

Deschutes National Forest

Spring Trail Access and Conditions Update

May 18th - May 29th, 2018



Round Lake Trail in Mt Jefferson Wilderness on May 14th. High elevation trails remain under deep snow.



Trout Creek Tie Trail on May 17th. FS and volunteer crews are working hard to open trails and maintain drainage structures, including in the Milli burn area.

Spring Trail Highlights

- All low elevation and some mid-elevation trails are melted out. Deep snow remains in the high country.
- ALL SnoParks, including Dutchman, are bare of snow. There is NOT sufficient snow depth for snowmobiling out of Dutchman. Snowmobiling on bare ground causes resource damage and is illegal.
- Starting May 25th, and lasting through October 31st, Wilderness permits are required for hikers and equestrians. Permits are free, self-issued and available at all Wilderness trailheads. Biking is prohibited in Wilderness.
- Northwest Forest Passes required at various trailheads and day use sites.
- Cascade Lakes Welcome Station open Friday to Sunday, 8am-4pm. NW Forest Passes available.
- Lava Lands Visitor Center and Lava River Cave open for season.
- Road to Tumalo Falls (FR 4603), FR 21 and Cascade Lakes Highway all OPEN for the summer season. With snow immediately adjacent to roadway, access remains limited.
- Starting May 15th, dog leash requirements on most segments of the Deschutes River Trail.

Have a safe summer trails season!

DESCHUTES NATIONAL FOREST SUMMER TRAILS:

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District:

- ❖ **Phil's Area Trails** - All trails logged out, clear of snow and riding well. Grand Slam is closed Monday-Friday due to logging operations. 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 summer season. On North Fork Trail, steady snow starts approximately 1 mile above main falls. Bridge Creek Trail is through the Bend Municipal Watershed and open only to day hikers. Stock, dogs, bikes and camping are all prohibited inside the BMW. Farewell and low/mid Mrazek Trails in good condition. Upper Mrazek still under snow.

Due to very limited parking and high use, there is a 27' vehicle length limit at Tumalo 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** - River trails are in good condition and cleared of down trees from Rimrock Trailhead to Sunriver. 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). All logging is finished along the Deschutes River Trail corridor. The new Rimrock TH, formerly known as "Good Dog," is now open.
- ❖ **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). Paved path in good condition, heavy use on weekends.
- ❖ **Lava Lands Trails** - Lava Lands trails are accessible, including interpretive trails and Lave Butte trails. Lava River Cave is open for the season.
- ❖ **Tumalo Creek 2 Trail** - Likely melted out with potential blowdown. Hiker only.
- ❖ **Wanoga Mt. Bike Trails** - All trails are melted out and clear of downfall.

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- ❖ **Swampy Lake Trails** - Under snow.
- ❖ **Tumalo Mountain Trail** - Under snow.
- ❖ **Todd Lake Trail** - Under snow.

Please pay close attention to the new "NO PARKING" zones along the entrance road. These sections of roadway must remain fully open to avoid traffic hazards and permit larger emergency vehicle access. Parking area fills early! To protect sensitive alpine plants and soils, please walk single file in the center of the trail.

- ❖ **Broken Top Trail** - Under snow. FR 370 closed due to snow.
- ❖ **Todd Creek Horse Camp** - Under snow.
- ❖ **Sparks Lake** - Under snow.
- ❖ **Ray Atkeson Trailhead and Sparks Lake boat ramp** - Under snow.
- ❖ **Green Lakes/Soda Creek Trail** - Under snow.
Camping at Green Lakes in designated sites only. To protect sensitive alpine plants and soils, please walk single file in the center of the trail.
- ❖ **Devils Lake/South Sister Trailhead** - Under snow.
To protect sensitive alpine plants and soils, please walk single file in the center of the trail.
- ❖ **Quinn Meadow Horse Camp area trails** - Under snow.
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo Trail** - Under snow.
- ❖ **Moraine Lake** - Under snow.
- ❖ **Mirror Lakes Trail** - Likely under patchy snow.
- ❖ **Horse Lake Trail** - Likely under patchy snow.
- ❖ **Elk Lake Trail** - Likely under patchy snow.
- ❖ **Six Lakes** - As of 5/10, 2' drifts of snow on trail. Likely there remains snow drifts obscuring trail.

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- ❖ **Lucky Lake/Senoj** - Snow free and clear from TH to Lucky Lake. Snow and downfall beyond that point.
- ❖ **Corral Swamp** - Likely melted out.
- ❖ **Cultus Lake and Winopee Lk** - Snow free and clear as far as Muskrat Lake. Unknown beyond that.
- ❖ **Many Lakes Trail** - Likely melted out with downfall.
- ❖ **Lemish Lake TH** - Likely melted out with downfall.
- ❖ **Charlton Lake Trail** - Likely melted out with downfall.
- ❖ **Osprey Point Trail** - Likely melted out with possible downfall.
- ❖ **Fall River Trail** - Clear of snow. Some possible downfall.
- ❖ **South/North Twin Lakes area trails** - Likely melted out with possible downfall.
- ❖ **Horse Butte to Swamp Wells area trails** - All trails clear and riding well on low elevation portions. Upper part of Swamp Wells trail has intermittent snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Newberry Caldera trails** - Likely melted out with likely downfall. Trail clearing scheduled for 5/18.
- ❖ **Peter Skene Ogden Trail** - Lower 6 miles snow free and clear. Likely downfall on upper 4 miles. Tree thinning in progress near Ogden Group Camp.
- ❖ **Lava Cast Forest Trailhead** - Clear of snow and downfall. NWFP required!
- ❖ **Hoffman Island Trailhead** - Clear of snow. Unknown downfall.
- ❖ **Pacific Crest Trail** - Under snow. <http://www.pcta.org/>

