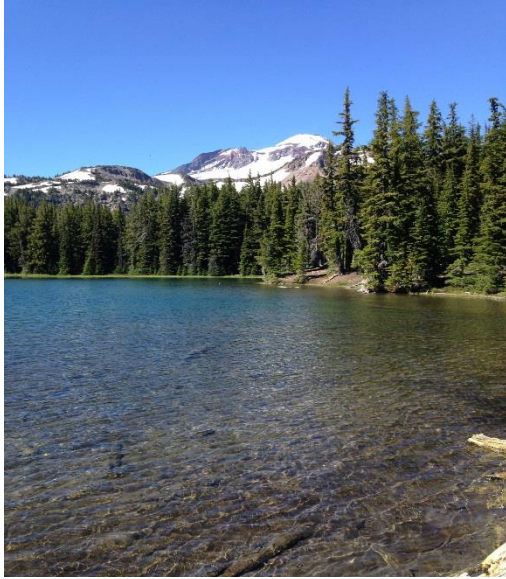


Deschutes National Forest

Summer Trail Access and Conditions Update

July 6th – July 20th, 2018



Alpine lake, at 7000 ft., in Three Sisters Wilderness on July 3rd. High country trails are largely snow free. Logout is in progress.



Volunteer logout on Pacific Crest Trail, south of Lava Camp Lake, in late-June. 2017 wildfires, such as the Milli Fire, brought heavy downfall and erosion problems to several trails. Be sure to thank volunteers when you see them on the trail!

Summer Trail Highlights

- The July 4th holiday has come and gone, but expect crowded trailheads as visitors remain in Central Oregon through the weekend.
- All but the most high elevation trails are snow free. Snow line is generally 7000+ ft but with high local variability. See inside for more details.
- Mosquitoes are thick around some high elevation lakes and waterways.
- All fireworks are prohibited on Forest Service lands.
- 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 daily from 8am to 4pm. NW Forest Passes available.
- Lava Lands Visitor Center and Lava River Cave open for season.
- Dog leash requirements in place on most segments of the Deschutes River Trail.
- Storm King and Grand Slam trails now fully open. Temporary closure on Tyler's Traverse. See inside for more info.
- Please keep dogs under voice or physical control. If you have an aggressive dog, please keep it leashed or consider leaving it at home.
- Have a Trail Report to share? Please email your trail observations to jpwelke@fs.fed.us Information on snow level and downfall is very helpful and makes this report more up to date.

Have a safe summer trails season!

DESCHUTES NATIONAL FOREST SUMMER TRAILS:

Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District:

- ❖ **Phil's Area Trails** – All trails logged out and riding well. Storm King and Grand Slam trails are now open. E-Bikes are NOT allowed on any non-motorized trails. The FS has received several reports over the last 2 months of aggressive dogs and even one cyclist being bit. Please keep your pets under control. If your dog is aggressive and prone to biting other creatures, please leash them or consider recreating in an area with fewer people. For more information on COTA, go to: <http://cotamtb.com/>
- ❖ **Tumalo Falls Area** – North Fork, Swampy Lakes, and Bridge Creek trails are all clear of snow and downfall. Extremely high use at Tumalo Falls and lower N Forth Trail. Farewell and Mrazek clear of snow and downfall. To protect water quality, stock, dogs, bikes and camping are all prohibited inside the Bend Municipal Watershed. Due to very limited parking and high use, there is a 27' vehicle length limit at Tumalo Falls TH. 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).
Temporary Closure on Tyler's Traverse Trail: Trail is closed from the Trailhead on FR 41 up to FR 4130, or Junction 43. The closure is in effect M-F.
Catch and Release Trail 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** – Snow free with potential blowdown. Hiker only.
- ❖ **Wanoga Trails** – All trails clear of snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Swampy Lake Trails** – Most trails snow free and clear. Still under snow are trails around Dutchman, such as Flagline.
- ❖ **Tumalo Mountain Trail** – Snow free. Clear of downfall except for one small, step-over.

Have a safe summer trails season!

