge. Just past the bridge is a pullout and dirt road on the right. Little Lobster Creek flows under the bridge that you've just crossed.

SALMON VIEWING:

Under higher streamflow conditions, fall chinook and coho salmon can be seen along much of this lower length of Little Lobster Creek. If, however, there hasn't been enough rain to pull the fish upstream, then fall chinook will likely be seen at the mouth of Little Lobster Creek in the mainstem of Lobster Creek.

REFERENCES:

Gary Galovich, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife