

**TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS**  
**TRAILS ADMINISTERED BY THE ORLEANS RANGER DISTRICT**  
**SIX RIVERS NATIONAL FOREST**

(Revised September 21, 2018)

The Orleans Ranger District has administrative responsibility for recreational trails in three designated ranger districts. This document has information on all of those trails. Descriptions are grouped by ranger district, and are in alphabetical order within each group:

- o Lower Trinity Ranger District, Six Rivers National Forest
- o Orleans Ranger District, Six Rivers National Forest
- o Ukonom Ranger District, Klamath National Forest

Many of the trails are primitive. Some may not be suitable for all hikers. Most trails are suitable only for riders and stock highly experienced with using challenging wilderness trails in rugged terrain. Also, some of the shorter trails described in this document, such as river access trails, are not suitable for equestrian use. An effort has been made to mention conditions on other trails presently precluding equestrian use. However, conditions can change quickly, due to weather, fire, and other factors.

Trails within designated wilderness, or leading into designated wilderness, are not open for mountain bike use. The only trail described in this document open to off highway vehicle (OHV) use is the Lubbs Trail.

We can offer no assurance that the information in this document is complete, fully accurate, or up to date. It is beyond our abilities to learn of all changes to conditions, or to revise this document rapidly to reflect them. We do not have recent information on conditions of all trails mentioned here. When planning a trip, please note the revision date of each trail description. When on the trail, both equestrians and hikers should be alert to newly-developed hazardous conditions that may appear unexpectedly. Be prepared to turn back if hazards are beyond an acceptable level, or if the trail is too difficult for your skills, experience, and physical condition.

Before starting your trip, it is recommended that you check with the Orleans Ranger District office at One Ishi Pishi Rd., Orleans, Calif., (530) 627-3291, for any further information that staff may have on the condition of your trail. When doing so, mention to staff the revision date of this document. Please report any new information on trail conditions to that office, with a copy to the editor of this document at [ChrisPValleR@gmail.com](mailto:ChrisPValleR@gmail.com).

A few notes on how to find information on trail conditions in neighboring ranger districts:

- o Gasquet R.D. (Smith River National Recreation Area)--The Six Rivers N.F. Web site has quite a bit of information on individual trails, but it has not been updated in a few years. From the forest's main page, click Recreation, then Hiking, then either Backpacking or Day Hiking (there

being some overlap between these two categories). Either choice will bring up a list of links to pages on individual trails.

- o Mad River R.D.--This district currently has no recreation staff. We know of no good source for written information on current trail conditions.

- o Weaverville R.D.--This district has an active trail maintenance program, and receives help from packers. The former manager of the wilderness program, Jim Holmes, formerly maintained a PDF file with information on the condition of Trinity Alps Wilderness trails within this district. This has not been revised since he retired at the end of the 2016 season. You can find a link to a copy of the most recent revision at

- [www.backcountrypress.com/orleans-ranger-district-trails-update/](http://www.backcountrypress.com/orleans-ranger-district-trails-update/). The district currently maintains a "Trinity Alps Wilderness Trail/Road Condition Report." The destination file is not a stable Internet address, but you can reach the document by going to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/stnf/recreation/?cid=stelprdb5152256> and clicking the link to "Trinity Alps Wilderness Trail Report." The most recent revision as of this writing was April 26, 2018, with information only on roads, including roads to trailheads. A Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/trinityalpswilderness1984/](http://www.facebook.com/trinityalpswilderness1984/) receives a fair number of postings on trail conditions, but is a chaos typical of Facebook pages. As of July, the district has maintained approximately 150 miles of Trinity Alps Wilderness trails in 2018, and hopes to do another 50 by the end of the season.

- o Salmon-Scott Rivers R.D.-This district, with hundreds of miles of trails, has an active trail maintenance program. There is a "Klamath National Forest Trail Access Report," a PDF file updated occasionally. It has its shortcomings, as it has little to say about interior trails. The destination file is not a stable Internet address, but you can reach the document by going to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/klamath/recreation> and clicking the link on the right hand column to "Klamath National Forest Trail Report." The most recent revision as of this writing was September 7, 2018.

- o Happy Camp-Oak Knoll R.D.--This district has an active trail maintenance program. It also uses the "Klamath National Forest Trail Access Report," described above under the Salmon-Scott Rivers R.D.

- o The Siskiyou Mountain Club sponsors interns who do trail work principally in the Siskiyou Mountains, and maintains a public log of work performed. You can view it at <http://www.siskiyoumountainclub.org/trails/>. This is quite a good supplement to the other sources of trail condition information.

- o For the Pacific Crest Trail, there are condition reports on the Pacific Crest Trail Association's Web site at <https://www.pcta.org>. However, the association is not good at keeping these reports up to date.

It is always prudent to check with the staff of the office for the ranger district in which trails you plan to use are located.

Also available at [www.backcountrypress.com/orleans-ranger-district-trails-update/](http://www.backcountrypress.com/orleans-ranger-district-trails-update/) --a link to a detailed chart of mileages of trails in the Ukonom R.D. portion of the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

Some tips for locating a faint, little-used trails, particularly in areas affected by fire in recent years, if you are having trouble spotting the route forward:

- o Look for saw cuts on down logs, and blazes cut into tree trunks. A blaze is a cut in the shape of a candle or an upside-down exclamation point.

- o Look for a depression cut into the ground, or a line of compacted soil, caused by decades of foot and stock traffic, even if now covered by brush.

- o If there are recently fallen trees and other debris in the area, consider the possibility that the trail goes directly through heaviest fall of debris and is therefore completely hidden. Note that where a trail crosses a slope, it often catches logs and rocks rolling down the slope, particularly during or after a fire.

- o Consider the possibility that the trail has made a switchback or other unexpected turn. However, most commonly a trail will not make a sudden, illogical turn, and is likely to continue forward in something close to a straight line.

- o Think about what would be the immediate, rational destination of the trail, based on the terrain and on what you can read from maps.

- o Thick stands of plant stems covering the ground, with no gap, are not usually the trail route. However, there may be exceptions to this in areas of vigorous new growth in the years soon after a fire.

- o Water and meadow crossings can be especially tricky. Look for the continuation of the trail in the distance, on the far side of the stream or meadow.

- o Road construction, logging operations, or lines dug by firefighters may obliterate a section of a trail. Flooding or a landslide may do the same.

- o If you have lost the route and find yourself stumped, it is usually best to retrace your steps to the last point at which you were certain you were on the trail, and to start over there looking for the continuation. Consider the possibility that you have followed a branching false path that has petered out.

- o Maps are occasionally laughably inaccurate.

Compiled by Chris Valle-Riestra. This is not an official U.S. Forest Service document.

## **LOWER TRINITY RANGER DISTRICT:**

### **Bell Swamps Trail (#6E20)**

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Takes off from the intersection of the Tish Tang Trail (#6E18) and Horse Trail Ridge Trail (#6E08), and goes to Lower Ferguson Meadows and Bell Swamps, where it dead ends. Low maintenance. The area was affected by the Megram Fire in 1999. There has been no recent maintenance, and there have been no recent reports of conditions. (Updated April 2018.)

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### **Blacks Lake Trail**

A steep scramble down from the Horse Trail Ridge Tr. No recent condition report. (Updated August 2018.)

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### **Board Camp Trail (#4E27)**

Trail to Forks Camp on Board Camp Mountain from Forest Highway 1 at Cold Springs. Maintained by the Boy Scouts. The trail is poorly defined in places.

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### **Boise Creek Campground Trail (#5E65)**

Short trail at Forest Service Boise Creek Campground. Trail descends from campground down to Willow Creek, which is a tributary to the Trinity River. Very beautiful riparian scenery at bottom of trail.

