

Eagle Creek Fire Trail Assessment Summary

Horsetail Falls Trail 438

Trail: Horsetail Falls 438
Overall Condition: Poor

Miles: 1.3

Date Assessed: 11/30/17
Wilderness: No

Tread: The first 0.2 miles of trail were assessed. Trail is nearly covered in large rocks on first two switchbacks and buried in multiple places. Due to continuous rock fall on trail, upslope hazards, and exposure, it was decided to discontinue assessment. Conditions throughout most of the loop are treacherous. Rock slides are on the critical angle of repose and walking on them elicits an almost fluid response downhill. Most of the trail was burn heavily so snags abound. Western most portion is still green overstory but burnt understory. This will need geo-tech input, machinery like a mini-excavator, likely gabions (plenty of rock source!), rock wall reconstruction and technical log and stump removal.

Hazard Trees: Many throughout

Brushing/log out: Extensive and complex

Safety Considerations: Section of Historic Columbia River Highway and switchbacks below trail. Dangerous footing in sections.



Figure 1 Sign and post destroyed at trailhead



Figure 2 Large trees and rocks slides on first two switchbacks



Figure 3 Large rock debris, difficult to cross and threat of upslope sliding. Off trail scrambling required





In many places the trail is not visible.
Just west of Ponytail falls



Typical condition of trail...large root wads and many logs down...washouts have destroyed the trail especially between the Oneonta Gorge steel bridge and the 424 trail.

