

Trail Conditions and Descriptions, Orleans R.D. Administered Areas of the Klamath Mountains, Six Rivers National Forest

(Revised March 30, 2021)

This document is made available to the public at KlamathMountainTrails.us . There you can find additional information on trails in the Klamath Mountains of northern California, KML files showing the correct locations of trails, and more.

Early season notes for 2021:

River level trails are beautiful this time of year, and should be generally accessible. As of this writing, the high country trails are under snow. As the snows melt, they will start to become accessible. *Please note that the winter typically brings trees down across trails at all elevations. We have not yet received reports as to how winter may have affected conditions on any of the trails. Be prepared to encounter blockages, which could in some cases make forward progress hazardous or impossible. Initially, condition reports from last year may be obsolete. Carefully check the stated revision dates of reports on individual trails.*

Early season, access roads to trailheads in all of the mountain ranges within the scope of this document are likely to have trees and other debris fallen onto the right of way, which may make use difficult and may completely block roads in places. Progress clearing roads each year takes time. Early season, you may find that it's a "self-service" situation.

Note that virtually every mile of trail inside the Trinity Alps Wilderness boundary within the scope of this document was heavily affected by the 2020 Red Salmon Fire. Modest rehabilitation efforts were undertaken in the autumn of 2020, but the winter is likely to have resulted in many snags falling across trails, and sloughing of the trail tread in many places. Sections of trail that were previously brushy are likely to have many hardened, burned branch ends projecting into the trail right of way. Plans are being laid to rehabilitate many of the trails, but progress on this work will take time, stretching through the summer.

General information: This document covers all recreational trails for which the Orleans Ranger District has administrative responsibility. Duties of the district's maintenance staff cover three official ranger districts. The descriptions are grouped by 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 less experienced hikers. Most trails are suitable only for equestrians 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 lack recent information on conditions of some trails mentioned here. When planning a trip, *please note the revision date of each trail description*, and take into account the possibility that conditions may have changed since then. When on the trail, 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 always prudent to check with the office for the ranger district in which trails you plan to use are located for any further information they may have--but understand that staff may themselves not have full, up to date information on all trails, so do your homework. For trails in the Orleans and Ukonom Districts, contact the Orleans Ranger Station at One Ishi Pishi Rd., Orleans, Calif. 95556, (530) 627-3291. For trails in the Lower Trinity District, contact the Orleans Ranger Station or the Lower Trinity Ranger Station at 580 Highway 96, Willow Creek, Calif. 95573, (530) 629-2118. When doing so, mention to staff the revision date of this document.

Also available at KlamathMountainTrails.us --a detailed chart of mileages of trails in the Ukonom R.D. portion of the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

Trails on neighboring districts:

There are some notes on how to find information on trail conditions in neighboring ranger districts on the main page at KlamathMountainTrails.us .

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--but understand that staff themselves frequently do not have full, up to date information on all trails, so do your homework.

Some tips for locating 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 worn 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.

You can help improve the trail system! Please report any new information on trail conditions, or even confirmation of the continued accuracy of information in this document, to the Orleans Ranger District office, One Ishi Pishi Rd., Orleans, Calif., (530) 627-3291. Please send a copy of your report to the editor of this document at CPVR144@gmail.com . This will help us to assess maintenance needs, set work priorities, and furnish the public with accurate information.

Kick a stick! Or pick a stick. Or knock a rock. Off the trail, that is, with caution please. One of the ongoing trail maintenance tasks with which it very hard for trail crews to keep up is removal of small to medium-size sticks and rocks that constantly fall and litter trails. If every hiker removed a few of these in passing, the combined effort would go a long way toward keeping the trails clear.

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 the large montane meadow complexes of Lower Ferguson Meadows, then Bell Swamps, where it dead ends. Low maintenance. There has been no recent work. There have been no recent reports of conditions of most of the trail. The first part of the trail appears usable. Parts of the route are vague. There are sometimes confusing alternate paths. The main route often deviates greatly from what maps show. It must be understood that the trail was developed as a route for driving cattle to pastures. There are many old cow paths in the area. Users can expect an open way to proceed, if not a clear path, for about half a mile south from Lower Ferguson Meadows and the junction with Calf Swag Trail, past a final group of trees and small meadow. At that point, the trail starts a steep descent, entering the area most devastated in the 1999 Megram Fire. Aerial photographs show the trail to be extremely brushy from here most of the way to Bell Swamps. You would be doing well to find any trail whatsoever here. (Updated April 2018.)

Approximate length: 4.4 miles

Blacks Lake Trail (#6E09)

A steep scramble down from the Horse Trail Ridge Trail. Reportedly good fishing. Described in the 1995 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Trinity Alps Wilderness Management Plan as a "rough trace of a trail." In reality, this is little more than a cross-country route, even though it is assigned an official USFS trail number. No recent condition report. No recent maintenance. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 0.6 mile

Board Camp Trail (##4E27 & 4E26)

Trail to Fork Camp and Board Camp Mountain west from Forest Highway 1. Trailhead parking is at the end of a short unpaved spur road. The best, though overgrown start of the trail is back at the junction of this spur with F.H. 1. For a short distance it follows a decommissioned road. Thereafter, the trail is easy to follow, with no deadfalls or difficult brush. It has been receiving a moderate amount of motorcycle use. It appears that motorcyclists cleared down logs at some time in the past. As a result, the current trail deviates from the original route in places, making extra ups and downs. Past Fork Camp, the trail gets increasing ATV use, to where it ends at the jeep trail that ascends to the fire lookout site at the top of Board Camp Mountain. (Updated August 2019.)

Approximate length: 1.7 miles

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.

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.)

Bug Creek Trail (#4E26)

Starting from the jeep trail that ascends Board Camp Mountain, the trail runs west to the Mad River Buttes. Beautiful vistas of the Pacific Ocean, the Trinity Alps, and countless mountain ranges as far south as North Yolla Bolly. This is mostly a ridgetop trail, steep in places. It has very little water until one reaches Bug Creek, and then again after the trail leaves Bug Creek. A marvelous variety of wildflowers in spring. Light to moderate brush to the western junction with the Wallace Camp-Fork Camp Trail (#4E28). Past that point, the trail is very poorly defined in most stretches, has many deadfalls, and is brushy in places. (Updated November 2020.)

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. The trail will be difficult to find on the ground due to the effects of repeated fires in recent years, but in aerial photographs the way seems almost all open with little brush. (Updated April 2018.)

Approximate length: 1.6 miles

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.)

Approximate length: 0.6 mile

Crogan Basin Trail (#6E16)

Sometimes called Grogan Basin Trail or Oregon Basin Trail--these are probably misspellings. Trail into the western Trinity Alps Wilderness. Most direct route to the Devils Backbone Trail (#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, at the spot known as Andy's Camp, it crosses the Crogan Hole Trail (#6E74), which is on the alignment of a decommissioned road. At this point, the two trails coincide for perhaps 200 feet. Watch for a rock cairn marking the uphill continuation of the Crogan Basin Trail. The trail ends at an intersection with the Horse Trail Ridge Trail (#6E08). The Crogan Basin Trail was logged out and brushed out in 2016 and 2017, putting it in a condition suitable for hikers and stock. The Hoopa Forestry crew did maintenance on the upper section, from Crogan Hole Trail to Horse Trail Ridge Trail, in July 2019. There has probably been substantial regrowth of brush on the lower section of the trail out of Bear Hole. Further work may have been done 2020. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 2.8 miles

Crogan Creek Trail (#6E29)

Also called Oregon Creek Trail--probably a misspelling. Trail within the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Connects Crogan Basin Trail (#6E16) to Tish Tang Trail (#6E18), Calf Swag Trail (#6E15), and Graveyard Prairie Trail (#6E31). Trail travels to Crogan Hole and Bret Hole. There has been no recent maintenance, and there have been no recent reports of conditions. Expect the trail to be extremely difficult to find. (Updated April 2018.)

Approximate length: 3.9 miles

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 on the alignment of 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. Maintenance done by the Hoopa Forestry crew July 2019 on the section from Mill Creek Lakes Trailhead at least to the junction of the Crogan Basin Trail (#6E16)--and apparently beyond all the way to the end at McKay Meadows, although we have not received confirmation of this--stock passable. Probably logged out again 2020. In any event, the trail all the way to its end at McKay Meadows, was reported by a hiker to be in passable condition and "pleasant enough" as of June 2018. With the Tish Tang Trail being in very difficult condition, the Crogan Hole Trail is presently

much the easiest approach to McKay Meadows and Patterson Meadows, by itself or in combination with the Crogan Basin Trail from Bear Hole. Please see the condition reports on connecting trails when planning a trip. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 5.2 miles

Graveyard Prairie Trail (#6E31)

Trail accesses the Trinity Alps Wilderness and the Graveyard Prairie area. There has been no recent maintenance. Sadly, this entire route really got creamed in the 1999 Megram Fire and subsequent burns. The former heavy forest cover surrounding the scattered meadows has been almost entirely incinerated, and brush has grown vigorously in its place. *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, rated the condition of the trail as "nonexistent." (Updated August 2016.)

Approximate length: 2.7 miles

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.)

Groves Prairie Trail (#6E67)

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

Approximate length: 1.3 miles

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.

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.)