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### **Bremer Ridge Trail (#5E38)**

Trail off Waterman Ridge north of Willow Creek. Trail received maintenance in 2016 by Boy Scout Troop 96. (Updated July 2018.)

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### **Bug Creek Trail (#4E26)**

A continuation of the Board Camp Trail (#4E27). Beautiful vistas of the Pacific Ocean and Trinity Alps. This is a ridgetop trail with very little water. The trail is poorly defined in places. There is a little-maintained branch that descends south, and branches again, with both branches reaching roads in the lower Bug Creek drainage.

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### **Calf Swag Trail (#6E15)**

Trail within the Trinity Alps Wilderness, connecting Patterson Meadows at the Tish Tang Trail, with Ferguson Meadows at the Bell Swamps Trail. The Wiktionary defines a swag as "a low point or depression in land, especially a place where water collects," citing 1902, D. G. Simmons, "The Influence of Contaminated Water in the Development of Diseases," *The American Practitioner and News*. There has been no recent maintenance, and there have been no recent reports of conditions. (Updated April 2018.)

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### **Cedar Creek Trail (#6E76)**

Near the Groves Prairie dispersed recreation area. This is a short trail by itself, mostly used by hunters going into the Cedar Creek drainage. Trail was maintained by the Willow Creek YCC crew in 2017. (Updated July 2018.)

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### **Coon Creek Loop Trail (#6E39)**

Takes off from the same trailhead as the South Fork Trinity Tr. (East Side) (#6E23.1), branching off after a short distance. Circles around to the east and ties back in, providing a loop hiking opportunity.

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### **Crogan Basin Trail (#6E16)**

Sometimes called Grogan Basin Tr. or Oregon Basin Tr.--these are probably misspellings. Trail into the western Trinity Alps Wilderness. Most direct route to the Devils Backbone Tr. (#12W02) and Trinity Summit area. The trail begins at Bear Hole, at the end of Road #10N02A (labeled #10N02 on some maps) in the Tish Tang a Tang Creek watershed. In the vicinity of Crogan Hole, it crosses the Crogan Hole Tr. (#6E74), which is on the alignment of a decommissioned road. At this point, the two trails coincide for perhaps 100 feet. Watch for a rock cairn marking the uphill continuation of the Crogan Basin Tr. The trail ends at an intersection with the Horse Trail Ridge Tr. (#6E08). The Crogan Basin Tr. was logged out and brushed out in 2016 and 2017, and is in a condition suitable for hikers and stock. (Updated September 2017.)

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### **Crogan Creek Trail (#6E29)**

Also called Oregon Creek Trail--probably a misspelling. Trail within and adjacent to the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Connects Crogan Basin Trail (#6E16) to Tish Tang Trail (#6E18) and Calf Swag Trail (#6E15). Trail travels to Bret Hole and Crogan Hole. There has been no recent maintenance, and there have been no recent reports of conditions. The trail may be difficult to find. (Updated April 2018.)

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### **Crogan Hole Trail (#6E74)**

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness, starting at the Mill Creek Lakes Trailhead. It stays below the summit area, but connects numerous trails that lead to high mountain lakes with good fishing and beautiful scenery. This trail is an old road that was included inside the wilderness boundary. Vegetation impacted by intense burning in the 1999 Megram Fire. Being on an old road bed, the trail is wider than most and less prone to brush encroachment. As of 2017, there were known to be many very large fallen logs across the trail, but these have reportedly been cut out of the way in summer 2018, at least along the first part of the trail. (Updated September 2018.)

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### **Graveyard Prairie Trail (#6E31)**

Trail accesses the Trinity Alps Wilderness and the Graveyard Prairie area. There has been no recent maintenance. *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, rated the condition of the trail as "nonexistent." (Updated August 2016.)

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### **Grays Falls Trail (#6E30)**

Access trail to the Wild and Scenic Trinity River at Grays Falls Campground (currently closed) and day use area (open). Three different trail segments make up this trail system. It's approximately a 0.4 mile hike to the river from each of the two trailheads. The eastern starting point is in the day use area. The western starting point is in the campground. After the routes from the two trailheads join, close to the river, the trail branches again. Both forks lead to the water's edge. Trail mostly used for fishing, rafting, and general river recreation activities. The trail is in mostly good condition and easily passable. (Updated September 2017.)

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### **Groves Prairie Trail (#6E67)**

Loop trail at dispersed recreation site, follows meadows and small mountain creek.

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### **Hlel-Din Trail (#5E32)**

Short access trail to the Trinity River. Reaches the confluence of the South Fork of the Trinity River. Used for rafting, fishing, and general river recreation activities.

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## **Horse Linto Trail (#5E36)**

Interpretive trail at Horse Linto Campground. The trail shows examples of instream enhancement structures and is also a good place to watch salmon spawn. The trail is regularly maintained by Willow Creek YCC crews and USFS fisheries staff. (Updated July 2018.)

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## **Horse Trail Ridge Trail (#6E08)**

National Recreation Trail on the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Has low visitor use compared with other areas of the Trinity Alps. Outstanding country and solitude! This is a very old route that supplied the gold mining towns and homesteads between the coast and inland settlements. Along the way it passes the historic Trinity Summit Guard Station, with spectacular views nearby.

The trail is a long one. It begins at the north end at the Red Cap Trailhead on Road #10N02 in the Mill Creek watershed. NOTE--this is marked in the wrong location--one ridgeline to the north of the actual start--on some Forest Service maps. The true start of the trail is opposite Road #9N35, on the ridge between the Colgrove Branch of Mill Creek and Domingo Creek. There is a large sign next to the road marking the trailhead. The trail stretches to the Grizzly Camp Trailhead in the Horse Linto Creek watershed at the south end.

The trail is in good condition for hikers (with some logs down) for approximately one mile from the northern trailhead. At that point, users will begin to encounter increasingly heavy brush. In 2017, a narrow slot was cut through the brush most of the way to Red Cap Prairie. There are more down logs in this area, and some are moderately difficult to scramble over. It should be possible for hikers to make it through to the prairie, from the end of the section that has been worked, but at least one spot with extremely heavy brush is known to remain along that stretch. From Red Cap Prairie, past Lookout Point, to the junction of Long Prairie Tr., there should be no major obstacles. There is a short spur east to Lookout Rock. Between Lookout Rock and Water Dog Lakes, the trail is difficult to follow in some meadow areas--stay to the northwest sides of the meadows. There are no recent reports on the condition from Long Prairie Tr. to Crogan Basin Tr. The trail from Crogan Basin Tr., past Trinity Summit Guard Station, to Tish Tang Tr., is in passable condition, though down logs exist. Continuing south down the hill from Tish Tang Tr., there is known to be moderately heavy but passable brush in the vicinity of Devils Hole and Lipps Camp. *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, reported that between Lipps Camp and the point at which the trail departs Horse Linto Creek heading south, "The trail peters out...but you can bushwack...." Where the trail follows the bottom of the Horse Linto Creek drainage, "[B]ear [east] around the boulder field, staying near the [east] side of the canyon." The last southern part of the trail follows an old jeep trail, which being wider has generally remained less hemmed in by brush. However, the final descent to the Grizzly Camp Trailhead (for a half mile or less) is moderately brushy. The southern end of the trail, from Grizzly Camp Trailhead, receives considerable use by deer hunters in season.

The down logs, particularly along the northern section, currently make Horse Trail Ridge Tr. unsuitable for horses. (Updated August 2018.)

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### **Ladder Rock Trail (#6E22)**

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Takes off from Graveyard Prairie Trail (#6E31) near Graveyard Prairie and goes to Ladder Rock. There has been no recent maintenance. *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, rated the condition of the trail as "nonexistent." (Updated August 2016.)

