

http://www.tacomapower.com/parksandpower/parks_recreation/recreation/hiking.htm

A new 10-mile non-motorized trail will open sometime in 2007 at Peterman Hill, part of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area. The trailhead lies at the end of the Peterman Hill Road about 1 mile south of Highway 12. You'll find parking and a vault toilet at the trailhead. Parts of the trail are new, while other sections of trail are infrequently used forest roads. Watch for black tail deer, squirrels, raccoon and chipmunk in the early evening hours. Barn owls, Canada geese, loons, bald eagles and red tail hawk are also common near the lake.

http://www.tacomapower.com/parksandpower/hydro_licensing/cowlitz/cowlitz_news_notices.htm

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Peterman Hill Trail and the Cowlitz Wildlife Area – The first 10 miles of the Peterman Hill trail in the Cowlitz Wildlife Area have been constructed. The 10-car parking lot with a vault toilet and a road- shoulder parking area for 5 horse trailers are complete. The trail will not officially open to the public until acquisition of one small parcel of private land in Section 17 is complete. Most of the new trail lies on old logging roads that have always been open to the public but short stretches of new trail now link the road systems. The trail starts at about 1200 foot elevation and reaches about 3200 feet where several good viewpoints are found. It crosses managed forests and recently harvested areas. The primary goal of the Peterman Unit is wildlife management and recreational use is monitored to ensure that wildlife values are protected.

Public access to the Peterman Hill Unit of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area remains open. Users are reminded to never block the gravel roads or gates. No trailers are allowed in the trailhead parking lot and no vehicles may park anywhere in the turnaround at the end of the County Road. The roads are used regularly by logging trucks and school buses use the turnaround. Vehicles may park along the shoulder of the turnaround. . During hunting seasons the entire area is open for hunting.

To reach Peterman Unit of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area take Highway 12 east from I-5 about 27.4 miles and turn right on Highland Hill Road, then take the middle road at a fork in about a mile. The Wildlife Area begins a short distance ahead, at the end of the paved road.