Approximate length: 0.4 mile

Horse Trail Ridge Trail (#6E08)

Caution: see description of condition below, the trail may remain essentially blocked at present in two locations--west of Red Cap Prairie and northwest of Lipps Camp.

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 north end begins at the Red Cap Trailhead on Road #10N02 in the Mill Creek watershed. A large sign next to and visible from the road marks the start of the trail. NOTE--the trailhead is marked in the wrong location--one ridge line 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 (also known as Middle Fork Mill Creek). The 2017 revision of the Six Rivers National Forest map shows the trail correctly, but continues to show a trailhead symbol at the wrong location. There used to be a second branch of the trail starting at the aforementioned one ridge line north. However, in the 1999 Megram Fire the forest along this branch burned off entirely, end to end, and then the brush completely closed in. The start of this branch at Road #10N02 is indiscernible.

The trail is a long one. The rough side route to Blacks Lake is about 3.2 miles in. From there, the main trail climbs toward Lookout Rock, reached by a very short signed spur. Over a distance of many miles, it intersects with the Long Prairie Trail, then the Crogan Basin and Onemile Trails, then the Tish Tang and Bell Swamps Trails, and then the Lipps Camp Trail. About a mile and a half before reaching the end at the Grizzly Camp Trailhead, the trail intersects a former jeep trail, now closed to motorized use, not separately described in this document and not an official Forest Service trail. There is no sign here. By following this branch east up a few switchbacks, one can reach the ridge north of Trinity Mountain. The summit of Trinity Mountain is a moderate cross country scramble southeast up the ridge from there. The former jeep trail continues north along the ridge, and eventually drops all the way to the Virgin Creek Trail, in the Trinity National Forest. From the above-described intersection, the main Horse Trail Ridge Trail continues south, now along the route of the former jeep trail, to Grizzly Camp Trailhead in the drainage of East Fork Horse Linto Creek.

Most of the length of the trail has been affected to a greater or lesser degree by repeated fires, starting with the huge 1999 Megram Fire and most recently the even larger 2020 Red Salmon Fire.

Extensive tracts of forest were killed, and in those areas brush grew up vigorously, presenting quite a challenge to trail users. However, much of the brush may have been incinerated in the 2020 fire.

The trail has been in good condition for about 0.8 mile from the northern trailhead--logged out July 2019, except for a couple of logs at the end that were easy to step over. At that point, users began to encounter increasingly heavy growth of brush in an intensely burned formerly forested area. Between 2017 and 2019, a narrow slot was cut for about 0.7 mile through the brush to approximately the 5450 foot elevation as shown on topographic maps, making this section passable for hikers with only modest difficulty. There were down logs, some moderately difficult to scramble over, with one requiring crawling under. These were stock stoppers. Near the end of this section, it was possible to walk off trail through a small patch of unburned forest, and get some nice views. From here, two sections of trail, approximately 1000 feet and 400 feet respectively, were covered with an extremely heavy growth of brush, possibly making the trail impassable until it reached the edge of Red Cap Prairie.

Following the Red Salmon Fire, fire crews reportedly restored the above-described section of trail in October 2020, which should have made it passable for hikers and equestrians. The author of this document has not yet been able to make an inspection.

The trail then traverses Red Cap Prairie, mostly open country. Starting at the junction with the old Packsaddle Ridge Tr. (shortly before the start of the route dropping to Blacks Lake), crews created a bulldozer line along the trail during the 2020 Red Salmon Fire. Supposedly the trail has been restored. At any rate, the route here should be open and easy to see. From the southeastern end of Red Cap Prairie, where the trail starts to skirt a westward-facing slope, increasingly heavy brush and many large down logs will again be encountered. Here the fire line deviated from the trail, following the top of the ridge. If the trail is too difficult to follow, the fire line may be a viable alternate route. This changes from a bulldozer line to a hand line at a certain point, and then rejoins the trail about half a mile north of Lookout Rock.

Concerning the trail forward up the hill, past Lookout Rock, and to the junction of Long Prairie Trail, *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, stated, "Most of the route . . . is brushy and overgrown." Still, there are no major obstacles. The trail is quite difficult to discern in some meadow areas. The trail takes a curving route bulging to the northwest around and through the large meadow a half mile north of Water Dog Lakes. Use of a GPS device may be very helpful.

From Long Prairie Trail to Crogan Basin Trail, the trail follows broad ridge tops and passes through attractive meadow areas. It then continues past Trinity Summit Guard Station, to the Tish Tang Trail junction. The Hoopa Forestry crew did maintenance on these sections, as far as Trinity Summit Guard Station, in July 2019, though some moderately brushy patches remained. The trail past the guard station, to Tish Tang Trail, has in recent years been in passable condition for hikers, though there have been down logs.

The condition of the rest of the trail will be described from south to north. The most southerly part, starting at Grizzly Camp, passes through burned-off former forest, and is becoming fairly heavily overgrown with brush. The first 3/4 mile did *not* burn over in the 2020 Red Salmon Fire. The trail here has received no Forest Service maintenance in several years, but gets some use, including

considerable use by deer hunters in season. Hunters have evidently done some trail work. The trail has been passable for experienced and patient hikers to Lipps Camp. Nov. 12, 2019, a hiker reported, "The 'post-apocalyptic landscape' is now green and overgrown with 8-ft tall brush. I was pleased to see trail clearing almost to Lipps Camp." In places the brush has been over head level, requiring a hiker to keep arms up high in front to push brush aside. Some sections of forest have been spared destruction by fire, and are quite scenic, with the trail easy to follow. In forested areas there may remain a considerable number of down logs. The last three-quarters of a mile of trail before reaching Lipps Camp runs closer to Horse Linto Creek (farther west) than shown on topographic maps. *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, reported that here, "The trail peters out...but you can bushwack.... [B]ear [east] around the boulder field, staying near the [east] side of the canyon." Lipps Camp is located in a minor tributary drainage, well south of the saddle, below the spring shown on topographic maps. It currently shows little evidence of people camping there. The trail, which to this point has become increasingly vague, turns into no more than a cross-country route marked by a handful of ducks, continuing for a few yards ascending past Lipps Camp.

The extension of the old jeep route forming the side trail up Trinity Mountain is reasonably open to start with, although it has deadfalls and some brush. About two miles north after gaining the ridge of Trinity Mountain, the ridge branches, with the trail taking a possibly-confusing right turn over a shoulder. The route from this point on was much less recently graded as a jeep trail, and became overgrown to the point of not really being usable.

Past Lipps Camp, a hiker's report from June 2018 says that there is "a sea of brush." This hiker is a quite intrepid peakbagger, yet he stated that after spending 45 minutes probing from various angles, trying to locate the trail as depicted on his GPS track, he found only dead ends and had to give up. The Nov. 12, 2019 report confirmed this, saying, "The trail north of Lipps is totally overgrown and gone." Aerial photographs show that the blockage covered only about a quarter mile of trail. How much the situation has been changed by the 2020 Red Salmon Fire remains unknown. A potential bypass of the blockage would be to depart the trail to the west below Lipps Camp, to ascend following close to the bed of Horse Linto Creek, and then to climb to the ridge line where the creek approaches it closely, to rejoin the trail. This is a distance of a little under half a mile. Close study of Google Earth imagery is advised for anyone thinking of making this attempt.

Once the trail gains the top of the side ridge to the west, it appears to open up again. After that, parts of the route past Devils Hole to the junction with the Tish Tang Trail are quite vague. Brush between Devils Hole and the Tish Tang Trail junction has been moderately heavy but passable.

Using the Lipps Camp and Onemile Trails to try to bypass the brush blockage appears impossible, unless the 2020 Red Salmon Fire has completely changed the situation. The reportedly impassable section of the Horse Trail Ridge Trail starts even before the Lipps Camp Trail junction. (This is some distance *north* of the campsite.) There has been no recent maintenance to Lipps Camp Trail. Aerial photographs show that the forest in the entire area traversed by the trail burned off in recent years. Brush grew back vigorously, and long stretches of the trail are impossible to recognize in aerial imagery. The Weaverville Ranger District said of the trail some years ago, "A GPS Unit Helps! ...[T]he trail has not been brushed or logged out since the 2006 fire. There are at least 40 trees down on the trail, and several lengthy sections of trail tread were obliterated in the fires of 2008."

With recent work, the trail should be stock passable from the northern trailhead to Trinity Summit Guard Station. Down logs and possibly-remaining heavy brush currently make the trail south of that point unsuitable for stock. (Updated November 2020.)

Approximate length: 15.8 miles

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. As with the Graveyard Prairie Trail, the former heavy forest cover has been almost entirely incinerated. *Hiking Humboldt, Volume 1*, published 2016, rated the condition of the trail as "nonexistent." (Updated August 2016.)

Approximate length: 0.1 mile

Lone Pine Trail (Lower) (#5E36)

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.

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.

Approximate length: 2.1 miles⁷

Long Prairie Trail (#6E19)

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness, takes off of the Crogan Hole Trail (#6E74) near the trailhead and connects to the Horse Trail Ridge Trail (#6E08). Trail goes to Water Dog Lakes. Maintenance performed by the Hoopa Forestry crew July 2019, was clear for hikers and stock to Water Dog Lakes. Probably logged out again 2020. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 1.4 miles

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

Short access trail to the Trinity River.