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### **Lone Pine Trail (Lower)**

Ascends from Horse Linto Campground. This is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail. If discernible at all, it has not received maintenance in many decades.

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### **Lone Pine Trail (Upper) (#6E36)**

Very low use, very little maintenance. Follows a closed road bed. Trail crosses Horse Linto Creek and connects Lone Pine Ridge and Tish Tang Ridge. Trail adjoins the Trinity Alps Wilderness.

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### **Long Prairie Trail (#6E19)**

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness, takes off of the Crogan Hole Tr. (#6E74) near the trailhead and connects to the Horse Trail Ridge Tr. (#6E08). Trail goes to Water Dog Lakes. Fully logged out and brushed out for 2017; clear for hikers and stock to Water Dog Lakes. (Updated September 2017.)

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### **Lower Campbell Ridge Trail (#5E37) (shown as #5E40 on some maps)**

Short access trail to the Trinity River.

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### **McKay Meadows Trail (#6E35)**

Spur trail off Tish Tang Trail (#6E18). Goes to McKay Meadows in the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Connects into the end of Crogan Hole Tr. (#6E74). An extension descends steeply to, and crosses, Tish Tang a Tang Creek, then follows a closed road bed to a road end at the wilderness boundary.

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### **Mill Creek Lakes Loop (#6E73)**

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Takes off from the Red Cap Hole Tr. (#6E14), furnishes access to Lower Mill Creek Lake, and returns to the Red Cap Hole Tr. Fishing

and camping opportunities. Beautiful scenery. Logged out and brushed for 2017, with further maintenance done 2018, clear for hikers and stock. (Updated August 2018.)

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### **One Mile Trail (#6E17)**

This trail begins at a four way junction with the Horse Trail Ridge Tr. (#6E08) and the Crogan Basin Tr. (#6E16), and connects to the Devils Backbone Tr. (#12W02) and the Lipps Camp Tr. (#6E01). Part of a historic supply route that connected the coast to inland mining communities. No recent maintenance, and probably in a difficult condition. (Updated April 2018.)

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### **Red Cap Hole Trail (#6E14)**

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Takes off of the Crogan Hole Trail (#6E74) near the trailhead. After approximately 1 1/2 miles, the first leg of the Mill Creek Lakes Loop (#6E14, see separate description) branches to the right. The trail as far as the first junction with the Mill Creek Lakes Loop has been fully logged out for 2017, and further maintenance done 2018; clear for hikers and stock, with light brush. The remainder of the trail, to the junction with Horse Trail Ridge Tr., receives light use, and has received no recent maintenance. From Mill Creek Lakes to Domingo Creek, as of 2016 there were lots of down logs and encroaching brush. The trail past Domingo Creek is probably impassable at present. (Updated August 2018.)

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### **Salyer Trail (#5E31)**

Short access trail for the Trinity River.

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### **South Fork Trinity Trail (East Side) (#6E23.1)**

A long access trail to the Wild and Scenic South Fork of the Trinity River. Some sections of trail are very narrow with steep drop offs, not recommended for horses or small children. Beautiful trail in the springtime, with the wildflowers. Connects to South Fork Trinity Tr. (West Side) (#6E23.2) after fording the river. Ten or fifteen large down logs that have not been cleared were noted summer 2017, and are still there as of summer 2018. Otherwise, the trail is in decent condition. (Updated August 2018.)

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### **South Fork Trinity Trail (West Side) (#6E23.2)**

A long access trail to the Wild and Scenic South Fork of the Trinity River. Lesser used of the two South Fork Trails, this segment is not regularly maintained and can be hard to follow. Connects to the South Fork Trinity Tr. (East Side) (#6E23.1) after fording the river.

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### **Sucker Lake Trail (#5E35)**

Short trail off of Forest Highway 6 in the Oak Knob area. A lake access trail.

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### **Sugar Trail (#5E33)**

Short access trail to the Trinity River. Reaches the confluence of Horse Linto Creek. Used for fishing and general river recreation activities.

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### **Surprise Valley Trail**

Short little spur trail off Coon Creek Loop Trail (#6E39), that goes to an old homestead site on Surprise Creek. Not shown on most maps.

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### **Tish Tang Trail (#6E18)**

This has historically been one of the main access trails into the Trinity Alps from the west side. However, the trailhead currently has limited access. Some years ago, there was a boundary adjustment between the national forest and the Hoopa Reservation. The road as it approaches the trailhead now crosses the reservation. Due to past difficulties, the Hoopa Tribe currently finds it necessary to keep the primary access road closed to the public--the road rising from Horse Linto Campground is blocked by K-rails at the reservation boundary. A rough, more roundabout route from Hoopa remains available.

The Tish Tang Trail provides access to Humboldt County's largest montane meadow complex. There are some spectacular views along the way.

There has been no recent Forest Service maintenance. After climbing through a small section of lightly burned forest, the trail crosses the south fork of Tish Tang a Tang Creek. Most of the rest of the route as far as Patterson Meadows climbs more gradually through completely burned forest. This part of the trail rapidly brushed in following a series of wildfires in past years, including the massive 1999 Megram Fire. It became hard to follow due to down logs and brush. A 2016 report on the [hikinghumboldt.com](http://hikinghumboldt.com) Web site described the trail as "just about impassable beyond the creek due to brush encroachment." Nevertheless, the route currently gets moderate use by hunters from Hoopa, even some equestrians, who manage to push their way through, and who may have done some recent trimming back of the brush. Past Patterson Meadows, the remainder of the trail passes through unburned and lightly burned forest. (Updated September 2018.)

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### **Todd Ranch Trail (#6E37)**

Short access trail to the Wild and Scenic South Fork of the Trinity River.

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### **Tunnel Flat Trail (#6E75)**

Short access trail to the Trinity River. Used for rafting, fishing, and general river recreation activities.

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### **Wallace Camp-Forks Camp Trail (#4E28)**

Loop trail off Bug Creek Trail (#4E26). Trail is all elevation gain and loss. Begins on ridge top, travels down to Bug Creek, and then back to ridge top. Trail travels through many different vegetation types. Very low use. The trail is poorly defined in places.

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## **ORLEANS RANGER DISTRICT:**

### **Aikens Creek Trail (#5E08)**

Short access trail to the Klamath River near the Aikens Creek-Bluff Creek recreation area.

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### **Blue Lake Trail (#4E56)**

Loop trail around Blue Lake. Part of the Fish Lake recreation complex, Blue Lake has close vehicle access separate from the U.S. Forest Service developed campground at Fish Lake. The vegetation type is old growth Douglas-fir and mostly-deceased Port Orford-cedar. For those who prefer to hike to Blue Lake from the campground, it is approximately an hour hike along the Red Mountain Lake Trail. Maintenance, including installation of a new boardwalk across a boggy area, completed summer 2018. (Updated September 2018.)

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### **Bluff Creek Historical Trail (#5E01)**

Day hike trail near E-Ne-Nuk Campground. Suitable for year-round use. Trail goes from Highway 96 to Slate Creek Road. Only the Highway 96 end is marked by a sign. Gateway to bigfoot country. Brushing out and general maintenance completed 2017. The trail is generally in fine condition. There is one log across the trail near the Highway 96 end that presents a minor difficulty for hikers. (Updated September 2017.)

Approximate length: 1.4 miles.

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### **Boise Creek Trail (#5E05)**

Short access trail down to the mouth of Boise Creek at the confluence with the Klamath River.

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### **Boundary Trail (North) (Orleans and Ukonom R.D.) (#4E50)**

NOTE: The spur road from the Gasquet-Orleans Rd. to the trailhead in Elk Valley is subject to closure during the rainy season and well into spring to combat spread of the Port Orford-cedar pathogen. Inquire about the road status at the Orleans Ranger District office. (Open for 2018 as of June 1.)