Sisters Ranger District:

- ❖ **Black Butte Trail** - Likely snow free with possible downfall. NWFP required at TH.
- ❖ **Metolius River Trails** - Snow free and clear.

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- ❖ **Suttle Lake Trail** - Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Lake Creek Trail** - Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Whychus Creek** -Trailhead (6 vehicle capacity) and lower end of canyon trail is in good condition. **Please, stay on the main designated trail and avoid using posted and closed social trails in restoration sections.**
- ❖ **Whychus Overlook Trail** (barrier free, closed to stock and bikes) - Trailhead and trail are in good condition. Please stay on designated trails.
- ❖ **Peterson Ridge Trails** - Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo Trail** - SEE DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT SECTION ABOVE!
- ❖ **Tam Rim/Three Creeks Lake Area Trails** - Under snow.
- ❖ **PCT** - SEE DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT SECTION ABOVE!
- ❖ **Scott Pass/Millican Crater** - Scott Pass snow free and clear as far as jct with Trout Creek Tie. Heavy downfall beyond that. Millican has heavy (<100 trees) downfall. Clearing scheduled for early June.
- ❖ **Black Crater** - **TRAIL CLOSED DUE TO WILDFIRE HAZARDS.**
- ❖ **Chush Falls** - Unknown. Likely melted out with downfall.
- ❖ **Pole Creek/Green Lakes/Park Meadow/Camp Lake/DeMaris Lake** - Lower sections of Pole Creek melted out and clear. Demaris Lake under deep snow. Unknown conditions on Park Meadow.
- ❖ **Head of Jack Creek Trail** - Snow free with light downfall.
- ❖ **Jefferson Lake Trail** - Clear of snow and downfall for first 1.3 miles. Likely snow and downfall on upper portions.
- ❖ **Cabot Lake Trail** - As of 5/10, snow starting at switchbacks above Cabot Lake. Light downfall on first 2 miles.
- ❖ **Rockpile Lake Trail** - Lower few miles likely melted out with likely downfall.

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- ❖ **Jack Lake TH** - Trailhead melted out with snow on area trails. Downfall likely.
- ❖ **Round Lake Trail** - Lower sections melted out. Heavy downfall.
- ❖ **MINTO LAKE, BRUSH CREEK AND SUGAR PINE RIDGE TRAIL ARE ALL IMPASSIBLE DUE TO EROSION, BRUSH, AND HEAVY DOWNFALL.**

Crescent Ranger District:

- ❖ **PCT** - SEE DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT SECTION ABOVE!
- ❖ **Oldenberg Trail** - Likely patchy snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Summit Lk Trail** - Likely patchy snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Meek Lk Trail** - Likely patchy snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Windy Lakes Trail** - Likely patchy snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Whitefish Horse Camp** - Likely melted out with downfall.
- ❖ **Pretty Lk/Fawn Lake Trails** - Likely patchy snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo Trail** - SEE DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT SECTION ABOVE!
- ❖ **Maiden Peak** - Under snow.
- ❖ **PCT** - SEE PCT DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT ABOVE!
- ❖ **Pengra Pass TH** - Likely snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Yoran Lk TH** - Likely snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Whitefish Horse Camp** Likely melted out.
- ❖ **Summit Lk/PCT** - Unknown conditions. Road to TH is very rough.

MAY SPECIAL TRAIL EVENTS:

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None that I know of. ☺

SPECIAL CAMPGROUND CLOSURES:

None that I know of.

SEASONAL ROAD CLOSURES/OPENINGS:

Hwy 46	OPEN for summer season
FR 370	CLOSED due to snow.
Tumalo Falls Road	OPEN. Trail head parking limited and may be full on weekends. Overflow parking permitted on one side of road only
FR 21	OPEN for summer season.
Hwy 242	CLOSED due to snow.
FR 16	CLOSED at Upper Three Creeks SnoPark.
FR 60	Unknown

"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>

TEN ESSENTIAL SYSTEMS:

For details on the "Ten Essential Systems":
http://www.rei.com/expertadvice/articles/ten+essentials.html?s_kwid=TC|13029|ten%20essentials||Slp|7499840765&cm_mmc=ps_goog

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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 in the Deschutes National Forest Website at:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5299503.pdf

Other trail access and conditions information can be found at:

<https://bendtrails.org/>

Central Oregon Off Hwy Vehicle Program:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5340950.pdf

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

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