



Winter Trail Access and Condition Update August 5th – August 19th, 2021

Summer Trail Highlights

- All summer trails on the Deschutes NF are now snow free, with the exception of the South Sister Climber's Trail, which has persistent snow on its upper reaches. Limited FS and volunteer trail logout in progress and trail users may encounter blowdown. Expect high use at all recreation sites. Haze and smoke from wildfires may exist in the area. See inside for more details.
- WILDERNESS PERMITS WILL BE REQUIRED from 19 trailheads for day use and all trailheads for overnight use in the Mt Jefferson, Mt Washington and Three Sisters Wildernesses from May 28 to September 24, 2021. For more information, see inside on at the top of Page 2, just above "Summer Trail Conditions Report."
- Cascade Lakes Highway, Tumalo Falls Road, Paulina Lake Road (FR 21) and FR 370 are all open. Forest Road 370 is a rugged, unmaintained road and should only be attempted by high clearance vehicles.
- Mosquitoes are still out there along middle and high elevation lakes and creeks.
- With Extreme Fire Danger, campfires are not allowed anywhere.
- Dog leash requirements in effect on most segments of the Deschutes River Trail.
- The trail closure that was in between Forest Road 4615 and Skyliner Road has been LIFTED.
- Cascade Lakes Welcome Station closed until further notice. Lava River Cave and Lava Lands Visitor Center both open with limited capacity.



Members of the Youth Conservation Corps and FS employees completing restoration work at Windigo Pass recently. Please do your part by practicing Leave No Trace principles.



Volunteers with Central Oregon Nordic Club, along with FS employees, hand transport an old stove from the AC/DC winter trail shelter recently. The shelter is getting a new roof and new stove.



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WILDERNESS PERMITS:

Beginning this summer, Wilderness permits will be required from 19 trailheads for day use and all trailheads for overnight use in the Mt Jefferson, Mt Washington and Three Sisters wildernesses from May 28 to September 24, 2021. Annually the permit season will begin the Friday before Memorial Day and ends the last Friday in September. To learn more about the Wilderness Permit program, go here:

[Willamette National Forest - Home \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/willamette-national-forest)

How do I get a permit?

Permit reservations can be made through **recreation.gov**, either online or over the phone. Go to:

[Recreation.gov - Camping, Cabins, RVs, Permits, Passes & More](https://www.recreation.gov/camping/cabins/rvs/permits-passes-more)

Then put "Central Cascades Wilderness" in the search and all options will show.

Permit reservations opened on April 6th, 2021. Every year the reservation period will open on the first Tuesday in April. Most permits, 50-80%, only become available 7 days prior to the hike.

Deschutes National Forest Summer Trail Conditions

Last Updated: August 4th, 2021

****Conditions subject to change without notice and at whim of nature.****

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District

- ❖ **Phil's Area Trails** – Snow free, clear. Dry and dusty.

There are currently NO trail or road closures associated with the West Bend Project.

E-Bikes are NOT allowed on any non-motorized trails.

For more information on COTA, go to: <http://cotamtb.com/>

- ❖ **Tumalo Falls Area** – Road to trailhead open for the summer season. Extremely crowded. Farewell, Mrazek and North Fork all snow free and clear. Bridge Creek snow free and clear on lower portion. Possible blowdown on upper portion. Swampy Lakes snow free with light blowdown.

Stock, dogs, bikes and camping are all prohibited inside the Bend Municipal Watershed. On North Fork Trail, mountain bikes are limited to uphill riding only.

Due to very limited parking and high use, there is a 27' vehicle length limit at Tumalo Falls TH. Even then, the parking area fills early and can often remain at overflow capacity on busy days. Please pay close attention to "NO PARKING" signs on one side of the entrance road. These sections of roadway must remain open to avoid traffic hazards and permit larger emergency vehicle access.

- ❖ **Deschutes River Trail** – Snow free and clear.

Northwest Forest Passes are required for parking in posted NWFP locations. Iron Ranger fee stations are available at: Meadow Picnic, Road 41 and Hwy 46 junction, Benham East and Lava Lands "After Hours Parking Lot" (Black Rock TH).