Low maintenance, for experienced hikers. Within the Siskiyou Wilderness. Beautiful high country scenery and lots of solitude.

Going north from where the end of the road in Elk Valley crosses Blue Creek (possibly dry), watch for a wooden trail sign high in a tree to your left marking the start of the trail. The trail is maintained as far as the first pass to a moderate standard, passable to hikers and stock, though a few trees are down. This is approximately 1.5 miles from the trailhead, just past a small, high tarn.

From this point the trail descends very steeply to two meadow crossings, then ascends extremely steeply to a junction with the disappearing Buck Camp Ridge Trail (which crosses into the Gasquet Ranger District), and then to a ridge south of Sawtooth Mountain. It then descends, at a rate beyond extremely steeply, into Elk Hole. The trail as far as this descent and through Elk Hole has received partial maintenance for 2017. It crosses an area burned in a wildfire several years ago. A number of large down trees remain, but bypasses are available, the trail is otherwise free of obstacles, and the way is almost always plain to see. There is now a clear path descending to Elk Hole and crossing the pond outlet. Starting from the trail's north end at the junction of the South Kelsey Tr. (which is well past the ranger district boundary), part of the Boundary Trail was worked in 2017 by a Siskiyou Mountain Club crew. This route was previously in extremely difficult condition. The crew was able to complete a through hike out to Elk Valley. However, they reported a large landslide somewhere along the route--apparently north of Dillon Divide--making passage difficult for hikers. There are plans to repair this in summer 2018. The trail between Elk Hole and the vicinity of Dillon Divide is known to be moderately to very brushy in places. Please inquire of the Happy Camp District concerning conditions from the vicinity of Dillon Divide to the South Kelsey Tr.

This trail is not recommended for stock past the south shoulder of Sawtooth Mountain, due to excessive grade and poor trail surface--equestrians should not attempt to descend to Elk Hole. The trail past the first summit out of Elk Valley may be very difficult for stock at present, until deadfalls are cleared.

Please be aware that during late summer months, members of native American peoples with homelands on the area's rivers frequently visit Elk Valley and the nearby high country, including the southern portion of the Boundary Tr., for spiritual purposes. Please do not approach other persons

you may see in these areas, as they may wish to remain in complete isolation. Please pass through quickly and quietly. (Updated September 2017.)

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### **Boundary Trail (West)**

This old jeep road, now closed to vehicles, running west from Elk Valley, is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail.

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### **Camp Creek Trail (#5E04)**

Accesses Head Camp, an old gold mining area. Not maintained regularly.

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### **Devils Backbone Trail (#12W02)**

Provides access to a remote part of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Spectacular scenery. The north end of the trail begins at a junction with the Salmon Summit Tr. (#6E03). A short distance south, the trail reaches junctions (very close to each other) with a second connection to the easterly continuation of the Salmon Summit Tr. (to the left), and with a steep, little-maintained route to Red Cap Lake. From there, the Devils Backbone Tr. continues south, staying close to the ridgeline, ending at a junction with the One Mile Tr. (#6E17) and the Lipps Camp Tr. (#6E01). Due to its remoteness, this trail is not frequently maintained. *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, reported that the north end of the trail was "too overgrown to recommend, though an intrepid hiker might be able to follow the route." However, according to an August 18, 2011 report at [www.facebook.com/trinityalps/](http://www.facebook.com/trinityalps/), the trail from Eight Mile Camp (some distance south from the start of the trail at Salmon Summit Tr.) to One Mile Camp had recently been restored by a California Conservation Corps crew under contract with the USFS. In July 2018, Mike McFadin, the Wilderness Trails Manager for the Weaverville Ranger District, Trinity National Forest, reported that when he hiked the trail in 2016, it wasn't in bad shape, mostly traversing open forest, with only a modest number of trees down. The Weaverville District is applying for funds to do maintenance work on this trail. It is managed jointly by the Lower Trinity District and the Weaverville District. (Updated July 2018.)

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### **East Fork Blue Creek Trail (#4E09)**

NOTE: The Nickowitz Peak Rd. to the trailhead is subject to closure during the rainy season and well into spring to combat spread of the Port Orford-cedar pathogen. Inquire about the road status at the Orleans Ranger District office. In most years, it opens June 1, and closes after the first one inch fall of rain in autumn.

Siskiyou Wilderness trail. Beautiful high country scenery and low visitor use. This trail furnishes access to a section of creek bottom that supports a stand of very large Douglas-fir, and one of the

finest stands of Port Orford-cedar on the Six Rivers National Forest. The trail begins by descending a steep series of switchbacks through a regenerating forest on a decades-old cut block. As it enters old growth forest, it intersects an older section of trail (abandoned from that point east), and continues west high above the creek, finally descending gradually. The trail then crosses the creek five times. Watch closely for the crossing points, as they may be obscure. In summer, the crossings are ordinarily no more than knee deep, and the water not too swift. The crossings generally require wading at any time of year, so bring wetable footwear. The trail then begins a long ascent of the ridge to the north. The continuation of the trail here is known as the Forks of Blue Trail—see the separate entry for that trail.

Efforts of a fire crew in 2017, and Forest Service crews in 2016 to 2018, mostly logged out and fully brushed out the trail to the canyon bottom and the first creek crossing. A few easy stepover logs remain as one gets closer to the creek. Generally in very good condition. Passable for equestrians, with caution. Between the first and the last of the creek crossings, there are several large logs to clamber over--not stock passable. Maintenance was performed in 2017 and 2018 on the Nickowitz Peak Rd. from the G-O Rd. to the trailhead, making it passable for passenger cars. As always, continue to watch for newly-dislodged rocks on both the paved and unpaved sections of the road. (Updated September 2018.)

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### **Fish Lake Trail (#4E54)**

Trail around lake at developed U.S. Forest Service campground. Camping, boating, and fishing opportunities. Connects to several other trails for nice day hike opportunities.

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### **Forks of Blue Trail (#4E07)**

Siskiyou Wilderness trail. Beautiful high country scenery and solitude. Low visitor use.

The trail begins at a signboard visible from the G-O Rd. (which dead ends to the north, it is not a through road). The trail undulates through forest and meadows, passing a scenic viewpoint on a serpentine bald along the way, then drops and follows a ridge line to the south, then climbs to a high point. Eventually it makes a long descent from the south end of this ridge. Nearing the creek bottom, at an old square gate post, is an almost indiscernible intersection with an old route that descended the drainage of the main branch of Blue Creek--no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, it has not received maintenance in many decades. The trail soon reaches a creek crossing. The continuation of the trail past here is known as the East Fork Blue Creek Trail—see the separate entry for that trail.

Largely logged out and brushed out 2017 by a fire crew and the USFS *to shortly past the south end of the major north-south ridge only*, over five miles from the trailhead. To that point, the trail is passable for hikers, and for well experienced equestrians and mounts only. There are some sketchy bypasses of down logs about 1 ½ miles from the northern trailhead. Otherwise, it is mostly pleasant walking. The area of the south end of the ridge burned over in the Forks Fire in the summer of 2017.

The fire stayed on the ground, with no torching in the area of the trail. The route has been cleared and flagged through the fire footprint. Just past this point, the trail drops for a short distance south on a vague route down a small wooded valley, then traverses west across a slope. This part of the trail has also been flagged. However, along the slope just past, the trail enters a thick stand of knobcone pines, all now about five feet high, which as one goes forward becomes increasingly mixed with thickly-growing brush. The exact location of the trail becomes indiscernible for a distance of about half a mile. It is extremely rough going here. Only well experienced Klamath Mountain hikers with excellent route-finding skills and great patience with unpleasant brush should attempt a through hike. Budget an extra 45 to 60 minutes for getting through this obstacle. Close attention to the location of the route as shown on topographic maps is essential if one is to stay on an even minimally passable route, and locate the continuation of the trail at the far end of the brush patch, at the top of Peak 3910, marked on topographic maps. A route has been lightly (meaning inadequately) flagged, but flags have a way of disappearing. Past Peak 3910, the rest of the trail descending to East Fork Blue Creek has received light maintenance in 2018. Many small stepover logs, a small number of large clamber-over logs, and one duck-under log remain. It is not a bad trail, but is hard to follow in places. All confusing spots have been flagged, for now. (Updated September 2018.)

