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# deschutes NATIONAL FOREST

## Summer Trail Access and Condition Update August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 – August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### Summer Trail Highlights

- The season of dust (and smoke) is upon us! Hot and dry weather has desiccated area trails and created an extreme fire danger. At the time of this writing, there are NO trail closures associated with fires.
- All DNF trails are now snow free.
- The majority of Wilderness trails have been cleared of downfall. Logout remains in progress on more remote sections of trail, particularly in areas burned by 2017 wildfires.
- Mosquitoes remain near some water bodies, although generally they have reached the end of their season.
- Storm King and Tyler's Traverse Trails are now fully open. Partial closure on Grand Slam trail. See inside for more details.
- 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.
- Dog leash requirements on most segments of the Deschutes River Trail.
- 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](mailto:jpwelke@fs.fed.us)



COTA volunteers working recently on Storm King Trail relocation. The trail now crosses Hwy 46 on a long straightaway, rather than a curve, enhancing user safety.



Volunteer logout on the Metolius-Windigo trail near Todd Lake on July 18<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to thank volunteers when you see them on the trail!



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## Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District

- ❖ **Phil's Area Trails** – All trails logged out with some dry, dusty conditions being reported on some. At the writing of this report, Storm King and Tyler's Traverse Trails are now open. **There is a temporary closure on Grand Slam, from FR 200 to FR 810.** The closure is approximately 1 mile long and is in effect M-F, 24 hours a day. It is open from Friday at 5pm until Sunday evening. When closed, follow the flagged detour on FR 200.  
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.

To protect water quality, stock, dogs, bikes and camping are all prohibited inside the Bend Municipal Watershed.

Due to very limited parking and extremely 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).

**Catch and Release and Tyler's Traverse Trails 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.
- ❖ **Swampy Lake Trails** – All trails snow free and clear. Middle Flagline remains closed through August 15<sup>th</sup> to protect critical elk calving.



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- ❖ **Tumalo Mountain Trail** – Snow free. Clear of downfall except for one small, step-over.
- ❖ **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** – Snow free and clear. Very heavy use. To protect sensitive alpine plants and soils, please walk single file in the center of the trail.
  
- ❖ **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** – Both trails snow free and clear. 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 and clear, with exception of very top where climbers will find snow. 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. Light downfall reported on Wilderness sections near Corral Swamp and Many Lakes. 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.
  
- ❖ **Moraine Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear from Moraine Lake to jct with Green Lakes. Possible downfall between SSCT and Wickiup Plains Trail.
  
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Many Lakes Trail** – Snow free with 4 trees down as of 7/13.
- ❖ **Lemish Lake TH** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Charlton Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Osprey Point Trail** – Snow free with possible downfall.



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- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Lava Cast Forest Trailhead** – Clear of snow and downfall. NWFP required!
- ❖ **Hoffman Island Trailhead** – Clear of snow and downfall.
- ❖ **Pacific Crest Trail** – First 3.8 miles logged out going north from Santiam Pass. Trail cleared around Elk Lake area, as well as majority of trail in Mt Jefferson Wilderness. 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.
- ❖ **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** – All trails now snow free and clear!
- ❖ **PCT** – SEE DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT SECTION ABOVE!
- ❖ **Scott Pass/Millican Crater** – Scott Pass, Trout Creek Tie, and Millican Crater all cleared of downfall. Inside Milli burn, so more trees can fall at any time. Use caution.
- ❖ **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** – All trails snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Head of Jack Creek Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Jefferson Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear. Heavy brush.
- ❖ **Cabot Lake Trail** – Clear from Cabot TH to Carl Lake. Clear from Patsy Lake to Island Lake.



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- ❖ **Rockpile Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear. Heavy brush in some sections.
- ❖ **Jack Lake TH** – All trails snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Round Lake Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **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** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Summit Lk Trail** – Unknown. Likely snow free with light to moderate downfall.
- ❖ **Meek Lk Trail** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Windy Lakes Trail** – 1 waist high, stock blocking tree.
- ❖ **Whitefish Horse Camp** – Whitefish Creek trail unknown.
- ❖ **Pretty Lk/Fawn Lake Trails** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Metolius-Windigo Trail** - SEE DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT SECTION ABOVE!
- ❖ **Maiden Peak** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **PCT** – SEE PCT DETAILS IN BEND/FORT ROCK RANGER DISTRICT ABOVE!
- ❖ **Pengra Pass TH** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Yoran Lk TH** – Snow free and clear.
- ❖ **Summit Lk/PCT** – Unknown conditions. Road to TH is very rough.

### **AUGUST SPECIAL TRAIL EVENTS:**

August 11<sup>th</sup> – Haulin’ Aspen – Trail running race on Wanoga area trails and roads

### **SEASONAL ROAD CLOSURES/OPENINGS:**

Hwy 46	OPEN for summer season
FR 370	OPEN for summer season. Not recommended for low clearance vehicles.
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
FR 60	OPEN



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## **“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](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](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](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5340950.pdf)

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