



## **Big Creek Summit Trail**

Cascade Ranger District

Boise National Forest

The Big Creek Summit Trail starts in a small meadow with an old cabin. The first 1.3 miles of trail are faint to non-existent and extremely difficult to follow. Carry the Gold Fork Rock topographic map and a compass, and know how to use them.

From the top of the first ridge to the second ridge, there are good views down Six-bit Creek drainage into the South Fork Salmon River drainage. Farther along the trail are good views down to the Warm Lake Highway.

**TRAIL LENGTH** - 3.1 miles.

**ELEVATION** - Access #1 trailhead is at 7200 ft. Access #2 trailhead is at 6520 ft.

**DIRECTIONS** – There are two access points:

**ACCESS #1-** From Cascade, Idaho, drive north on State Highway 55 about ½ mile to its junction with Forest Highway 22 (Warm Lake Highway). Turn right onto the Forest Highway 22 and travel approximately 12 miles to Forest Service (FS) road 497. Turn left onto FS road 497 and drive 5.4 miles to the trailhead for Trail #115. Hike up Trail #115 (an old road) 0.1 miles to an unsigned trailhead near an old cabin. Dispersed campsites are available at the trailhead.

**ACCESS #2-** From Cascade, Idaho, drive north on State Highway 55 about ½ mile to its junction with Forest Highway 22 (Warm Lake Highway). Turn right onto the Forest Highway and travel about 16 miles to Forest Service (FS) road 497A. Turn left onto 497A and travel 0.3 miles to the first switchback. The unsigned trailhead starts on the north side of the road - look for a blazed tree at this switchback. There are several dispersed campsites at the trailhead.

**SEASON-** This trail is normally free of snow from late June to early October.

**USGS MAP** - Gold Fork Rock

**WATER-** Carry a day's supply of safe water. Giardia is a serious problem. Use a filter or boil all water for three minutes to prevent Giardia infection. It is recommended that one-gallon of water per person, per day be available. Many of the creeks in the area may be dry by mid-summer.

**EQUIPMENT-** Good boots are essential. During certain times of the year, this trail may cross active creeks and may require water-resistant footwear. Raingear, warm clothing, sunglasses, sunscreen, and mosquito repellent are advisable.

A map and compass are recommended for all cross-country travel.

**MAPS AND GUIDEBOOKS-** A variety of guidebooks are available at the Cascade Ranger District office. A Boise National Forest Visitor Map is also available.

**LEARN TO CAMP WITHOUT a TRACE-** every visitor shares the responsibility to keep the forest unspoiled and beautiful. Remember to “take only pictures, leave only footprints” and pack out what you pack in. For information on minimum impact camping, go to [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org).

**POPULAR FOREST DESTINATIONS-** On popular backcountry trails expect to meet other hikers, stock users, and mountain bikers at your destination, especially on weekends.

**WILDFIRE** - is always a concern. Never leave a campfire unattended. Campfires should be well contained and smoking materials should be extinguished properly.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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<http://www.fs.usda.gov/boise>