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- ❖ **Sunriver, 41 Road, and Welcome Station Area** – COD, Catch and Release, Lower Tyler’s, Storm King and Roundabout all snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Sun Lava Paved Path** between Sunriver, Benham East and Lava Lands (Trailhead access points at south end of Lava Lands parking lot, Benham East or Circle 7 in Sunriver). Snow free and clear. Pine needles may exist on surface. Heavy use on weekends.
- ❖ **Lava Lands Trails** - Open for the season.
- ❖ **Tumalo Creek 2 Trail** – Snow free and clear. Hiker only.
- ❖ **Wanoga Area** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Swampy Lakes** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Todd Lake** – Snow free and clear. Please give the plants a chance by staying on the trail and walking single file.
- ❖ **Tumalo Mountain** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Broken Top** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Ray Atkeson Trailhead and Sparks Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Green Lakes/Soda Creek** – Both trails snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Devil’s Lake/South Sister** – Clear of downfall. Snow on upper reaches.
- ❖ **Quinn Meadow Horse Camp area trails** – All trails logged out except for Katsuk Pond and Sink Creek, which are likely to have light to moderate blowdown.
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo** – Snow free. One large tree down approximately .75 mile north of Cascade Lakes Highway.
- ❖ **Moraine Lake** – Snow free with unknown blowdown. NEED NEW REPORT.
- ❖ **Mirror Lakes** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Horse Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Elk Lake** – Unknown. Likely snow free with light blowdown.
- ❖ **Six Lakes** – Snow free with light blowdown.
- ❖ **Lucky Lake/Senoj** – Snow free and clear from TH to Lucky Lake. Light downfall on section between Lucky Lake and junction with Six Lakes.
- ❖ **Corral Swamp** – First mile clear. Unknown beyond, but likely light blowdown.



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- ❖ **Cultus Lk and Winopee** – Trail around Cultus Lake (Metolius-Windigo) is snow free and clear. Winopee trail logged out to point ¼ mile past Teddy Lake junction. DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE FOR STOCK. Planned logout of late September.
- ❖ **Many Lakes** – Snow free with moderate blowdown. Not recommended for stock.
- ❖ **Lemish Lake/Charlton**– All trails snow free and clear except for Clover Meadow which is unknown.
- ❖ **Osprey Point** – Unknown. Likely snow free.
- ❖ **Fall River** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **South/North Twin Lakes** – Unknown. Possible blowdown.
- ❖ **Horse Butte to Swamp Wells area trails** – Snow free and clear on trails below Swamp Wells Horse Camp. Light blowdown above SWHC.
- ❖ **Newberry Caldera Trails** – Paulina Lake Loop, Paulina Peak, Crater Rim, and Little Crater all snow free and clear. Light blowdown on Newberry Crater Trail
- ❖ **Peter Skene Ogden** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Lava Cast Forest** – Snow free and clear. NWFP required!
- ❖ **Hoffman Island** – Snow free and clear.

Sisters Ranger District:

- ❖ **Black Butte** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Metolius River Trails** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Suttle Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Lake Creek** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Whychus Creek** – Snow free and clear. Temporary closure of trailhead. Follow signs to alternate parking area. **Please, stay on the main designated trail and avoid using posted and closed social trails in restoration sections.**
- ❖ **Whychus Overlook** (barrier free, closed to stock and bikes) – Snow free and clear. Please stay on designated trails. Enjoy the newly constructed vault toilet!
- ❖ **Peterson Ridge Trails** – Snow free and clear. Check out the new trailhead on FR 16!
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Tam Rim/Three Creeks Area** – All trails snow free and clear EXCEPT Tam Rim Horse which has light blowdown.
- ❖ **PCT** – Snow free and clear from McKenzie Pass to South Mathieu. Belknap Crater section clear. Unknown beyond.