Maggies Camp Trail (#6E50)

Descends a ridge from the Trinity Summit Guard Station, crosses the Crogan Creek Trail (#6E29), and ends at the Crogan Hole Trail (#6E74). There has been no recent maintenance, and there have been no recent reports of conditions. Expect the trail to be extremely difficult to find. (Updated September 2018.)

Approximate length: 0.9 mile

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 Trail (#6E74), a decommissioned road bed. An extension descends steeply, crosses Bret Creek and Tish Tang a Tang Creek, and then follows a closed road bed to a road end at the wilderness boundary. The route of the trail deviates considerably from how published maps show it. From the Tish Tang Trail junction, McKay Meadows Trail starts as a clear beaten path. It soon becomes obscure through several crossings of Corral Creek and boggy places. However, a June 2018 hiker's report said it was possible to follow the route to the intersection of Crogan Hole Trail. There has been no recent report of the condition of the northern continuation of the trail, but at least its continued existence was confirmed by a local resident in 2018. (Updated August 2018.)

Approximate length: 2.1 miles

Mill Creek Lakes Loop (#6E73)

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Takes off from the Red Cap Hole Trail (#6E14), furnishes access to Lower Mill Creek Lake, and returns to the Red Cap Hole Trail. Fishing and camping opportunities. Beautiful scenery. Some maps show the trail circling Lower Mill Creek Lake or ascending to Upper Mill Creek Lake. These are inaccurate. General maintenance completed on the southern half of the loop 2019, clear for hikers and stock. No recent maintenance on the northern half. (Updated July 2019.)

Approximate length: 0.4 mile

Packsaddle Ridge Trail

At one time, this trail seems to have been continuous with a route also called the Mill Creek Trail, starting near the end of Road #10N02P (which has been decommissioned), east from Mill Creek Gap. This northwest end of the trail seems to have been largely lost in a maze of logging roads. Now the best starting point is some miles farther up, at a large clearing and parking area reached by

taking a very short side road up the hill from the northeasternmost bend of Road #10N02 in the North Fork Mill Creek drainage. (The spur road is subject to washing out, and may not be passable for passenger vehicles.) The trailhead is right on the top of the ridge, and severs the old trail. Various maps show two routes to the top. However, the western route, ending near Peak 5875 as shown on topographic maps, is probably nonexistent. The eastern route as shown on maps joins the Horse Trail Ridge Trail (#6E08) near Peak 5980.

This old route has not been maintained by the Forest Service in recent years. However, fire crews reportedly used the trail to gain access to Red Cap Prairie during a small 2017 fire, and then in 2020 crews responding to the Red Salmon Fire created a bulldozer line along the length of the trail. It should therefore be easy to follow for the time being. (Updated March 2021.)

Approximate length (as described from the current trailhead): 1.7 miles

Red Cap Hole Trail (#6E14)

Trail in the western side of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Takes off left from the Crogan Hole Trail (#6E74) near the trailhead. After approximately 1 ½ miles, the first leg of the Mill Creek Lakes Loop (#6E14, see separate description) branches to the right.

General maintenance performed 2019, and probably again 2020, as far as the first junction with the Mill Creek Lakes Loop, was clear in 2019 for hikers and stock. The trail from there to Domingo Creek (also known as Middle Fork Mill Creek) receives light use. The first half mile was logged out in July 2019. The rest has received no recent maintenance, but there is a likely prospect of work being done in 2020 extending farther. As of 2016 there were lots of down logs and encroaching brush, but the trail was passable to Domingo Creek. The trail past Domingo Creek, ascending to an intersection with the Horse Trail Ridge Trail, south of the basin of Blacks Lake, is probably impassable at present due to heavy brush. None of the published maps shows the location of this part of the trail accurately. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 3.7 miles

Salyer Trail (#5E31)

Short access trail for the Trinity River.

South Fork Trinity Trail (East Side) (#6E23.1 or 5E23.1?)

A long access trail to the Wild and Scenic South Fork of the Trinity River. Some sections of trail are very narrow with steep dropoffs, not recommended for horses or small children. Beautiful trail in the springtime, with the wildflowers. Connects to South Fork Trinity Trail (West Side) (#6E23.2) after fording the river.

Starting from the trailhead, the current route of the trail follows what was formerly known as the Coon Creek Loop Trail, assigned #6E39. The trail starts just across the road from the trailhead signboard. The old route of the trail began at the end of an extension of the access road that has now been decommissioned. The old route of the trail is no longer maintained.

There are ten or fifteen large down logs across the trail. There is a more complicated tangle of logs at one point where the trail is climbing out of the far side of Coon Creek. At this point, the route can be confusing. Close attention to a good GPS track is suggested. Farther on, much of the trail traverses steep bluffs, particularly in the drainage of Hells Half Acre Creek and on each approach to that drainage. Along these parts of the trail, there has been considerable sloughing of material onto the trail tread, making for very narrow and unstable footing in places. Great caution is advised. In its present condition, the trail is very dangerous for stock. However, the entire route is passable for hikers. Users have been doing some minimal maintenance, helping to keep the trail open. (Updated October 2019.)

South Fork Trinity Trail (West Side) (#6E23.2 or 5E23.2?)

A long access trail to the Wild and Scenic South Fork of the Trinity River. The lesser used of the two South Fork Trinity Trails, this segment is not regularly maintained and can be hard to follow. From aerial imagery, parts appear to be extremely vague. There may presently be difficulties gaining access to the start of the trail in the vicinity of private property near the trailhead. Connects to the South Fork Trinity Trail (East Side) (#6E23.1) after fording the river.

Sucker Lake Trail (#5E35)

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

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.

Surprise Valley Trail (#6E38)

Short little spur trail northeast off South Fork Trinity Trail (East Side) (#5E23.1 or 6E23.1), a short distance from the trailhead, that goes to an old homestead site on Surprise Creek. Shown incorrectly or not at all on most maps.

Tish Tang Trail (#6E18)

This has historically been one of the main access trails into the Trinity Alps from the west side. The trailhead currently has limited access. Some years ago, there was a boundary adjustment between the national forest and the Hoopa Reservation. The road approaching 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 usable. However, the tribe has limited use of many roads to members of the tribe and others on tribal business, and may issue citations to others, so please check the current status of this route before starting out.

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 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 pruning back of the brush. Past Patterson Meadows, the trail is still burned over and brushy, easily lost, until about a mile below the Horse Trail Ridge Trail junction. If the user finds travel possible at all, it will be very slow. The last mile passes through unburned and lightly burned forest and is in passable condition for hikers. (Updated September 2019.)

Approximate length: 5.1 miles

Todd Ranch Trail (#6E37)

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

Tunnel Flat Trail (#6E75)

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

Wallace Camp-Fork Camp Trail (#4E28)

Loop trail off Bug Creek and Board Camp Mountain Trails (###4E26 & 4E27). All steep elevation gain and loss. Begins on ridge top, travels down to a beautiful forested glade on a fork of Bug Creek, and then back to ridge top. Trail travels through many different vegetation types. Very low use. The top two-thirds of the western half of the trail receives some four wheel ATV use by a local rancher. Stretches of this part of the trail are little more than straight up and down gullies. The rest of the trail has a decent tread. All easy to find. No major obstructions or brush at this time. (Updated August 2019.)

ORLEANS RANGER DISTRICT:

Aikens Creek Trail (#5E08)

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

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. A new boardwalk across a boggy area installed summer 2018. Maintenance performed August 2019. (Updated August 2019.)

Approximate length: 0.5 mile

Bluff Creek Historic Trail (#5E01)

Also known as the "Bluff Creek Historical Trail." Day hike trail near E-Ne-Nuk Campground. Suitable for year-round use. Gateway to bigfoot country. Trail goes from Highway 96 to Slate Creek Road. Only the Highway 96 end is marked by a sign. The first part of the trail climbs through chaparral on serpentine soils. The trail continues mostly in shade, through mixed evergreen forest of varied age. General maintenance completed May 2020. The trail is in fine condition, except for two groups of logs across the trail near the top end. These are easy to clamber over. The old extension of the trail north into the canyon of Bluff Creek ending at the road to the Wright Place (about 2.5 miles long) is not a Forest Service-maintained trail, but it follows the line of a decommissioned road. As of five years ago, it was reportedly very passable for at least a mile; condition past there unknown. (Updated October 2020.)

Approximate length (maintained section): 1.3 miles

Boise Creek Trail (#5E05)

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

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

NOTE: The spur road from the G-O 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. In most years, it opens June 1, and closes after the first one inch fall of rain in autumn.

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 Trail, 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.

Low maintenance, for experienced hikers, with many ups and downs along the entire length of the trail. Hiking any part of this trail will take much longer than you would think from reading maps. 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 first part of the trail ascends steadily, with the views opening up more and more as you go up, to a small, high tarn, and just after that the first pass. This is approximately 1.5 miles from the trailhead. The trail then descends very steeply to two meadow crossings. It then ascends again, 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. From there, the trail again climbs to the spine of the Siskiyou Mountains, and continues north, passing out of the Orleans Ranger District near the Dillon Divide. The trail continues in the Gasquet Ranger District along the west slope of the Siskiyou Mountains, after many miles reaching Harrington Lake and the trail's terminus at a junction with the South Kelsey Trail.

