

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

**206 SUN VALLEY ROAD
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KETCHUM, ID 83340
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Road and Trail Report 04/02/2015

- Dry weather and a dwindling snowpack continue to bring early trail openings with a minimum of muddy and icy conditions.

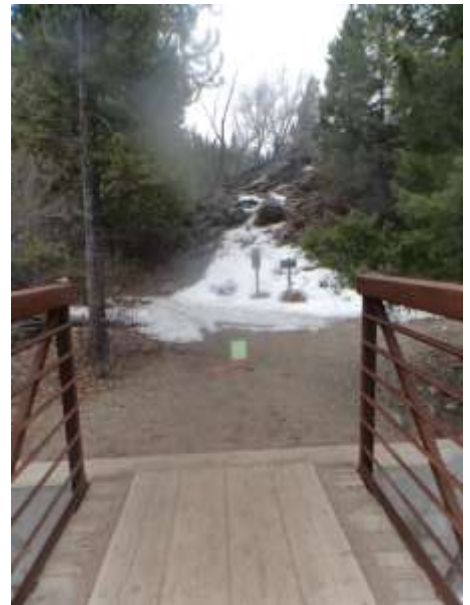
Please help minimize damage to wet trails by:

- *Honoring trail closure signs.*
- *Turning back on trails that are muddy but are not yet marked as CLOSED.*
- *Staying in the center of the trail if you encounter very short patches of ice or mud. THANKS!*

- **OPEN THIS WEEK:** Several south facing trails have partially opened as “out and backs” at **Greenhorn Gulch, Adams Gulch, Lake Creek** and at **Oregon Gulch**. See the trail descriptions below.
- **CLOSED THIS WEEK:** North facing and shaded trails at Fox Creek, Saddle Trail and Chocolate Gulch are still buried under snow and ice and are starting to thaw out creating muddy conditions and have been *signed closed*.



This hiker demonstrates how to stay in the center of a wet trail at Adams Gulch (left photo). Adams Gulch Trailhead is nearly dry with a number of south facing trails now open (right photo).



Greenhorn Trailhead (left photo) has many south facing trails now open but access from the trail pictured above is still closed due the snow that is visable in the background. To access trails at Greenhorn go the the NORTH side of the trailhead (by the equestrain parking area) to either Mahoney Ridge Trail or Cow Creek Trail. Trails at Fox Creek are now closed due to ice and mud (right photo).



Oregon Gulch Trail is open and dry for 2 miles (left photo), while Saddle Trail (center photo) is closed due to mud and Chocolate Gulch (right photo) is weeks away from opening.



Old Adams Gulch Road Trail (above left) is closed except for a “center section” which is open and can be ridden to make a loop from Sunnyside-Lanes Trail. Adams lake Creek Connector Trail (above right) is open for short hikes from both the Adams Gulch side and from the Lake Creek side but the middle portion of the trail is closed due to mud.



Harpers Trail from Lake Creek Trail head (above) is closed at the ¼ mile mark.

Current Ketchum Ranger District Trail Conditions as of 4/2/2015:

- **Adam's Gulch Trailhead:** Open
 - Lake Creek Connector Trail #321 is open for 1.2 miles as an “out and back”
 - Sunnyside-Lanes Trail #316 is open.
 - Citizens Trail #143 is open for 1.6 miles as an “out and back”.
 - Old Adams Gulch Road Trail #146 is **closed** from the Adams Gulch Trailhead for 1 mile due to ice and mud. It is OPEN above the 1-mile mark (near the second trail bridge) to the junction with Citizens Trail. This open section of the #146 trail/road can only be accessed from the Sunnyside-Lanes Trail #316. The #146 trail (old road) is **closed** above its junction with Citizens Trail.
 - Adams Rib Trail #142 (“Porkchop” section) is open for ¼ mile.

- **Trail Creek Trailhead:** Trail Creek trailhead parking is open and **DRY!**
 - Trail Creek Trail is open:
 - Corral Creek Trail #325 is open for 1.3 miles as an “out and back”.
 - Proctor Trail and Aspen Loop Trails are **closed** due to ice and patchy snow/mud.