- ❖ **Todd Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear. Very heavy use.
Please pay close attention to the “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** – Unknown. Likely snow free. FR 370 closed due to snow.
- ❖ **Todd Creek Horse Camp** – Snow free. Met-Win snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Sparks Lake** – Snow free.
- ❖ **Ray Atkeson Trailhead and Sparks Lake boat ramp** – Snow free.
- ❖ **Green Lakes/Soda Creek Trail** – Trail to Green Lakes now snow free. Three trees across trail between trailhead and junction with Moraine Lake. No trees from the Moraine Lake junction to Green Lakes. Extremely high use.
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** – Snow free past junction with Moraine Lake. Climbers will find mix of bare ground and snow above 7000 ft., with consistent snow on upper part. Extremely high use. To protect sensitive alpine plants and soils, please walk single file in the center of the trail.
- ❖ **Quinn Meadow Horse Camp area trails** – All trails snow free and clear of downfall.
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo Trail** – Snow free and clear from FR 4601 all the way to Lava Lake. Unknown conditions from FR 4601 to Three Creeks Horse Camp, but likely snow free with light downfall. Quinn Creek HC to Appaloosa trail clear. Clear from FR 4636 (Irish-Taylor) to Charlton Lake. Unknown conditions from Lava Lake to FR 4636.
- ❖ **Moraine Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear from Moraine Lake to jct with Green Lakes. Unknown west of SSCT, though likely snow free with light downfall.
- ❖ **Mirror Lakes Trail** – Snow free with one 12” tree.
- ❖ **Horse Lake Trail** – Snow free. 3 small trees down near Horse Lake, on the WNF side.
- ❖ **Elk Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Six Lakes** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Lucky Lake/Senoj** – Snow free and clear from TH to Lucky Lake. Beyond Lucky, likely snow free with light to moderate downfall.
- ❖ **Corral Swamp** – Unknown. Snow free with possible downfall.
- ❖ **Cultus Lake and Winopee Lk** – Snow free and clear as far as Snowshoe Lake. Unknown beyond that.

Have a safe summer trails season!

- ❖ **Many Lakes Trail** – Likely melted out with light to moderate downfall.
- ❖ **Lemish Lake TH** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Charlton Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Osprey Point Trail** – Snow free with possible downfall.
- ❖ **Fall River Trail** – Clear of snow. Some possible downfall.
- ❖ **South/North Twin Lakes area trails** – Snow free with possible downfall.
- ❖ **Horse Butte to Swamp Wells area trails** – All trails north of Swamp Wells Horse Camp are clear and riding well. South of horse camp, Swamp Wells has light to moderate downfall.
- ❖ **Newberry Caldera trails** – All Caldera trails are snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Peter Skene Ogden Trail** – Lower 6 miles snow free and clear. Unknown downfall on upper 4 miles but likely light. 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 and downfall.
- ❖ **Pacific Crest Trail** – Mostly melted out below the 6500 ft elevation. As of late June, snow drifts south of Rockpile Lake junction and also on west side of North and Middle Sister. First 3.8 miles logged out going north from Santiam Pass. Trail cleared around Elk Lake area. Heavy downfall in burn areas with logout in progress through July and August. <http://www.pcta.org/>

Sisters Ranger District:

- ❖ **Black Butte Trail** – Snow free and clear. NWFP required at TH.
- ❖ **Metolius River Trails** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **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.

Have a safe summer trails season!

- ❖ **Peterson Ridge Trails** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo Trail** – Snow free and clear from Bear Valley TH to FR 1514. Unknown conditions from 1514 to FR 4601.
- ❖ **Tam Rim/Three Creeks Lake Area Trails** – Trails around Three Creeks Lake and Little Three Creeks Lake snow free with moderate downfall. Unknown conditions on Tam Rim, likely snow free.
- ❖ **PCT** – SEE DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT SECTION ABOVE!
- ❖ **Scott Pass/Millican Crater** – Scott Pass, Trout Creek Tie, Millican Crater “Loop” cleared of downfall. Scott Pass trail cleared. Heavy downfall on Millican Crater above from junction with Trout Creek Tie to Pacific Crest Trail. Tread work and clearing taking place all summer long. Equestrian use recommended on cleared trails only.
- ❖ **Black Crater - TRAIL CLOSED DUE TO WILDFIRE HAZARDS.**
- ❖ **Chush Falls** – Snow free and cleared except for one tree.
- ❖ **Pole Creek/Green Lakes/Park Meadow/Camp Lake/DeMaris Lake** – Pole Creek Trail snow free and clear. Green Lakes Trail cleared from junction with Scott Pass Trail south to junction with Park Meadow Trail. Park Meadow snow free and clear. Camp Lake trail snow free with approximately 20 trees down. Demaris Lake snow free with 2 trees down
- ❖ **Head of Jack Creek Trail** – Snow free with 3 trees down.
- ❖ **Jefferson Lake Trail** – Clear of snow and downfall for first 3 miles. Snow free for 7 miles.
- ❖ **Cabot Lake Trail** – Cleared of downfall to Cabot Lake. Moderate downfall after that. As of 6/10, deep drifts begin approximately 1 mile before Carl Lake.
- ❖ **Rockpile Lake Trail** – Unknown. Likely moderate downfall with heavy brush. Likely still snow on upper portions of trail, near Jct with PCT.
- ❖ **Jack Lake TH** – All trails snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Round Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear. Some sections have heavy brush.
- ❖ **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 snow free with light to moderate downfall.

Have a safe summer trails season!

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

JULY SPECIAL TRAIL EVENTS:

July 21st – Ultra Endurance 100 Miler – Mountain bike race on Wanoga area trails and roads.

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	OPEN for summer season.
FR 16	OPEN

Have a safe summer trails season!

FR 60	OPEN
-------	------

“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_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 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>

Have a safe summer trails season!