The trail is maintained as far as the first pass to a moderate standard, passable to hikers and stock. The trail past that point is primitive. It crosses an area burned in a wildfire several years ago. Good routefinding skills may be needed in places. There is now a clear path descending to Elk Hole and crossing the pond outlet. In September 2018, the Siskiyou Mountain Club made repairs in the area of a large landslide south of Harrington Lake, which had all but blocked the trail for several years. Thereafter the club completed at least partial maintenance along the full length of the trail. It is now possible to make a through hike all the way, although the route is very strenuous. Stock is not recommended going north past the south shoulder of Sawtooth Mountain, due to excessive grade and poor trail surface--equestrians should not attempt to descend to Elk Hole. North from Elk Hole, an

August 2020 report stated that there were "many trees down." This trail is now in the Siskiyou Mountain Club's rotation to be maintained at least once every three years.

Please inquire of the Gasquet Ranger District concerning any new information on conditions from the vicinity of Dillon Divide to Harrington Lake. (Updated November 2020.)

Approximate length (to Harrington Lake): 9.3 miles

Boundary Trail (West) (#4E50)

This old jeep road, now closed to vehicles, running west from Elk Valley to the Gasquet stub end of the G-O Rd., is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail. At one time, before roads were built, the name "Boundary Trail" referred to the route from north of Harrington Mountain following ridge lines all the way to Rattlesnake Mountain near Hiouchi!

An August 2020 report indicated that the route was generally passable, but "there were several trees down per mile, and very few have been cut."

Approximate length: 4.9 miles

Camp Creek Trail (#5E04)

Accesses Head Camp, an old gold mining area. Note that the current western trailhead is a mile and a half farther down the access road than shown on topographic maps. Trail not maintained regularly. The western part of the trail receives some use from the holders of mining claims who have cabins at Head Camp. It is in better condition than the eastern part, which climbs very steep terrain.

Approximate length: 2.6 miles

Devils Backbone Trail (#12W02 or 6E03)

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 Trail (#6E03), on a ridgetop 200 yards south of the southern intersection of that trail with the Red Cap Lake Trail. The Devils Backbone Trail continues south, mostly staying close to the ridge line, passing Eightmile Camp, then Onemile Camp, and ending at a junction with the Onemile Trail (#6E17 or 12W02), the Lipps Camp Trail (#6E01), and the Soldier Creek Trail (#7E01). Due to its remoteness, this trail is not frequently maintained. As reported on August 18, 2011 at www.facebook.com/trinityalps/, the trail from Eightmile Camp (some distance south from the start of the trail at Salmon Summit Trail) to somewhat north of Onemile 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, with only a modest number of trees down. Nevertheless, recent aerial photographs show substantial regrowth of brush in areas burned over in fires before 2011. The route both north and south of Onemile Camp is very difficult to discern from that imagery, and may be difficult to follow. The trail is managed jointly by the Lower Trinity and Weaverville Ranger Districts. (Updated July 2018.)

Approximate length: 7.3 miles

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. Fallen rocks and small logs often litter both the paved and unpaved sections of the road, so use caution driving and be prepared to do at least a bit of self-service clearing.

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. This north facing slope supports many stands of rhododendron that bloom profusely in early June. 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.

Mostly logged out and fully brushed out between 2016 and 2020 to the canyon bottom and the first creek crossing. As of August 2020, there is one very large fir across the trail, just past the first crossing of a side creek, that is a little difficult to get over. There are occasional easy stepover logs all along the trail, including some new ones as of 2020. Otherwise, generally in very good condition, but not currently passable for equestrians. Between the first and the last of the creek crossings, there are several large logs to clamber over or go around--not stock passable. (Updated August 2020.)

Approximate length: 1.9 miles

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. Maintenance performed August 2019. (Updated August 2019.)

Approximate length: 0.6 mile

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). It undulates through forest and meadows, passing a scenic viewpoint on a serpentine bald along the way (at about 1 1/4 miles in), goes through some boggy areas supporting stands of large Port Orford-cedar, then drops to a low saddle, then climbs and follows a long ridge line bearing south. Near the high point approximately five miles in, the trail enters an area burned over in the Forks Fire in the summer of 2017. Passing out of the fire footprint, the trail descends a small wooded valley. Watch closely for the point at which the trail veers west out of the valley. It then crosses a brushy slope, and begins a long descent to East Fork Blue Creek. The continuation of the trail past the first creek crossing is known as the East Fork Blue Creek Trail—see the separate entry for that trail.

Directly across the road from the trailhead is a very short trail leading downhill in the direction of Flint Valley, with great displays of wildflowers well into summer.

The Siskiyou Mountain Club thoroughly rehabilitated the trail in August 2020, including a full logout. Mostly pleasant walking. The last section descending to the creek has not been fully brushed out, but it is all passable for hikers, and with care for equestrians. (But note that the connecting East Fork Blue Creek Trail is *not* currently stock passable.) In a few spots with knee-high brush, the trail along this last section may be hard to see. Use of a good GPS track is suggested. An accurate path in KML format is available at klamathmountaintrails.us. Topographic maps show some important details of the trail location inaccurately. (Updated August 2020.)

Approximate length: 8.0 miles

LePerron Peak Trail (#6E07)

Short trail up the ridge from the saddle northeast of LePerron Peak. Condition unknown.

Lubbs Trail (#6E10)

This trail is open to motorcycles, small 4-wheeled OHVs, and mountain bikes. Very light use. In recent years it was very brushy and difficult to use, but it was opened up as a fire line during the 2020 Red Salmon Fire, which should have cleared a wide right of way, although there have been no recent reports from trail users. (Updated March 2021.)

Approximate length: 2.7 miles

Old Red Mountain Lake Trail

An alternative to part of the Red Mountain Lake Trail. Logged out August 2019, and in decent condition. (Updated August 2019.)

Approx. length: 1.0 mile

Onemile Trail (#6E17 or 12W02)

This trail begins at a four way junction with the Horse Trail Ridge Trail (#6E08) and the Crogan Basin Trail (#6E16), and connects to the Devils Backbone Trail (#12W02) and the Lipps Camp Trail (#6E01), offering loop trip possibilities. Part of a historic supply route that connected the coast to inland mining communities. Managed jointly by the Orleans District and the Weaverville District. No recent maintenance. While there have been no recent field reports of conditions, it can be seen from aerial photographs that a large part of the terrain that the trail traverses burned intensely in recent years' fires, that brush has grown back vigorously, and that some sections of trail are no longer visible from above due to heavy brush. While these sections are short, they can be expected to be in a very difficult condition. (Updated November 2018.)

Approximate length: 1.5 miles

Orleans Mountain Trail (South) (#6E03 or 6E04)

In the Salmon Mountains range. Two separate forks of this trail branch north off the Salmon Summit Trail, the first near its trailhead passing through a stock camp, and the second, from a signed junction at Whiteys Camp a quarter mile later. These soon join. After about a mile, the trail intersects Road 10N10A, not marked on most maps, coming in from a saddle on the main ridge of the Salmon Mountains to the southeast. One can follow the road for a mile or more, until the road departs the main ridge and continues to the northwest. From here, the route continues north following the main ridge, mostly on little-used jeep trails. There is one short section of foot trail in the middle, starting at a large log landing and continuing to the crossing of Road #10N10 in the saddle with elevation 4335 as marked on topographic maps. The jeep trail continues all the way to the summit of Orleans Mountain and the fire lookout.

The foot trail section at the south end is passable and partially flagged. However, there are many logs down, mostly small, and parts of the trail are moderately brushy. For a short section through deep forest, the trail tread has disappeared and there are no clear signs of the direction to proceed, although it is fairly easy walking through only light undergrowth. Use of a GPS device is suggested. (Updated August 2019.)

Approximate length, southern trail segment only: 1.1 miles

Pearch Creek Trail

This description is included only because a dead end route here is shown on some published maps. They show a trail starting in the Pearch Creek Campground. This is incorrect. Instead, a jeep trail, not shown on any published map, leaves Highway 96 300 yards southwest of the Pearch Creek Campground entrance. A gate at the start is usually locked. The jeep trail climbs a small ridge, then descends gently to the south bank of rather pretty Pearch Creek. It follows the bank, crosses the South Fork of Pearch Creek, and soon thereafter ends at a rickety foot bridge crossing the main fork, about 0.9 mile from the start. This is at the source of a water system serving homes in Orleans. Despite what maps would indicate, there isn't much of a trail past the foot bridge. (Updated May 2019.)

Prospect Trail (#6E02)

Sometimes called the "Prospect Hill Trail." 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. Starting from the upper trailhead, shortly before the trail starts its steep descent east, there are great views of the canyon of the Klamath River. Suitable for year-round use.

The upper trailhead is shortly past the 6-mile sign on the right side of the G-O Rd. A large road sign marks the parking area, but someone cut the posts early in 2021, leaving the sign flat on the ground--they will be replaced.. The trail departs from the southeastern corner of the parking area, starting out level--don't be fooled by nearby fuel management break lines created by fire crews. 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, first going down a long ridge, and then switchbacking to the lower trailhead on Ishi Pishi Rd. This trailhead is marked by a wooden sign.

Fully logged out June 2020. Mostly in good condition. Be aware that knee-high poison oak is abundant along the top section of the trail. There are some short, spectacularly steep spots on this trail, mostly but not all along the lower third of its length.