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### **Lubbs Trail**

This trail is open to motorcycles, small 4-wheeled OHVs, and mountain bikes. Very light use. Very brushy and difficult to use at present. (Updated September 2017.)

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### **Orleans Mountain Trail (#6E04)**

In the Salmon Mountains range. This trail branches off the Salmon Summit Trail near its trailhead, and approaches Orleans Mountain, which is the location of a fire lookout, from the south.

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### **Prospect Trail (#6E02)**

Passes through a mixed evergreen forest and some interesting serpentine bunchgrass prairies. Long stretches of the trail follow old ditches that were used in early days to carry water for use in hydraulic mining. There are other relics of mining activity to be seen. Suitable for year-round use.

The unmarked upper trailhead is shortly past the 6-mile sign on the right side of the G-O Rd. The trail departs from the southeastern corner of the parking area. After closely following a former ditch for a long distance, the trail turns to the left and begins a long, steep descent, very steep at times, switchbacking to the lower trailhead on Ishi Pishi Rd. This trailhead is marked by a sign.

Most of the length of the trail, in from both the upper and lower trailheads, has been cleared of most obstacles in 2017, and is easily passable (a few logs that can be clambered over remain). However, somewhat past one mile in from the lower trailhead there is a place that currently requires walking

a long, suspended fir log high above the ground. Some users may not be comfortable with this. A short distance above this point a major blowdown has dropped a tangle of large firs across the trail. Continuing here presently requires a steep, difficult bypass with poor footing. Also, be aware that poison oak is abundant along the top section of the trail. A fire crew is planning to log out the full trail in autumn 2018.

A short continuation of the trail on the other side of Ishi Pishi Rd. can be used for river access. It has been brushed out for 2018. (Updated July 2018.)

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### **Red Cap Lake Trail**

Trail branches off the Salmon Summit Trail, furnishing access to Red Cap Lake. Fully logged out and maintained to the lake July 2018. *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, reported that the trail climbing to the Devils Backbone Trail, past Red Cap Lake, was "too overgrown to recommend, though an intrepid hiker might be able to follow the route." (Updated August 2018.)

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### **Red Mountain Lake Trail (#4E55)**

Part of the Fish Lake recreation complex that includes a U.S. Forest Service developed campground. Connects Fish Lake and Blue Lake, both of which have vehicle access. Red Mountain Lake is only accessed by hiking.

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### **Salmon Summit Trail (#6E03)**

National Recreation Trail. Accesses Red Cap Lake (via a spur, see the separate description) and the Salmon Mountain area. Using the Devils Backbone trail, this system of trails connects the Salmon Mountain and Trinity Alps Wilderness recreation areas. Beautiful mountain lakes and outrageous vistas with low visitor use!

General maintenance done to the lake spur 2017. Fully logged out to the lake spur and further maintenance performed July 2018--suitable for hikers and equestrians. There have been no recent reports of the condition of the Salmon Summit Trail past the turnoff to Red Cap Lake. (Updated August 2018.)

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### **Short Ranch Trail**

This route (in the Boise Creek drainage near Le Perron Flat) is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not received maintenance in many decades.

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## **Whitmore Creek Trail (#6E72)**

Short river access trail, mainly for fishing. Reaches the mouth of Whitmore Creek at the confluence with the Klamath River.

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### **UKONOM RANGER DISTRICT:**

## **Bridge Creek Trail (#5816)**

This long trail rises from Wooley Creek Trail, and climbs thousands of feet to intersect with the Haypress Trail near the Onemile Lake Trail junction. It follows the valley of Bridge Creek the whole way, and exposes the visitor to a variety of forest types, from lowland mixed hardwood-Douglas-fir-pine forest to higher elevation Shasta red fir forest. There is good camping at Cedar Flat, and at a number of other locations between there and the Pleasant Lake Trail junction.

The lower section of the trail, from Wooley Creek Trail near Fowler Cabin to the first crossing of Bridge Creek, saw many trees come down between 2011 and 2016—firs, madrones, and especially large tangles of tan oak. In 2016, following the small "Wilderness Fire," clearing was completed from the bottom of the trail to one mile below Yellowjacket Creek. There are areas of narrow trail tread in this area. The trail from there to Yellowjacket Creek may remain extremely difficult to penetrate, even for determined hikers, due to brush and numerous down trees. Minimal clearing was also completed between 2014 and 2016 from Yellowjacket Creek to the junction of Halfmoon Meadow Trail. Many down logs, some large, that a hiker could climb over remained along the sections of trail that were worked. This section of trail is not stock passable. There are a number of pieces of extremely narrow trail tread between Yellowjacket Creek and Snowslide Gulch, making travel for hikers somewhat hazardous. The condition of the trail from the junction of Halfmoon Meadow Trail north past the Pleasant Lake junction has been much better in recent years. However, a number of logs have been known to be down across the trail, which may make travel for stock difficult. According to a July 2018 report, the number of down logs may have increased significantly in the past two years. North from the Pleasant Lake junction, hikers reported in June 2018 that the trail was "heavily littered and overgrown in many locations." This was confirmed by a July 2018 report. A piece of the trail near its extreme upper end, where it crosses a broad, sandy sloping meadow, is faint and hard to follow, even "indistinguishable." There are many large fir logs down on the top quarter mile of the trail. Hikers can get over or around them, but stock travel would be difficult. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 10.2 miles

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## **Black Mountain Trail**

This extremely steep route is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not received maintenance in many decades. Most would consider it indiscernible at this point.

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### **Burney Lake Trail**

Extends into the Happy Camp Ranger District. Condition unknown at present, but probably rough. No recent maintenance. (Updated September 2017.)

Approximate length: 0.8 miles

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### **Butler Mountain Trail (#7E15)**

There are currently access issues at the northern trailhead, where the trail approaches private property. The southern trailhead is easy to spot, with the trail switchbacking up a short, open slope across the road from a home. The condition of most of the trail is unknown at present, but from the southern end it soon gets pretty rough. No recent maintenance. (Updated September 2017.)

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### **Camp Three Trail**

This extremely steep route is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not received maintenance in many decades.

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### **Cuddihy Lakes Trail (#5825)**

This spur connects the Haypress Trail with Cuddihy Lakes. A second branch of the trail, about 0.6 mile in, goes to the left to a stock camp. Logged out for 2018, passable for hikers and stock. (Updated July 2018.)

Approximate length: 0.8 mile

Approximate length of stock camp spur: 0.2 mile

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### **Halfmoon Meadow Trail (#5818)**

CAUTION--Most of the length of the trail burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017, some relatively short parts of it very intensely. There were areas of major torching, which have left a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. Please be guided accordingly.

This trail runs for several miles from its start at the Haypress Trail by Halfmoon Creek. It initially passes several branches of Halfmoon Meadow. It then starts traversing a mixed conifer forest across a slope dropping to the south. After climbing to a divide, it enters the watershed of Bridge Creek, and views of Medicine Mountain open up. From here to Bridge Creek Trail, near Cedar Flat, the Halfmoon Meadow Trail slowly drops, with many undulations, passing alternately through burned

forest and areas of impressive standing old growth forest. Watch for an especially large incense cedar about 1.8 miles from the start of the trail.

