

**U.S.D.A. FOREST SERVICE  
KETCHUM RANGER DISTRICT**

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## **Road and Trail Report 04/22/2015**

Without spring showers in April many trails are going straight from snow cover to dusty conditions. This week more trails opened in Greenhorn and Adams Gulch and several trails have opened as out and backs at Fox Creek. These trails may have short snow patches *so stay alert for clear ice and slick hard pack snow* in shaded areas. Please help minimize trail damage by *staying in the center of the trail if you encounter very short patches of mud or ice*. In addition, this spring you can help keep trails in top shape for the summer by:

- *Honoring trail closure signs.*
- *Turning back on trails that are snowy or muddy but are not yet marked as CLOSED.*
- OPEN THIS WEEK: More south facing trails and a few loop trails are now open at **Greenhorn Gulch, Adams Gulch, Lake Creek** and at **Oregon Gulch**. Short “out and back” hikes are available at **Trail Creek** and **Fox Creek Trailheads**. See the trail descriptions below.
- CLOSED THIS WEEK: Shaded and north facing trails at Adams Gulch and Greenhorn and Fox Creek are also still *signed closed*.



*Trail users celebrate great weather and record early trail openings at Greenhorn Trailhead on April 22, 2015.*



*Lupine are flowering on the south facing slopes of Deer Creek this week. As a reminder: Deer Creek Road remains closed just past Wolfstone Road. Use caution driving on Deer Creek Road this week as heavy equipment will be hauling in to begin road reconstruction.*

Current Ketchum Ranger District Trail Conditions as of 4/22/2015:

- **Adam's Gulch Trailhead: Open**
  - Lake Creek Connector Trail #321 is **open**.
  - Sunnyside-Lanes Trail #316 is **open** all the way to Citizens Trail #143.
  - Citizens Trail #143 is open for 1.4 miles but is still an "out and back" as the portion of Old Adams Gulch Road #146 that combines with Citizens Trail #143 to make a loop is still signed **closed** due to snow and mud.
  - Old Adams Gulch Road Trail #146 is **open** from the Trailhead for about 1 mile then closed due to snow for ¼ mile. It is **open** again near the junction with Sunnyside-Lanes Trail (just below the "Porkchop" section of Trail #142). This center section of #146 (old road) is open for about 1.5 miles then is **closed** just above its junction with Citizens Trail.
  - Adams Rib Trail #142 ("Porkchop" section) is **open to** connect with Harpers Trail.
  - Shadyside Trail #317 is open for ¼ mile then **closed** due to snow and mud.

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- **Trail Creek Trailhead: Open.**
  - Trail Creek Trail #305 is open:
  - Corral Creek Trail #325 is partially open for about 1 ¾ miles.
  - Proctor Trail #119 is open (expect short patches of ice) \* reminder: Hiking Only
  - Aspen Loop Trail #841 is **closed** – long ice field toward the lower north side and patchy snow/mud.
  
- **Lake Creek:**
  - Harpers Trail #323 is **open** - you can access Lake Creek Connector Trail #321 and Adams Gulch “Porkchop” Trail #142.
  - The portion of the Fox Creek Loop Trail #149 that runs through the meadows above the Big Wood River, from the Lake Creek Trailhead to the exercise station at the north end of the meadows, is open. The section of Fox Creek Loop trail from the exercise station going north to Fox Creek Trailhead is still closed due to wet conditions. Note: a 1/2 mile portion of the "Downhill Only for Mountain Bikes" section of the Fox Creek Loop Trail #149 is open to hikers. The remainder of the trail is closed at this time.
  
- **Fox Creek Trailhead:** Trails are open as short “out and backs”...no loops are open yet.
  - Fox Loop Trail #149 is partially open...beginning from the Trailhead and going west to the top of the switchbacks (the trail is closed just before the pond). The portion of Fox Loop Trail that follows the river downstream to the exercise station is still closed. The portion of Fox Ck loop that is restricted to downhill mtn bike traffic is open to hikers for ½ mile.
  - North Fork of Fox Ck Trail #303 is partially open as an out and back.( the portion that follows the river upstream towards Chocolate Gulch is closed)
  - Oregon –Fox Connector Trail #311 is partially open ..*please turn back when you encounter mud or snow.*
  
- **Oregon Gulch Trailhead and Chocolate Gulch:**
  - Oregon Gulch Trail #183 is open for 2 miles as an “out and back”.
  - Saddle Trail #326 is **closed**
  - Chocolate Gulch #312 is **closed** due to melting ice blobs.
  