A 0.1 mile continuation of the trail on the other side of Ishi Pishi Rd. can be used for river access. It was brushed out in 2018. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length (excluding the extension to the river): 4.5 miles

Red Cap Lake Trail (#6E03A)

Trail branches off the Salmon Summit Trail, furnishing access to Red Cap Lake after 1.4 miles. The trail continues from there to the top of the ridge, on a good set of switchbacks that climb lazily through meadow and open forest, but they get little use and the route is faint. The start of the route at the lake is invisible. Where the trail coming in from the north approaches the main campsite at the edge of the lake, make nearly a 180 degree turn to the left. Climb at a gentle angle across the slope, and the trail should become apparent after 100 or 200 feet. Use of a GPS track to find the start of the trail is suggested. Also, the route has been flagged as of August 2019. Do not plunge into the brush in the drainage leading straight uphill from the head of the lake. The switchbacks stay considerably north of this drainage.

Fully logged out to the lake August 2019 and again July 2020, and suitable for hikers and equestrians. Light maintenance done on the continuation of the trail August 2019; a number of down logs remain, making this part of the route unsuitable for stock. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 2.0 miles

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. Logged out August 2019, and in decent condition. (Updated August 2019.)

Approx. length: 1.9 miles

Salmon Summit Trail (#6E03 or 6E10)

National Recreation Trail. Beautiful mountain lakes and outrageous vistas with low visitor use! Accesses Red Cap Lake (via a spur, see the separate description), the Salmon Mountain area, and the heart of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. Using the Devils Backbone Trail, this system of trails connects the Salmon Mountain and Trinity Summit recreation areas in the wilderness. About a mile and a quarter from the trailhead, before one reaches Indian Rocks, an unofficial path along a fire line branches north, follows the ridge right over Whiteys Peak. After approximately 1.2 miles it reaches Road 10N10A (not shown on most maps) where the road crosses a saddle. The jeep trail that formerly followed part of the route over Whiteys Peak has been fully decommissioned. Some distance south of Indian Rocks, the Salmon Summit Trail reaches the northern intersection of the

Red Cap Lake Trail (2.9 miles from the trailhead). Some distance after, as the trail crosses the southwest face of Salmon Mountain, it becomes an old road bed. Watch out for the indistinct junction at which the Salmon Summit Trail leaves this road bed and angles downhill toward High Spring. The peak of Salmon Mountain, the highest point in Humboldt County, can be reached from here by continuing a short distance on the old road bed, and then turning uphill to make a crosscountry scramble. If one instead continues on the trail, High Spring is a small, boggy puddle, though reliable enough to support a small, junky campsite. After another quarter mile past High Spring, one reaches the southern junction of the Red Cap Lake Trail. A further 200 yards brings one to the junction of the Devils Backbone Trail. Here the Salmon Summit Trail turns sharply left downhill, and passes out of the ranger district.

From the trailhead to the lake spur, logged out August 2019 and again July 2020. Some mildly brushy spots remain. Suitable for hikers and equestrians. Past the junction of the lake spur, the Salmon Summit Trail gets little use. There are down logs and areas of moderate to heavy brush, though the route is passable for hikers. The departure of the trail from the road bed down toward High Spring is extremely faint. Past High Spring, the trail tread soon becomes lost in a 20 acre patch of incinerated forest, now regrowing thickly with small Douglas-fir. However, it is possible to continue descending rather easily along the right side of the ridge through low-growing manzanita, even though there is no distinct trail. Following a GPS track is suggested. The route goes through an increasingly wooded area with some fallen logs, and regains the ridge just above a prominent rock, 15 feet across, perched on the ridge line. From there, a trail becomes apparent descending along the left side of the ridge crest, soon reaching the southern junction with the Red Cap Lake Trail. The route from above High Spring to here has been flagged as of August 2019. The final part of the trail to the junction with the Devils Backbone Trail is open, following another old road bed. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length (section within ranger district, as described): 4.2 miles

Short Ranch Trail

This route (in the Boise Creek drainage near LePerron Flat) is not a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has probably received no maintenance in many decades. Passes through Short Ranch, a private homestead.

Approximate length: 1.8 miles

Whitmore Creek Trail (#6E72)

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

UKONOM RANGER DISTRICT:

Bald Butte Trail

A bridle path, with both main and alternate routes, mostly used by guests of the Marble Mountain Ranch, and maintained by staff of that facility.

Approximate length (including all branches): 2.4 miles

Bridge Creek Trail (#7E08 or 5816)

Caution: see description of condition below, the trail is very effectively blocked by heavy brush and totally impassable at present south of Yellowjacket Creek.

This long trail rises from Wooley Creek Trail, and climbs thousands of feet to intersect with the Haypress Trail near the 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 evergreen hardwood-Douglas-fir-pine forest to higher elevation Shasta fir forest. There is a good log crossing at the crossing of Bridge Creek between Wooley Creek and Cedar Flat. There is a small camp site there. There is good camping at Cedar Flat, and at a number of other locations between there and the Pleasant Lake Trail junction.

Much of the trail was affected by a large fire in 2006 or 2007. 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 for about 2 ½ miles, through and past the fire footprint. This is a good location to observe a forest recovering from fire. Additional work has been done between 2017 and 2019, placing most of these 2 ½ miles in fair condition. As of summer 2019, there were some new logs down, most small but some large. These become increasingly challenging for hikers to negotiate nearing the end of this section. Be aware that there are many areas of narrow, slippery trail tread. *Not readily stock passable beyond the first half to three-quarters of a mile from Fowler Cabin.*

At 2 ½ miles in, there is a reliable cool and cascading side creek, not shown on most topographic maps. The section of trail that has been opened up ends abruptly a short way past this creek. This is about one mile south of Yellowjacket Creek. North from here, pending further maintenance, the next half mile of trail is completely blocked by dense brush, and the location of the continuation of the trail tread cannot be discerned. It would be impossible to make any forward progress without spending days cutting brush, with large stout stems reaching horizontally across the route, foot by foot. This is an area from which the forest was completely burned off in the fire in 2006 or 2007, and brush has grown vigorously since then. Past this stretch, the additional half mile of trail to Yellowjacket Creek passes through more forested country, but may also have very difficult obstacles for hikers.

The last record in the Fowler Cabin log book of anyone making it all the way through Bridge Creek Trail was from 2010, and stated, "Took two days from Cedar Flat, many logs to cross and chop, many close calls falling down the cliff."

North from Yellowjacket Creek to the junction of Halfmoon Meadow Trail, minimal clearing was completed between 2014 and 2016. Many down logs, some large, that a hiker could climb over, remained here, along with one huge suspended log parallel to the trail that must be walked. There are intermittently a number of pieces of extremely narrow trail tread between Yellowjacket Creek and Snowslide Gulch, making travel for hikers somewhat hazardous. *Not stock passable.*

North from the junction with Halfmoon Meadow Trail, there are perhaps 15 or 20 down logs in the first mile--stock passable, with bypasses. From that point, past the Pleasant Lake junction, and ascending the valley to the Haypress Trail junction, the trail was fully logged out in June 2020--passable for hikers and stock, with some minor to moderate brush. High in the valley, a short reroute skirts the west side of a patch of small firs regrowing vigorously in a burned over area. Watch closely, as the start of the reroute may not be easily seen. Just past this point, the trail crosses a broad, sandy sloping meadow. Here the trail is often faint and hard to follow, even "indistinguishable," but the ground is open, and progress will not be a problem for those who know the route or pay close attention to the map or a GPS track. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 10.2 miles

Black Mountain Trail (#7E20)

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.

Bull Pine Mine Trail

A bridle path, with both main and alternate routes, mostly used by guests of the Marble Mountain Ranch, and maintained by staff of that facility.

Approximate length (including all branches): 4.7 miles

Burney Lake Trail (#11W21B)

Extends into the Happy Camp Ranger District. Rough, steep, primitive trail. As of summer 2020, reported to be stock passable, with caution. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 0.6 miles

Butler Mountain Trail (##7E15 & 7E39, or #5826)

This is part of the historic route up the Salmon River. From gold rush days until the construction of the Salmon River Rd. crossing the Grant Bluffs in the 1920s, the trail was the only access up river to reach Forks of Salmon, Sawyers Bar, and points beyond. Though there is no sign, the southern trailhead is easy to spot, with the trail switchbacking up a short, open slope across the road from a home. Efforts are underway to resolve an access issue at the northern trailhead, at Butler Flat, where the trail crosses private property.

Maintenance in 2019 has cleared the first 1.5 miles of trail, starting at the southern trailhead. There are areas of narrow, sliding trail tread in this area. This part of the trail is attractive in spring. Past 1.5 miles, the trail has become quite overgrown with brush, following the 2013 Butler Fire, and shows no signs of recent use. It might be possible to push through farther on the trail, but it is likely to be very rough. Poison oak is abundant where maintenance has not cut it back. (Updated September 2019.)

Approximate length: 4.5 miles

Butler Mountain-Orleans Mountain Trail (#7E15)

This route branches west from the Butler Mountain Trail at the saddle west of Butler Mountain. From there, it climbs straight up a ridge. Finally it intersects the Orleans Mountain Trail. It is 3,000 vertical feet from the Butler Mountain Trail to the fire lookout at the top of Orleans Mountain. The condition of the trail is unknown at present. It has received no recent maintenance. From aerial photographs, parts of the route appear very faint. In any case, it is inaccessible due to the upper parts of Butler Mountain Trail being essentially impassable at present. Much of the route was adversely affected by the 2013 Butler Fire.