- **Lake Creek:**
 - Trail #323 is open for 1/8 mile as a very short out-and-back.
 - The portion of the Fox Creek Loop Trail #149 that runs through the low Lake Harpers Creek Trailhead meadows (xc ski trails in winter) is melted out and open for about 1 mile as an out-and-back opportunity. The remainder of the trail is closed at this time due to wet conditions.

- **Fox Creek Trailhead:** All Trails are **closed** due to melting ice/mud.

- **Oregon Gulch Trailhead:**
 - Oregon Gulch Trail #183 is open for 2 miles as an “out and back”.
 - Saddle Trail #326 is **closed**

- **Greenhorn Trailhead: Open.**
 - Cow Creek Trail # 180 is open to the Cow Creek Short Cut Trail #930. Above this it is open for short out-and-back trips. Please turn around where conditions get wet.
 - Cow Creek Short Cut Trail #930 is open.
 - Mahoney Ridge Trail #153 is open for 2 miles as an “out and back”.
 - Greenhorn Trail #156 is **closed** .
 - Greenhorn-Mahoney Trail #821 is open as an “out and back” for 2.1 miles: This trail can only be accessed via Mahoney Ridge Trail. *(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).*



Eagle Creek Road remains closed and snow bound (above left). The north side of Trail Creek Road (over Trail Creek Summit) will be under construction this summer. A sign announcing the construction is posted 2 miles north of Sun Valley on Trail Creek Road. However, please note: Trail Creek Road is not expected to open over the summit until late April (at which time there may be delays due to construction).

Ketchum Ranger District Road Conditions: **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 one mile up from Forest Boundary. USE CAUTION!**
- **Greenhorn Gulch Road: Open**
- **East Fork of The Big Wood River Road: no report**
- **Oregon Gulch: Open**
- **Fox Creek Rd: signed closed**
- **Hyndman Creek Rd: no current report.**
- **Parker Gulch: no report.**
- **Independence: signed closed**
- **Corral Creek Rd: signed closed- recommended for hikers, dog walkers and mountain bikes.**
- **Lake Creek: signed closed- recommended for hikers, dog walkers and mountain bikes.**
- **Taylor Canyon: not accessible (behind closed road)**
- **Panther Creek: not accessible (behind closed road).**
- **Eagle Creek Road: signed closed**
- **Trail Creek: CLOSED over the summit till 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..expect mud and potholes.**
- **Cove Creek Rd: not accessible due to snow.**
- **Baker Creek Rd: not accessible due to snow.**
- **West Fork Warm Springs: not accessible due to snow.**
- **Copper Creek: no report.**
- **Mormon Hill Road: no report.**

South Valley Best Bet:

BLM roads including Lee's Gulch and Townsend Gulch (both located at the end of Lower Broadford Rd.) as well as Muldoon Road (east of Bellevue) are all closed to motorized use until April 30 and are currently snow free for 3- 5 miles making them ideal for early spring hikers, bikers and riders. *Please follow all posted parking restrictions and clean up after dogs, ponies or what have you around your vehicles.*

The BLM's **Bullion Connector Trail and Hidden Valley Trail** are open as of March 17. All other trails making up the BLM's Croy Trail network remain closed at this time.

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

Mid-Valley Best Bet:

Greenhorn Trailhead: take the Mahoney Ridge Trail (this trail begins just west of the rest room), continue to Cow Creek Short Cut Trail then turn onto Cow Creek Trail to return to the trailhead for a 4 plus mile loop!

North Valley Best Bet:

White Cloud Trails (West side of Sun Valley Road): still a bit muddy in the upper sections but the majority of the trails are dry.

Adams Gulch: For the longest loop try riding on Sunnyside-Lanes Trail to Citizens Trail (turning around and backtracking on Citizens) and then dropping down to the Old Adams Gulch Road and climbing back up to return to the trailhead on Sunnyside.

Hiking and mountain bike riding available on **Corral Creek Road and Lake Creek Road.**

Oregon Trail: Beautiful 4 mile roundtrip hike viewing beaver ponds - great for kids!

*The KRD has partnered with the BCRD to help keep our enthusiastic trail users up to date on current trail conditions and information. The new website, launched last summer is: <http://summertrailink.bcrd.org/> . While the KRD will continue to publish our text version of the bi-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.