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- ❖ **Scott Pass/Millican Crater** – Scott Pass snow free and cleared to within ¼ mile of PCT. Trout Creek Tie and Millican both clear.
- ❖ **Black Crater** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Chush Falls** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Pole Creek/Green Lakes/Park Meadow/Camp Lake/DeMaris Lake** – Pole Creek Trail snow free and clear. Green Lakes snow free and clear from Pole Creek TH to about 2 miles south of S Fork Whychus Creek, near “the pond.” From Scott Pass side, Green Lakes cleared to within ¼ mile of Alder Creek. Otherwise, heavy blowdown on other sections of Green Lakes Trail. Approximately 50 trees down on Camp Lake Trail. DeMaris has light blowdown. Park Meadow Trail clear from FR 16 to Park Meadow.
- ❖ **Head of Jack Creek** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Jefferson Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Cabot Lake** – Snow free and clear as far as Carl Lake. Light blowdown beyond. Due to a couple tricky trees on the steep slope above Carl Lake, stock NOT RECOMMENDED beyond Carl Lake.
- ❖ **Rockpile Lake** – Snow free and clear. Heavy brush may be difficult for pack animals.
- ❖ **Jack Lake TH** – All trails snow free. Moderate blowdown on Old Summit past junction with Canyon Creek, going toward Wasco.
- ❖ **Round Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **MINTO LAKE, BRUSH CREEK AND SUGAR PINE RIDGE TRAILS ARE ALL IMPASSIBLE DUE TO BRUSH, HEAVY DOWNFALL AND EROSION.**

Crescent Ranger District:

- ❖ **PCT** – Unknown. Likely snow free with light downfall.
- ❖ **Rosary** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Maiden Peak/Maiden Lake** – Maiden Peak snow free with light blowdown. Maiden Lake snow free with unknown blowdown.
- ❖ **Moore Creek** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Yoran Lake** – Snow free. Clear to Karen Lake, just below Yoran.
- ❖ **Whitefish Creek** – On southern end, snow free and clear to junction with Crater Butte Trail. From Trapper Creek trailhead, cleared almost to Diamond View Lake, or about 1.25 miles from junction with Crater Butte.
- ❖ **Pretty Lake/Fawn Lake** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Oldenberg** – Snow free. Clear of downfall on lower 2 miles. Likely light to moderate downfall above that.
- ❖ **Summit Lake** – Unknown. Likely snow free with light downfall. Summit Lake road is passable.



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- ❖ **Meek Lake** – Snow free. Five good sized trees across trail just before junction with Summit Lake Trail.
- ❖ **Windy Lakes** – Cleared from TH to .5 miles short of Summit Lake Trail.
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo** – Clear from Moore Creek TH to Davis Lake. Otherwise unknown.

AUGUST SPECIAL TRAIL EVENTS:

August 7th – Haulin’ Aspen – Running race on Wanoga area trails and roads.

SEASONAL ROAD CLOSURES/OPENINGS:

Hwy 46 (Cascade Lakes Highway)	OPEN for the season
FR 370	OPEN for the season.
Tumalo Falls Road (FR 4603)	OPEN for the season.
FR 21	OPEN for the season.
Hwy 242	OPEN for the season.
FR 16	OPEN for the season.
FR 60	OPEN for the season.

“LEAVE NO TRACE” REMINDER:

PLEASE, PRACTICE THE SEVEN LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPALS:

Plan Ahead and Prepare

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

Dispose of Waste Properly

Leave What You Find

Minimize Campfire Impacts

Respect Wildlife

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

For details on the 7 LNT Principals: <http://lnt.org/learn/7-principles>



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TEN ESSENTIAL SYSTEMS:

For details on the “Ten Essential **Systems**”:

http://www.rei.com/expertadvice/articles/ten+essentials.html?s_kwcid=TC|13029|ten%20essentials||S|p|7499840765&cm_mmc=ps_google_CH-_-Category%20-%20Camp%2fHike-_-Camping%2fHiking_GeneralTerms_Essentials-_-ten%20essentials&gclid=CNq_h8Xbsq4CFQN8hwodYhH-PQ

For further information on Deschutes National Forest winter or summer trails, please call:

Deschutes National Forest Headquarters: (541) 383-5300

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District: (541) 383-4000

Sisters Ranger District: (541) 549-7700

Crescent Ranger District: (541) 433-3200

Find this weekly trail access and condition report on the Deschutes National Forest Website at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/deschutes/home/?cid=stelprdb5347630>

Other trail access and conditions information can be found at:

<https://bendtrails.org/>

Prineville BLM: <https://www.blm.gov/tag/prineville-district-office>