Approximate length: 2.7 miles

Camp Three Trail (#7E13)

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

Cuddihy Lakes Trail (#7E29 or 5825)

This spur connects the Haypress Trail with Cuddihy Lakes. Logged out for 2020, passable for hikers and stock. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 0.8 mile

Cuddihy Valley Trail

This spur branches off the Cuddihy Lakes Trail (#7E29 or 5825) about 0.6 mile in. After 0.2 miles, it reaches the Cuddihy Lakes stock camp. The continuation to Cuddihy Valley has been logged out and somewhat improved in June 2020, well enough to be stock passable. Some of the route may be vague and hard to follow. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 0.8 mile

Deadman Lake Cross-Country Route

Contrary to some published maps, *there is no trail to Deadman Lake*, although with careful route selection, one making a cross-country trek to the lake will encounter only minor difficulties.

Halfmoon Meadow Trail (#7E09 or 5818)

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.

In July 2019, tread repair done on much of the trail; water crossings improved; mostly logged out to just before the creek that flows from Horse Pocket. As of July 2020, there are a modest number of logs down before that creek; a real doozy of a stock stopper right in that creek crossing; and a regular succession of down logs thereafter. For hikers, some of the logs are moderately difficult to clamber over or under, making the hike strenuous with a full pack. Most are easy stepovers. The majority of the route is actually pleasant walking. Very difficult for stock to the creek from Horse Pocket, and definitely not stock passable past that point.

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. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 3.9 miles

Haypress Trail (#11W21 or 5828) (AKA Sandy Ridge Trail or Salmon Mountains Trail)

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

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 (trail #5843), with a campsite. Then there is a fine spring just before the trail makes a switchback left. (*This is usually the last trailside water anywhere along Haypress Tr. until you approach Big Elk Lake. Otherwise, you must go down one of the lake spur trails for water.* The best bet is that a small stream can sometimes be found west of the first switchback down the Cuddihy Lakes Tr.) 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. There is no longer any discernible campsite at this location, and there is no trail to it.* There may be water available in the watercourse downhill from this site. There is one small pool in that drainage, but it may dry up late in the season. Also, there are two small lakes in rocky terrain a rough quarter mile trek to the south, that seem to be permanent.)

Continuing on the trail, 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 shortly before 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. The Stanshaw Trailhead has corrals, space for large trailers, and camping facilities (though water only for stock).

Fully logged out and general maintenance performed June to July 2020 from the trailhead to the Burney Lake junction. There is considerable moderately-heavy knee-high brush in the vicinity of Pigeon Roost. In summer 2019, a full logout was completed from the Burney Lake spur to Spirit Lake, although a fair amount of knee-high to head-high brush remained on that last section--not yet inspected for 2020.

The maintenance responsibility of the Ukonom Ranger District ends just before Spirit Lake. For the latest information on recent work and the current condition of the trail past that point, users are strongly advised to contact the Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District at (530) 468-5351. That district is known to have done maintenance, including a full logout, on the rest of the trail in autumn 2018.

Unfortunately, on July 5, 2020, a hiker reported, "Last week I tried to take the Haypress Tr. from the Marble Rim side...so many downed trees, didn't even make it to Spirit."

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.

The old lower extension of the Haypress Trail (below the Camp Four Trailhead, approx. 0.9 mile long) is not currently Forest Service-maintained. However, the only obstacles are a few down logs. The trail is in fair condition, mostly pleasant walking though not easily stock passable. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 19.1 miles (starting at Camp Four Trailhead, including the portion past the ranger district boundary)

Approximate length of Round Meadow spur: 0.1 mile

Let'er Buck Trail (#7E12 or 5821)

This 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.

General maintenance along the first part of the trail begun July 2020. As of early July 2020, there were 10 or so trees between the trailhead and the end of the spur road--stepovers for hikers, but moderately difficult for stock users. These may remain, confirmation of logout needed. Definitely logged out 2020 past that point. As a result of work in recent years, the trail is otherwise in good condition. Some sections of this trail can be faint and hard to follow. Where burned over in 2017,

long sections of the first 1 1/4 miles of the trail are overgrown with calf-high gentian and fireweed, making the trail tread hard to see. Use of a GPS track may be advisable.

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. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 2.4 miles

McCash Loop (#7E19 or 5823)

This trail provides access to Big Meadow and Long Meadow, with a number of good campsites, mostly undulating through forest along the meadow margins. From the lower trailhead, the trail first makes one short meadow crossing, goes through forest at the margin of a meadow, and enters a sandy flat. Starting near here, the trail was rerouted in 2017 or 2018, and deviates considerably from what is shown on topo maps. We are unsure of the exact route, so take the following as a rough guide only. The trail may be hard to follow here. The KML file we have furnished may not be accurate. We believe that the trail here turns left into forest. To the right, a short spur makes one short meadow crossing to Jims Camp. We believe that the main trail to the left goes through a bit of forest, makes a stream crossing, and goes up and down small hills through forest above the left margin of Big Meadow. The trail rejoins the original route near the small summit between Big Meadow and Long Meadow. 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.

Logged out 2019. Although as noted the route swinging left of Jims Camp is hard to find, the trail is mostly clear and in decent condition passing Big Meadow and Long Meadow, and climbing the steep grade above Long Meadow. Past that point, the trail enters an area in which the remaining standing and down timber was almost totally incinerated in the 2017 Haypress Fire. In places, this wiped out all evidence of the trail, and its exact location may be very hard to determine. However, the open ground makes travel possible, if you know the general direction that you want to go. Use of a GPS track may be advisable. As of 2020, a handful of small trees are newly fallen east of the Torgerson Meadow Trail junction. Uphill of here, at the point at which the ridge steepens, the trail turns left and ascends at an angle across the north face of the ridge. Watch closely for this. The last part of the trail descending from the high point to the junction with Haypress Trail is indiscernible-- just go the direction you need to go across open terrain, going around fallen trees as necessary. The sign at the upper junction burned in the 2017 Haypress Fire, leaving only a few bolts in a standing charred trunk as evidence. If you are starting from this junction, angle westward up the slope a short distance, then drop to a minor saddle, at which point the trail drops to the north slope of the ridge.

Up to half of the length of the trail burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017. There may be a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. Please be guided accordingly. (Updated November 2020.)

Approximate length: 4.2 miles

Medicine Mountain Trail (#7E11 or 5820)

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 are two large logs down on this piece of the trail--questionable for stock. 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: 3.0 miles

Meteor Lake Trail (#11W21D or 5830)

This spur connects the Haypress Trail to Meteor Lake. Logged out for 2020, in good condition. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 0.8 mile

Monument Lake Trail (#11W21E or 5831)

This spur connects the Haypress Trail to Monument Lake. Logged out for 2020, in fair to good condition. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 0.7 mile

Onemile Lake Trail (#11W21C or 5814)

This spur connects the Haypress Trail with Onemile Lake. Logged out for 2020, and in decent condition. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 1.0 mile

Orleans Mountain Trail (East) (#7E16)

The start of this trail is at the last flat spot to the right of the Nordheimer Creek Rd. about 100 feet from where that road leaves Salmon River Rd. There is no sign. It is 5,000 vertical feet from the level of Salmon River to the top of Orleans Mountain. The trail climbs steadily, initially up a set of switchbacks through attractive rocky barrens with wildflower displays in spring and views of distant peaks opening up, later for the most part continuously following a ridge top. The Butler Mountain-Orleans Mountain Trail joins 1 ½ miles before the end. Eventually the trail becomes a little-used jeep trail that winds up the basin forming the headwaters of Butler Creek. The final climb brings one to the road from Antenna Ridge. A left turn here brings one to the summit of Orleans Mountain and the fire lookout in another ¾ mile. There is a maze of old fire lines and faint old trails in the headwaters of Butler and Hammel Creeks. None of the published maps are accurate or helpful.

Short of the steep climb to the junction with the Butler Mountain-Orleans Mountain Trail, maps show a second branch of the trail contouring southwest, staying a few hundred feet below the line of the ridge. From aerial photographs this route now appears to be extremely faint.

A Forest Service document from several decades ago noted, "The route was one of the earliest into the river country and has historical significance."

The first half mile of trail out of Nordheimer Creek has received maintenance in 2019 and 2020, and is in good condition, offering an interesting short hike for those staying at Nordheimer Campground. After the first half mile, the trail enters forest. Tan oak tops have fallen on the trail, making progress difficult. There are no signs of the trail having received recent use. It has not received maintenance in many years, but old fire lines follow or parallel it in places. Aerial photographs suggest that if you can push through for another half mile, matters may improve higher up. Mountain bikers posted online reports of riding the full trail downhill a few years ago, though it does not appear that it would be possible at present. (Updated May 2020.)

Approximate length, not including the jeep trail: 6.0 miles

Pleasant Lake Trail (#7E08A or 5820)

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 0.1 mile long 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 camping is not advised at Pleasant Lake, due to extremely small camping space and minimal forage.

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: 1.0 mile

Portuguese Peak Trail (#7E14)

Caution: see description of condition below, the trail is essentially blocked at present 2.4 miles in from the lower trailhead.

