

Trail Advocates

of the Clackamas River Ranger District of the Mount Hood National Forest

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Elk Lake Road

Topic: Elk Lake Road

Author: Matt Reeder

Topic Started: 8/3/2008; 3:35:50 PM

Last Posted: 8/6/2008; 4:49:29 PM

Elk Lake Road

Matt Reeder : 8/3/2008; 2:35:50 PM

Reads: 659, Responses: 1 ([view responses to this item](#))

Well, it looks like Elk Lake has finally melted out. Unbelievable it took this long! What I'm wondering is just how driveable the road is. When I went up there as a kid the road was among the worst I've ever seen. Now that I'm older I would imagine the road would be even worse, but I've heard rumors the road was seriously improved over the last few years. Is it doable for a low-clearance sedan?

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Re: Elk Lake Road

Kevin Wright : 8/6/2008; 3:49:29 PM

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I would say barely doable. I was up there last summer, and the road portion between the Breitenbush highway (#46) and the saddle where you turn left is still full of potholes and severe washboards on the steep climb up towards the saddle. Also some larger rocks buried in the roadway, but nothing too major. The last 2 miles to Elk Lake are much improved over years past, new toilets and campground improvements were made also...some talk at Detroit district about making it a fee camp in the future. It no longer resembles a dried up riverbed. I saw a Honda Accord and a minivan when I was up there, but I would suggest some caution and pick your routes carefully.

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