- **Greenhorn Trailhead: Open.**
  - Cow Creek Trail # 180 is **open**.
  - Cow Creek Short Cut Trail #930 is **open**.
  - Mahoney Ridge Trail (Cow Connector) #153 is **open**.. You can now reach the Greenhorn-Mahoney Trails #156 (#821) and Lodgepole Trail #310.
  - Lodgepole Trail #310 is partially open to the junction with Mahoney Ridge Trail (Cow Connector) #153. Lodgepole Trail is closed just past the #153 junction.
  - Greenhorn Trail #156 is partially open... beginning from the trailhead it is open over the three bridges and is open another 2 miles, and then closed by snow.
  - Greenhorn-Mahoney Trail #156 - #821 is partially open for about 2.1 miles: (*Please note due to changes in the FS trail inventory this trail is temporarily signed as Greenhorn-Mahoney Trail #156; a new replacement sign will bear the correct trail number of #821.*)
  - Imperial Trail #315 is partially open as an out and back for about 2 miles.
  
- **East Fork Big Wood Area:**
  - Bear-Parker Gulch Trail #121 is open from Hyndman Road #203 (off the East Fork of Big Wood Road) for 1.5 miles as an “out and back”.
  - Johnston Creek Trail #206 is open for about 1.5 miles as an “out and back”.

- **Hyndman Ck Trailhead:**
  - Hyndman Ck Trail #166 is closed by snow.
  - North Fork Hyndman Trail #165 is open for about 3/4 mile as an “out and back”.

Ketchum Ranger District Road Conditions: Unless listed otherwise, All KRD Forest Roads are closed to motorized use until **MAY 1**, after May 1 roads will be opened as conditions allow.

- **Deer Creek: CLOSED just above Wolfstone. USE CAUTION Heavy Equipment will be working on the road for the next two weeks (through mid-May).**
- **Greenhorn Gulch Road: Open**
- **East Fork of The Big Wood River Road: CLOSED ½ mile above Federal Gulch Campground.**
- **Oregon Gulch: Open**
- **Fox Creek Trailhead Rd: Open**
- **Hyndman Creek Rd: open to the Trailhead.**
- **Parker Gulch: no report.**
- **Independence: Open**
- **Corral Creek Rd: Open**
- **Lake Creek: Open for 3.5 miles to the Lake, closed just beyond the Lake Creek picnic area.**
- **Taylor Canyon: Open**
- **Panther Creek: Open**
- **Eagle Creek Road: signed closed**
- **Trail Creek: CLOSED over the summit till mid-late April. Expect construction on the north side of Trail Creek Summit.**
- **Warm Springs Rd: Open to Red Warrior (CLOSED just above Frenchman’s Hot Springs.**
- **Cove Creek Rd: open 4 miles past the Forest boundary.**
- **Baker Creek Rd: signed closed.**
- **West Fork Warm Springs: no report.**
- **Copper Creek: no report.**
- **Mormon Hill Road: no report.**

### **South Valley Best Bet:**

The BLM and the BCRD have recently completed some upgrades to the series of turns in the southwest section of **the Hidden Valley Loop Trail**. The trail is walking, running, and riding well. Come try it out!

“**Toe of the Slope**” trail (east of Hailey) is open and dry.

### **Mid-Valley Best Bet:**

**Greenhorn Trailhead:** Take Greenhorn Trail #156 to the Mahoney Trail for about 2 miles to Lodgepole Trail #310, after ¼ mile turn onto the Cow Ck Connector to return in about 2 ½ miles to the Trailhead.

### **North Valley Best Bet:**

**Adams Gulch:** For the longest loop try riding on Sunnyside-Lanes Trail #316 turning onto the Pork Chop section of trail #142 and then turning onto Harpers Trail #323, to descend and turning south onto Adams Gulch –Lake Creek Connector Trail#321 to return to Adams Gulch Trailhead.

**Oregon Gulch Trail #183:** Beautiful 5 mile roundtrip hike viewing beaver ponds - great for kids!



*Around corners, expect the unexpected and ride in control...some trail users blend in more than others(above).*

**\*The KRD has partnered with the BCRD to help keep our enthusiastic trail users up to date on current trail conditions and information. The website is: <http://summertrailink.bcrd.org/> . While the KRD will continue to publish our text version of the weekly trail updates throughout the summer, users who want a more interactive experience that includes maps, photos and trail descriptions should check out the above link.**