After climbing through an area that burned several years ago, fully exposed to the summer sun, the trail enters a beautiful old growth forest for some distance. Historically, this trail has continued to climb to the high country of the southern Marble Mountain Wilderness, in the vicinity of Crapo Meadows. Along the way, the trail passes near the summits of Tom Payne Peak and Portuguese Peak, with spectacular views. It is a steep, dry trail that climbs over 6,000 vertical feet net, starting at the level of the Salmon River. There is no water until about a mile before the trail ends at the junction with the Crapo Trail.

In recent years, the first part of the trail (starting at the Steinacher Creek Road trailhead) has been maintained by locally-based fire crews, keeping it in good condition for hikers and equestrians. Maintenance has extended approximately the first 2.4 miles, as far as a ridge top view point 1/10 mile past a flat at the end of the fully decommissioned Steinacher Creek Rd. The last half mile or so is in rough condition, and not suitable for equestrians, although passable for hikers. Hikers who complete the 2400 foot vertical ascent to the ridge top at the end of the currently-maintained section will be rewarded with views of Medicine Mountain, Salmon Mountain, and other high peaks in the surrounding ranges. This is an especially attractive hike in autumn, with cooler weather, the light of the sun low in the sky casting shadows, and fall colors.

Just past this view point, one will begin to encounter heavy brush and down logs. It may be possible to push through a short distance beyond, but one should not underestimate the difficulties. After another half mile, the trail begins a series of switchbacks on the south face of the ridge ascending Tom Payne Peak. This area can be seen on aerial imagery to be covered with extremely heavy brush, making the continuation of the trail essentially impassable at present.

It seems that the higher part of the trail has received little maintenance in decades, certainly none in recent years. As long ago as 1979, in his hiking guide Marble Mountain Wilderness, David Green noted that some of the several short switchbacks along the trail were easy to miss, and wrote that parts of the rocky trail climbing along the crest and the south slope were "overgrown to the point of invisibility, making for a troublesome, even hazardous, descent on your return trip." Along the higher part of the trail section within the Ukonom Ranger District, aerial imagery shows a number of relatively short stretches also heavily overgrown with brush. It is also predictable that there will be many down logs in stands of timber burned in the 2006 Hancock Fire. In battling that fire, crews established hand lines along parts of the trail and adjacent ridge lines both east and west of Portuguese Peak. It may be possible to use remnants of these hand lines to make progress through or to bypass brushy areas, but on the other hand they are likely to cause confusion in finding the

original trail route. The trail frequently dips down to north facing, forested slopes, so staying on the ridge will not always allow one to find the correct route. Aerial imagery shows long stretches of the trail to be quite vague or to have disappeared entirely. It may well be that no one has succeeded in hiking the length of the trail in many years. Right about the point where the trail crosses into the Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District, it enters high country with much less brush and timber. The trail should be much easier to follow in this area. (Updated November 2020.)

Approximate length (including the portion past the ranger district boundary): 10.5 miles

River Trail

A bridle path mostly used by guests of the Marble Mountain Ranch, and maintained by staff of that facility.

Approximate length: 0.8 mile

Rogers Creek Trail (#6E16)

This is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not received maintenance in many decades. Staff have searched for this trail and have not succeeded in finding it.

Secret Lake Trail (#11W21C or 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. Flagged 2019, which helps--the trail is passable for hikers with some difficulties. Not recommended for stock at present. (Updated July 2019.)

Approximate length: 2.0 miles

Somes Mountain Trail (##6E18 & 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 about 3/4 mile, one reaches a signed junction with the Salmon River Trail. This trail continues up the river for another 0.4 mile, ending on a river bar opposite the Oak Bottom river access point.

Historically, the Salmon River Trail formerly continued on a route crossing the mouth of Somes Creek, then going up Monte Creek, over the mountain, down Duncan Creek, and up the Salmon

River to Forks of Salmon. This travel route also used the Butler Mountain Trail. (See the separate description of that trail in this document.) It was the sole means of going up river before the construction of the Salmon River Rd. in the 1920s. 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 truly dangerous due to the precipice and extensive destruction by landslides. Concerning the section up Monte Creek and past, a Forest Service document from several decades ago said, "The trail has probably not been maintained since the 1930's." The distant southern end of that route, where it reached the Salmon River Rd. at Duncan Creek, has been destroyed by flooding. A second, probably more recent alignment of the trail continued high above the Salmon River past a point opposite Oak Bottom, and eventually joined the current route of the Salmon River Road just past where it crosses a bridge to the south bank. This route traversed steep, sliding bluffs, and has mostly slid away over the years, the destruction said to date back at least to the great 1964 flood. This area, too, is now in a truly dangerous condition, and no one should attempt to go there.

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--miles long, with a 4700 foot elevation gain to the top of Somes Mountain. It is a dry hike. A hiker will not find any water after passing small tributaries in the canyon of the Salmon River before the junction of the Salmon River Trail. In many places where the trail traverses above Somes Creek, the tread of the trail is soft and sloughing, causing the edges to collapse and the trail to creep. About 2.2 miles after departing the Salmon River Trail, watch out for the junction with a long dead end trail branching left to the Red Wing Mine. This is not an official Forest Service trail. However, one can follow it about 3/4 mile to reach a large flat bench with a "grass lake" that sometimes receives and holds water from an intermittent spring on the west side, and thus may provide an attractive camping spot. A more reliable water source is a small creek 3/4 miles to the south. After the Somes Mountain Trail gains the top of the ridge, another branching trail supposedly takes off to the right, descending through the drainages of Ikes and Whitmore Creeks to a group of homes on the north side of Pearch Creek. If it exists at all and is discernible, this is not currently a Forest Service-maintained trail, even though it bears an official number, the continuation of #6E18. The main trail continues south, staying on or close to the crest of the mountains, over and past the top of Somes Mountain. There are a couple of places up on the ridge where the view is spectacular, allowing a great view of Orleans. South of the peak, the trail takes some less than obvious turns, in a couple of areas where the trail deviates quite a bit from the top of the main ridge. The routes as shown on all published maps are no better than rough approximations of the true location of the trail. Eventually the trail intersects a little-used jeep trail in the basin forming the headwaters of Butler Creek. This forms the top of the Orleans Mountain Trail coming up from Nordheimer Campground. A right turn uphill brings one, after a quarter mile, to Antenna Ridge Road. A left turn here brings one to the summit of Orleans Mountain and the fire lookout in another 3/4 mile. There is a maze of old fire lines and faint old trails in the headwaters of Butler and Hammel Creeks. None of the published maps are accurate or helpful.

The first part of the Somes Mountain Trail, to the trail junction, and the continuation as the Salmon River Trail, received maintenance between 2017 and 2020, have been mostly logged out and fully brushed out, and are in decent condition. Some duck-under and crawl-under logs remain; not suitable for stock for that reason.

The continuation of the Somes Mountain Trail, leading up to the peak and beyond, has been largely cleared in 2019 and 2020 for about the first 3/4 mile only. There are many down logs, but they are easy to get over or under, making this section easily passable. This section ends at the crest of a sharp-sided ridge--a worthy destination in itself, with a view up Somes Creek to the summit of Somes Mountain. Past that point, the trail climbs some more switchbacks, then turns south, traversing the mountainside high above Somes Creek, with expanding views of the canyon of the Salmon River. Here the trail has received partial maintenance in 2020 for a mile, passable for the adventurous, with some obstacles remaining. The rest of the trail has received no recent maintenance, and there are no recent reports of conditions. The continuation is likely to be passable, with some difficulty, past the Red Wing Mine junction, and up at least as far as the first saddle on the main ridge, marked elevation 2567 on topographic maps, about 3.4 miles from the trailhead. It can be observed from aerial photographs that farther up the ridge, and starting at about 5.6 miles from the trailhead, there are several sections that burned in recent years, and are now covered with heavy brush and jackstrawed fallen trees. These areas may be entirely impassable. At best, the route is likely very obscure in places from here to the end. It may be possible to start at the southern trailhead, on Antenna Ridge Rd., and make it to the peak, but again, the route may be very obscure. (Updated August 2020.)

Approximate length, Somes Mountain Tr.: 10.2 miles

Approximate length, Salmon River Tr., maintained section: 0.4 mile

Stanshaw Meadows Trail (#7E10 or 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 mountain 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. Note that USGS maps show the topography incorrectly near the start of the trail. The trail does not in fact cross Sandy Bar Creek. Stanshaw Meadows drain into the creek that runs just north of the trailhead camp, not into the main branch of Sandy Bar Creek as shown on maps. (Also, topographic maps do not show the current alignment of the start of the trail, or the location of the trailhead camp.) 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.

Logged out and basic maintenance performed June 2020. Generally in good condition, but there are many sticks down on parts of the trail.

Much of the trail burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017. 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 July 2020.)

Approximate length: 3.6 miles

Steinacher Trail (#12W20 or 5413)

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.

This is a great place to view the ongoing recovery of the forest following a full decommissioning project that aimed to restore the natural contours of the land. This road was built in 1968 with the idea of doing extensive logging in the Steinacher Creek watershed, but not a single tree was ever cut in a timber sale. The decommissioning project was completed in the 1990s, with the upper half accomplished by the Karuk Tribe under contract with the U.S. Forest Service. This returned nearly the entire Wooley Creek watershed to a wild state.