Signs at the Haypress Trail junction are currently missing, having burned up in 2017. The first piece of trail passing the main part of Halfmoon Meadow has been logged out for 2018. The trail beyond this point has only a few remaining down logs for about a mile, and is stock passable. From there to the Bridge Creek divide, the obstacles increase in size and difficulty, although they are not numerous; the trail here is no longer stock passable. Along the rest of the trail, from the divide to near Cedar Flat, as of August 2018 there are about 100 to 120 trees down, of diameter eight inches or larger, some very large. Some are moderately difficult to clamber over or under, or bypass, making the hike strenuous with a full pack. Most are easy stepovers. The majority of the route is actually pleasant walking. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 4.2 miles

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### **Haypress Trail (#5828)**

NOTE--It is not currently possible to drive between the Camp Four Trailhead (the trailhead for Haypress Tr.) and the Stanshaw Trailhead, due to a major washout. No repair has yet been scheduled.

CAUTION--Long sections of the trail--most of the way from the trailhead to Monument Lake, and for approximately two miles from the Cuddihy Lakes Trail junction continuing east--burned over in the Haypress and Burney Fires, summer 2017. There were areas of major torching, which have left a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. Please be guided accordingly.

This is the primary western access to the high country of the Marble Mountain Wilderness. The trail starts at the Camp Four Trailhead (*no camping facilities*, this was the name of a logging camp). It initially climbs through forest, including areas of beautiful, open, old growth forest, mostly on a gentle grade, then drops to Trail Meadow and a crossing of Haypress Creek. Soon it meets the Stanshaw Meadows and Let'er Buck Trails. It then climbs steadily to a divide and drops to Halfmoon Creek and junctions with the Torgerson Meadow and Halfmoon Meadow Trails.

From that point, the trail begins a long, steady, tough climb. One passes a short spur to Round Meadow, with a campsite. Then there is a fine spring just before the trail makes a switchback left. *This is usually the last trailside water before Spirit Lake; until that point, one must go down a spur trail to one of the lakes for water.* The climb ends at the top of Sandy Ridge, where views open up and one truly enters the high country. Soon after is the upper junction with the McCash Loop. *Maps show the site of historic Pickle Camp nearby, but there is no longer any discernible campsite or readily accessible water at this location, which has been affected by numerous fires and heavy growth of brush.* Before long one reaches the spur downhill to the south to popular Monument Lake. Another few miles brings one to junctions with a spur to Meteor Lake, then the Bridge Creek Trail, then trails to Onemile Lake and beyond, to Granite Meadow, to Cuddihy Lakes, and to Burney Lake.

The trail leaves the Ukonom Ranger District near Spirit Lake. For information on the trail past that point, contact the Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest.

Most equestrians choose to begin their trip at the Stanshaw Trailhead. While a moderately longer route, the Stanshaw Meadows Trail is maintained in a condition better for pack stock, and the Stanshaw Trailhead has corrals, space for large trailers, and camping facilities (though water only for stock).

A full logout, brushing, and general maintenance have been done in 2018 from the trailhead to some distance past the Cuddihy Lakes junction. This section is in very good condition for hikers and stock, as is the Round Meadow spur. In 2016, nearly all obstacles through to the Burney Lake spur were cleared, and brushing completed, making the trail stock passable to that point. A July 2018 report stated that despite the effects of the 2017 Burney Fire, this part of the trail remains mostly free of obstacles, in "good" condition, though a handful of down logs remain. Between the Burney Lake junction and Spirit Lake, there is a tangle of logs and brush covering the trail in the area of an old burn (not the 2017 Burney Fire), for about a half mile. Hikers can get through with moderate to high difficulty, but the route is completely impassable for stock.

The maintenance responsibility of the Ukonom Ranger District ends just before Spirit Lake. For further information on conditions past Spirit Lake, users are strongly advised to contact the Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District at (530) 468-5351.

The old lower extension of the Haypress Trail (below the Camp Four Trailhead) is not currently a Forest Service-maintained trail. (Updated September 2018.)

Approximate length: 19.7 miles (including the portion past the ranger district boundary)  
Approximate length of Round Meadow spur: 0.1 mile

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### **Let'er Buck Trail (#5821)**

CAUTION--Most of the length of the trail burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017. There were areas of major torching, which have left a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. Please be guided accordingly.

This trail is a scenic alternative to the first part of the Haypress Trail. It is a primitive trail, and has some very steep ups and downs, but when clear of obstacles presents no real difficulties for hikers or stock. The trail starts out through forested country. One passes a number of impressive old sugar pines, though sadly many were killed in the 2017 Haypress Fire. After approximately three-quarters of a mile, the trail passes the end of a spur road. This road can be used as an alternate starting point for hikes or rides, but is not maintained to a high standard and is not recommended for passenger cars. From this point, the trail begins climbing steeply, then eventually drops very steeply to cross the first of several meadows. The rest of the trail undulates and crosses both wet and dry meadows, which have ever-changing displays of wildflowers through the summer. The crossing of Let'er Buck Meadow can be confusing. In either direction, cross the very boggy meadow in a straight line past

the solitary tree in the middle of the meadow. The trail ends at Haypress Trail, just above the junction with Stanshaw Meadows Trail.

The trail has received considerable maintenance in 2018. It is in good condition for its full length. Sections that were hard to follow due to the effects of fire have been well flagged. Increasing hiker traffic is making the trail easier to follow. A total of 12 down trees remain. They are stepovers for hikers, but present moderate difficulties for stock users. (Updated September 2018.)

Approximate length: 2.4 miles

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### **McCash Loop (#5823)**

CAUTION--Up to half of the length of the trail burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017. While it has not been possible to inspect the trail, there may be many newly-fallen trees. There may be a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. The following notes may not accurately reflect the current condition of the trail. Please be guided accordingly.

This trail provides access to Big Meadow and Long Meadow, with a number of good campsites, mostly undulating through forest along the meadow margins. At the top of Long Meadow, the trail makes a ridiculously steep ascent. It then follows the ridge top, with views to the north, passing a junction with Torgerson Meadow Trail. After a short drop from the top of Sandy Ridge, it reaches the Haypress Trail.

McCash Loop received maintenance in 2014. The trail was clear at that time, except for blockages at the extreme eastern end at Haypress Trail, which then burned out in 2017. There has been no maintenance since. Reportedly timber has come down, mostly after the upper end of Long Meadow, making progress difficult. The sign at the upper junction burned in the 2017 Haypress Fire, and the trail at this junction is difficult to discern. If you are starting from this junction, angle westward up the slope a short distance to a saddle, at which point the trail drops to the north slope of the ridge. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 4.2 mile

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### **Medicine Mountain Trail (#5820 or 7E11)**

This dead end route from Bridge Creek Trail at Cedar Flat to the top of Medicine Mountain has been allowed to revert to a very primitive status. There is one exception. The first tenth of a mile of the trail, crossing Bridge Creek to a good campsite, has been maintained to a good standard. However, there is one large log down on this piece of the trail. Hikers and stock can get over or around it. From the campsite onward, the trail is not advised for stock. As of 2014, there were a number of down logs along the entire route, and finding the route was difficult in places, particularly at one point high on Medicine Mountain where the trail had completely disappeared due to the effects of a past blowdown

and a subsequent intense fire. A July 2018 report stated that there was moderate brush in places before Buns Basin, and that above that point there was fairly dense brush along much of the route and there were a number of deadfalls. Those who know the way will be able to get through, though. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 3.2 miles

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### **Meteor Lake Trail (#5830)**

This spur connects the Haypress Trail to Meteor Lake. Logged out for 2018, in good condition. (Updated July 2018.)