After leaving the old road bed, the trail descends into the ravine of the creek. Beware of poison oak along the last part of the trail.

Fully cleared and brushed between 2016 and 2019. In very good condition, except that there are two large fir logs down across the trail just before the bottom of Steinacher Creek, presenting a modest difficulty for hikers. The old continuation past Steinacher Creek, known as the Steinacher Ridge Trail, making a prodigious climb for many miles into the high country, is no longer a Forest Service-maintained trail, and has not received maintenance in many decades. (Updated June 2020.)

Approximate length: 0.7 miles

Ten Bear Trail (#6E14 or 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.

This trail is a quiet alternative to the first part of the Stanshaw Meadows 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 full maintenance, including brushing, in 2016 and 2018. Logged out June 2020. 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, seem to be completely gone, having received no maintenance and having been mostly destroyed by being built over with roads, logging operations, fire lines, and so forth. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 2.7 miles

Ti Creek Trail (#6E19)

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 Trail, marking the old junction. From there, the trail went over the ridge, descended to Road 15N17, just outside the wilderness boundary. At one time it went all the way to the Klamath River, before road construction and logging obscured it. Some maps show an additional trail section (which even had an official number, #7E19) going east from the Ten Bear Trail to the McCash Loop near Long Meadow, but the location is uncertain.

Approximate length (from Road 15N17 to Ten Bear Tr.): 0.8 mile

Torgerson Meadow Trail (#5827)

This faint trail provides a route that is an alternative to Haypress Trail's climb up the western slope of Sandy Ridge.

Logged out summer 2020--stock passable. The trail starts out following the northwest bank of Halfmoon Creek through green forest, before climbing to a saddle where it enters a large area of burned-over forest. The trail continues to the south bank of the creek draining Torgerson Meadow, follows that south bank for some distance, skirting small, pretty meadows, crosses the creek, and skirts Torgerson Meadow proper on the left side. The increasingly indiscernible trail climbs through an intensely-burned area with little living plant growth, to reach the McCash Loop at the crest of the main ridge. The only remains of the sign that once marked this junction are one bolt in a fallen, charred tree.

Much of the length of the trail burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017. There were areas of major torching. There may be a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. Please be guided accordingly. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 1.5 miles

Ukonom Creek Trail (## 6E13 & 7E21, or #5854)

The trail starts across the Klamath River from the Coon Creek river access point. For users arriving via Highway 96, it is necessary to somehow get across the river. This may be possible in late summer, when the water level is especially low. At any other time, crossing is likely to be a very hazardous proposition without a substantial boat. Great caution and advance inquiry as to river conditions is advised. The great majority of users of this trail are participants in raft trips or kayakers, who pull over to the bar opposite and somewhat upriver of the Coon Creek river access point.

The first mile of the trail leads to Ukonom Creek Twin Falls, a popular destination for Klamath River boaters. This part of the trail receives pretty heavy use, and is kept open by rafting companies. The readily usable part of the trail continues for perhaps another quarter mile past the falls. Note that instead of using the trail, many boaters scramble, wade, and swim directly up Ukonom Creek to reach the falls. Some of the hike descriptions you might see are of the route up the creek bed. Beyond Ukonom Creek Twin Falls, the trail, and its branches, are no longer maintained by the Forest Service, and have not received maintenance in many decades. An alternate trail route into the canyon of Ukonom Creek starts at a logging road high on Ukonom Mountain, and makes a long drop to intersect the main trail. Higher up the canyon, the trail supposedly splits again. The route sometimes known as the Ukonom Ridge Trail ascends north of the creek canyon, climbing thousands of vertical feet, intersects the old Jacobs Ladder Trail, and goes to Ukonom Lake. Another branch supposedly continued up the creek, and then past the confluence of the McCash Fork ascended to Secret Lake, but efforts to locate the route at the Secret Lake end reveal nothing.

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.

Approximate length (river to Ukonom Lake): 10.5 miles

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 ridge line 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, and there is quite a bit of poison oak. Not suitable for stock. Maintained for 2020, and in good condition. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 0.1 mile

Wooley Creek Trail (#12W15, or ##5832 & 5558)

Caution: see description of condition below, as there are places between North Fork Wooley Creek and Big Meadows Trail that some, though not all, hikers have found impassable.

This trail provides access to the heart of the Marble Mountain Wilderness. Wooley Creek has been designated a Wild and Scenic River. This is a predominantly shady, undulating walk through impressive stands of old growth Douglas fir, pine, and hardwoods. However, the first part climbs steeply for several hundred vertical feet across a 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 2.6 miles from the trailhead, before the crossing of Deer Lick Creek. A safer route to the edge of Wooley Creek is to follow Deer Lick Creek down from the trail crossing, 0.2 mile farther along. At 5.9 miles in, a side trail leads downhill to the right, to and through Wooley Camp, a private inholding. Please respect the owners' property rights. The public trail continues to the left, traversing higher across the mountainside, rejoined by the private trail a short distance before Haypress Creek.

After about 9.1 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 (when cleared) 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 often follows closer to Wooley Creek, with frequent views of and access to the water. About half way from Canyon Creek to Dead Horse Creek, the trail climbs high above Wooley Creek for a while, and crosses a small stream that flows over a slippery rock outcrop. Just past this point, look for short downhill spur going back to a small waterfall on that stream. Overgrown North Fork Camp, and just after, the North Fork of Wooley Creek, are about 14.5 miles from the trailhead. The maintenance responsibility of the Ukonom Ranger District ends here, and the route number becomes 5558. For further information on current conditions past that point, users are strongly advised to contact the Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District at (530) 468-5351. The crossing of the North Fork can be difficult and hazardous, especially at times of high water, which may persist well into June, or in some years even beyond. At mile 17.4 is a junction with the Big Meadows Trail, which 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, rattlesnakes, and ticks 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, especially the exposed initial climb, can be very hot in summer. 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 (especially the North Fork, as noted above) may become difficult and hazardous. (There are bridges that cross Haypress and Bridge Creeks, the largest of the side streams within the Ukonom District.) Also, this trail is especially prone to many trees falling in winter, which may create substantial obstacles. Users should not anticipate any work by trail crews until May at the earliest.

The effort is made to maintain the Wooley Creek Trail at least to Fowler Cabin 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.

From the trailhead to Fowler Cabin, logged out for 2020, and generally in good condition as a result of maintenance in recent years. Work in 2018 and 2019 from the trailhead to Fowler Cabin included brushing in most locations in need of it, and widening of many areas of narrow tread, though some narrow spots remain. Nearing Bridge Creek, one large log slid onto the trail and has not been cut, creating a modest impediment for stock.

Past Fowler Cabin, newly fallen trees were cleared nearly to the North Fork in July 2016. By summer 2017, there were once again a fair number of small trees and several large firs down between Fowler Cabin and the North Fork, which have not yet been cleared. As of summer 2019, hikers could get through at least as far as Dead Horse Creek with only modest difficulty. Hikers have reported that the trail "gets bad" between Bear Skull Camp and the North Fork. Long-term challenges for stock users include difficult crossings of Canyon Creek and especially Dead Horse Creek, and failed, narrow to nonexistent trail tread on a steep side slope for a stretch located about half a mile before Dead Horse Creek.

Just before the trail reaches the edge of the North Fork, it is partly washed out, which may force a small detour to find a crossing. This may contribute to the difficulty that some (not all) hikers have had finding the continuation of the trail east from the crossing. Note that the trail at first briefly turns south (which may not be apparent from topo maps) to climb to the spine of a minor ridge that separates the drainages of the North Fork and the main stem of Wooley Creek. The Salmon-Scott Rivers Ranger District recreation officer reported that as of July 2018, there were still more than 100 tan oaks down between the North Fork and Big Meadows Trail (this section not having been logged out since 2015 or earlier). Hikers have reported that these have made the condition difficult, though most were getting through. It may be getting worse. In June 2020, a hiker reported finding it "difficult" to get past fallen trees, and elected to turn back. In summer 2017, a boy scout troop reported that there were two large slides across the trail about one mile above the North Fork. They found the second of these to be an impediment to further progress that completely defeated them, but other parties have since been getting through. If you attempt to use this part of the trail, please use good judgment and be prepared to turn back if need be.

In summer 2020, the Salmon-Scott Rivers District logged out the trail and did general maintenance from the junction of Big Meadows Trail to the end of the Wooley Creek Trail near Big Elk Lake. The work may have extended part way down the creek toward the North Fork. The recreation officer is uncertain. The work certainly did not make it as far as the North Fork, or even the area of the landslide noted above. Some hikers have considered the trail below Big Elk Lake, in the vicinity of Ananias Camp and for some distance below, through an area that burned in 2014, difficult to follow. Despite recent work, the entire Salmon-Scott Rivers District segment of the trail should be regarded as being in primitive condition. The alternate upper exit from Wooley Creek is Big Meadows Trail. The Salmon-Scott Rivers District also logged out and worked the Big Meadows Trail in summer 2020.

Nearly all of the trail between Deer Lick Creek and Bridge Creek burned over in the Haypress Fire, summer 2017. There is a continuing hazard of fire-weakened snags falling, especially in windy, rainy, or snowy weather. Large trees have occasionally been coming down even in the middle of summer. Please be guided accordingly. (Updated July 2020.)

Approximate length: 25.8 miles (including the portion past the ranger district boundary)