Approximate length: 0.9 mile

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### **Monument Lake Trail (#5831)**

This spur connects the Haypress Trail to Monument Lake. Logged out for 2018. (Updated July 2018.)

Approximate length: 0.7 mile

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### **Onemile Lake Trail (#5814)**

This spur connects the Haypress Trail with Onemile Lake. Cleared for 2017. Logged out and mostly brushed out for 2018, in good condition. (Updated July 2018.)

Approximate length: 1.0 mile

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### **Pleasant Lake Trail (#5820 or 7E08A)**

This spur from Bridge Creek Trail furnishes access to Pleasant Lake.

About the first 0.3 mile of the trail is well constructed. After this, a short spur trail leads left to a pleasant stock camp with excellent forage but limited water. From this point, the trail steepens and is very primitive. Stock is not advised on the rest of the trail, due to extremely small camping space and minimal forage at Pleasant Lake.

The trail mostly passes through open country, and generally sees few deadfalls. However, hikers reported in June 2018 that after the initial 0.3 mile, the trail was brushy, with "several stepover and goaround logs," though about the same as it had been for the past eight years or more. (Updated June 2018.)

Approximate length: 1.1 miles

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### **Portuguese Peak Trail**

Historically, this trail has furnished access to the high country of the southern Marble Mountain Wilderness, in the vicinity of Crapo Meadows and English Peak, climbing from the level of the Salmon River. This is a steep, dry trail that climbs over 6,000 vertical feet net. There is no water until about a mile from the end of the trail. In recent years, about the first two miles of the trail have been maintained by a fire crew based at Oak Bottom, and has been in good condition for hikers and equestrians. After climbing through an area that burned several years ago, fully exposed to the summer sun, the trail enters a beautiful old growth forest. At the end of those two miles, the condition abruptly changes, and one will encounter heavy brush making the trail essentially impassable at present. (Updated September 2016.)

Approximate length (including the portion past the ranger district boundary): 11.6 miles

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### **Rogers Creek Trail**

This is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not received maintenance in many decades.

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### **Secret Lake Trail (#5829)**

This very primitive trail is a continuation of the Onemile Lake Trail. It starts by following the eastern shore of Onemile Lake, crosses the narrows of the lake, climbs to a high ridge, then descends Secret Valley to deep and hidden Secret Lake. The route can be difficult to find in places. The current condition is unknown. The trail has not received maintenance in several years. (Updated August 2017.)

Approximate length: 1.9 miles

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### **Somes Mountain Trail (#6E05) and Salmon River Trail**

Somes Mountain Trail accesses the Salmon Mountains range. The first part of the trail is a pleasant walk with close views of the Salmon River, though one should beware of abundant knee-high poison oak. After 3/4 mile, one reaches a signed junction with the Salmon River Trail. This trail continues up the river for another half mile, ending on a river bar opposite the Oak Bottom river access point.

The Salmon River Trail formerly continued on a historical route crossing the mouth of Somes Creek, up Monte Creek, over the mountain, and then up the Salmon River to Forks of Salmon. This route also used the Butler Mountain Trail. (See the separate description of that trail in this document.) This

was the sole means of traveling up river before the construction of the Salmon River Rd. in the early 20th century. The continuation to and past Somes Creek is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not been used or received maintenance in many decades. The section just past the end of the currently maintained trail, traversing the riverside cliff to Somes Creek, is overgrown, and dangerous due to extensive destruction by landslides. The distant southern end of the route, where it reached the Salmon River Rd., has been destroyed by flooding.

From the junction, the main Somes Mountain Trail continues to the right, up the peak. This is a steep, hard, and narrow trail to hike--many miles long, with a 4700 foot elevation gain to the top of Somes Mountain. In many places the tread of the trail is sloughing, causing the trail to creep. The tread is soft in many places, causing collapsing of edges. There are a couple of places up on the ridge where the view is spectacular, allowing a great view of Orleans. The trail continues past the top of Somes Mountain to Orleans Mountain, with its fire lookout reached by a four wheel drive road. The Somes Mountain Tr. is a dry hike. A hiker will not find any water or creeks after passing small tributaries in the canyon of the Salmon River near the beginning of the trail. The dead end branch trail going to the Red Wing Mine is not a Forest Service-maintained trail.

The first part of the Somes Mountain Trail, to the trail junction, and the continuation as the Salmon River Trail, received maintenance in 2017 and 2018, have been mostly logged out and brushed out, and are in decent condition. Some duck-under logs remain; not suitable for stock for that reason. The rest of the Somes Mountain Tr., up Somes Mountain and beyond, has received no recent maintenance, and there are no recent reports of conditions. The first quarter mile of the route displays considerable growth of vegetation and quite a few down logs. (Updated September 2018.)

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### **Stanshaw Meadows Trail (#5819)**

NOTE--It is not currently possible to drive between the Haypress Trailhead (Camp Four) and the Stanshaw Trailhead, or to approach the Stanshaw Trailhead from the Camp Three Road, due to a major washout. No repair has yet been scheduled. The Stanshaw Trailhead must be approached using the road from Ti Bar on California Highway 96. Snow may block the road early in the season.

For equestrians, this is the most popular western access to the high country of the Marble Mountain Wilderness. The Stanshaw Meadows Trail traverses fir, pine, and hemlock forests, passing many small meadows, rising and falling along its entire length. It is an alternative to the first part of the Haypress Trail--a longer route, involving more climbing, but maintained to standards more suitable for stock. The trail intersects the Ten Bear Trail after about 1.7 miles. Close to its end, it reaches the lower intersection with the McCash Loop. After one final short climb, it drops to Haypress Creek and the terminus at the Haypress Trail.

The trail received basic maintenance in June 2018. This addressed the effects of the 2017 Haypress Fire. The trail has been fully logged out, and is generally in good condition. Despite recent

maintenance, there is a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. Please be guided accordingly.

The lower extension of the trail, which descended from the road from Camp Three, across from an older, no longer used alignment of the upper trail, is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not received maintenance in many decades. (Updated June 2018.)

Approximate length: 3.3 miles

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### **Steinacher Trail (#5413 or 12W20)**

This short access to a cool, pretty glade along Steinacher Creek starts at the end of the stub of the Steinacher Creek Rd. It initially follows the route of the fully decommissioned road, then descends into the ravine of the creek. Expect plenty of poison oak. In very good condition. Fully cleared and brushed 2016 and 2017, with further maintenance 2018. There are a few newly-fallen small trees partially blocking the trail at its very end, after it reaches the creek bottom, but they are a minor impediment. The old continuation past Steinacher Creek is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not received maintenance in many decades. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 0.8 miles

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### **Ten Bear Trail (#5802)**

NOTE—It is not currently possible to drive between the Haypress Trailhead (Camp Four) and the Stanshaw Trailhead, or to approach the Ten Bear Trailhead from the Camp Three Road, due to a major washout. No repair has yet been scheduled. The Ten Bear Trailhead must be approached using the road from Ti Bar on California Highway 96. Snow may block the road early in the season.

This trail is a quiet alternative to the first part of the Stanshaw Trail. It is a primitive trail, with some steep sections, but presents no real difficulties for hikers or stock. The trail goes through forested country, passing several small, lovely meadows. The crossing of Ross Meadow can be confusing. In either direction, start crossing at the large rock cairn at the edge of the meadow, pass between the two cairns in the middle, and aim for the large cairn at the opposite edge.

The Ten Bear Trail received maintenance in 2016 and again in 2018, removing all obstacles and clearing brush. It is in very good condition for hikers and equestrians. The pieces of the old extension of the Ten Bear Trail, continuing north from the current trailhead at the end of a spur road, as far as the vicinity of Ten Bear Mountain and beyond, are no longer Forest Service-maintained, have not received maintenance in many decades, and are very difficult to discern. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 2.6 miles

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## **Ti Creek Trail**

This is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail. It has not received maintenance in many decades, and is well grown over. Nevertheless, there is still a sign in a tree about 30 feet above the Ten Bear Tr., marking the old junction.

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## **Torgerson Meadow Trail (#5827)**

CAUTION--Much of the length of the trail burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017. While it has not been possible to inspect the trail, it is believed that there may have been areas of major torching, possibly leading to many newly-fallen trees. There may be a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. The following notes may not accurately reflect the current condition of the trail. Please be guided accordingly.

This trail provides an alternate route to Haypress Trail's climb up the western slope of Sandy Ridge.

The trail has received no recent maintenance. In 2016 it was reported to be passable. There are reports of additional trees having come down over the following winter, so progress may be difficult. As of summer 2018, the first quarter mile of trail above the junction at Halfmoon Creek is passable and in fair condition. No inspection has been completed past that point. (Updated September 2018.)

Approximate length: 1.6 miles

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## **Ukonom Creek Trail**

This trail, and its various branches, are no longer Forest Service-maintained trails, and have not received maintenance in many decades. "Ukonom Creek Trail" refers to the route that had two starting locations, one on the east bank of the Klamath River, and the other starting downhill from the slopes of Ukonom Mountain. It should not be confused with the short, informal path near the mouth of the creek often used by river rafters. The Klamath National Forest's 1976 King Unit Land Use Plan Environmental Impact Statement said, "Access to the Ukonom Creek Trail is very difficult because of the necessity to cross the Klamath River by boat, ford it, or walk down steep slopes into the creek from roads on the ridge tops several thousand feet above." The 1993 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Klamath National Forest Plan said, "The Ukonom Creek Trail receives little use and has deteriorated to the point where it is unusable beyond the first 3 miles, although the trail prism is in excellent shape." The situation has not improved in the years since.

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## **Unnamed Route Rising West from Nordheimer Campground (#7E16)**

Although a numbered route at this location shows on some maps, it is not a Forest Service-maintained trail, and appears to be nonexistent.

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## **Wooley Creek Path**

This very short access to Wooley Creek near its mouth starts near the end of the stub of the Steinacher Creek Road, off an unpaved road loop at the ridgeline dividing the Salmon River and Wooley Creek watersheds. It is steep and has some very narrow, precarious spots. Use caution traveling with children, as there are sheer dropoffs. Not suitable for stock. Maintained for 2018, and in good condition. (Updated July 2018.)

Approximate length: 0.2 miles

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## **Wooley Creek Trail (#5832)**

This trail provides access to the heart of the Marble Mountain Wilderness. Wooley Creek has been designated a Wild and Scenic River. A predominantly shady, undulating walk through impressive stands of old growth Douglas fir, pine, and hardwoods; however, the first part climbs steeply across several hundred feet of rocky talus slope exposed to the midday sun. After this initial climb, the trail roller-coasters along, sometimes close to the creek, at other times climbing high above bluffs, or hanging precipitously to the cliff's edge. Water sources are frequent, as numerous small streams flow down to join Wooley Creek.

The first access to Wooley Creek is possible about 2.7 miles from the trailhead, before the crossing of Deer Lick Creek. At 6.3 miles in, a side trail leads downhill to the right, to and past Wooley Camp, a private inholding. Please respect the owners' property rights. The public trail continues to the left, crossing higher across the mountainside, rejoined by the private trail a short distance before Haypress Creek.

After about 10.1 miles, just short of Fowler Cabin, the trail splits. This junction is obscure, and there is no sign. The left branch bypasses the cabin, skirting above the meadow, while the right branch goes directly past the cabin. The two branches rejoin after about 0.2 mile. Follow the left branch to find the signed junction of the Bridge Creek Trail, accessing Medicine Mountain, Pleasant Lake, and eventually the Haypress Trail near Onemile and Cuddihy Lakes. Fowler Cabin is a historic structure, an interesting reminder of pioneer days in a lovely small meadow. The cabin is reserved for administrative use, but is open to the public.

Beyond Fowler Cabin, the trail follows closer to Wooley Creek, offering frequent views of and access to the water. The North Fork of Wooley Creek is about 15.8 miles from the trailhead. This can be a difficult crossing at high water. There may be some logs upstream, which afford a dry crossing if flood waters have not moved them. Here the trail leaves the Ukonom Ranger District, and enters the Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District and the route number becomes 5558.

At mile 18.8 is a junction with the Big Meadows Trail that leads to Wild Lake and the North Fork of the Salmon River. To continue up Wooley Creek eventually leads one to the vicinity of Big Elk Lake and the Marble Rim.

This trail is known as much for its abundant poison oak and rattlesnakes as for its access to great swimming, kayaking, and trout fishing, so please use caution. The weather at the low elevations that the trail traverses can be very hot in summer, so choose times of day and of the year for your travels with this in mind. On the other hand, the low elevation makes Wooley Creek Trail one of the few long distance trails in the district suitable for year round use, and it can be a very pleasant trip even in the middle of winter. Wildflower displays at lower elevations can be very good early in the season, especially in May. Please note that during periods of thaw, the crossings of Deer Lick Creek and some of the larger streams farther along the trail may become difficult and hazardous. (There are bridges that cross Haypress and Bridge Creeks, the largest of the side streams.) Also, many trees may fall in winter, creating obstacles.

The effort is made to maintain Wooley Creek Trail for pack and saddle stock as well as for hikers. However, parts of the trail present significant falling hazards for stock, due to narrow tread traversing above long, steep drops. Only experienced riders and animals, prepared to accept these risks, should make the journey. Conditions change from year to year and season to season, due to the effects of weather that may damage the trail.

The route from the trailhead to Fowler Cabin received basic maintenance in May and August 2018, and is generally in good condition. This work addressed the effects of the 2017 Haypress Fire. Brushing was completed in most locations in need of it. Many areas of narrow tread were widened, but some narrow, moderately hazardous spots remain. A full logout was performed, with one exception. A very short distance before Bridge Creek, there is a very large fir log across the trail. Proceeding to Fowler Cabin requires a bypass that is sketchy for stock, and is strongly advised against for pack strings. Between the trailhead and Haypress Creek, stock users should watch for a number of projecting log and branch ends that are potential pack rubbers. Past Fowler Cabin, newly fallen trees were cleared nearly to the North Fork in July 2016. As of summer 2017, there were once again many small trees and several large firs down between Fowler Cabin and the North Fork. Hikers will be able to get through with modest difficulty. The trail past Canyon Creek is currently impassable to stock. This should be considered a long term situation. Equestrians should not attempt to descend the final grade to Canyon Creek, due to a crossing hazardous for stock, with no place to turn around. **WARNING**—there are two large slides across the trail about one mile above the North Fork. The party that reported this found the second of the slides to be an impediment to further progress that completely defeated them. There were earlier reports of many down trees on the section of trail past the North Fork, making the condition difficult for hikers, though some people were getting through. The Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District recreation officer reports that as of July 2018, there are still more than 100 tan oaks down between the North Fork and Big Meadows Tr. The district was not able to log out this portion of the trail in 2016 or 2017. The district hopes to maintain this part of the trail autumn 2018, but is uncertain of having the resources to do so. The trail from the Big Meadows Tr. to the end is "open." The trail below Big Elk Lake, through an area that burned in 2014, may be difficult to follow.

The maintenance responsibility of the Ukonom Ranger District ends at the North Fork. For further information on conditions past the North Fork, users are strongly advised to contact the Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District at (530) 468-5351.

Nearly all of the trail between Deer Lick Creek and Bridge Creek burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017. Despite recent maintenance, there is a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. Please be guided accordingly. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 27.7 miles (including the portion past the ranger district boundary)