

Trail Advocates

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

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Grouse Point trail 517: road 4611 to river

Topic: Grouse Point trail 517: road 4611 to river

Author: Zack Byerly

Topic Started: 7/12/2005; 5:25:48 PM

Last Posted: 8/7/2005; 3:23:15 PM

Grouse Point trail 517: road 4611 to river

Zack Byerly : 7/12/2005; 4:25:48 PM

Reads: 104, Responses: 5 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

Hiked 7/8, and I just wanted to give some praise to those responsible for the maintenance that must have taken place not to long before. Does anyone know if the Corral Springs trail will be cleared this summer? I backpacked it in late June and was very thankful for the flagging.

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Re: Grouse Point trail 517: road 4611 to river

Donovan : 7/13/2005; 3:08:19 PM

Reads: 87, Responses: 4 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

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Hope to before fire season. If not then, after. Last year we didn't quite make it all the way. We hope to get it all this year. Plus start going after some of the Rhododendron. Have you ever gone down Plaza Creek Trail from Twin Springs? We lost it after a mile last year. This year we are looking for anyone who has actually followed it to the river.

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Re: Grouse Point trail 517: road 4611 to river

Pete Giordano : 7/13/2005; 6:18:48 PM

Reads: 97, Responses: 3 ([view responses to this item](#))

I hiked it several years ago but ended up losing the trail and then basically bushwacked to the river. I thought I picked up portions of it at several places on the way down but it could've been animal trails.

Question: What's the best way to help restore a trail?

I hike into Roaring River several times a year to kayak and wonder what is the best way to help maintain these trails. I could bring along some pruning shears but don't know if that would help much. Don't have the ability to bring a shovel or anything.

Anyone have suggestions?

pete

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Re: Grouse Point trail 517: road 4611 to river**Donovan** : 7/16/2005; 2:25:07 PMReads: 104, Responses: 2 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

We currently have 2 1/2 trails down the the main stem Roaring River. Grouse Point from 4611 -- short, sweet, and very steep. I am impressed that people haul their kayaks down it! Corral Springs from Lookout Springs Campground. This is better graded but longer. And Plaza Creek, the trail no one can find. I have even seen it listed in a new hiking guide in spite of it's apparent disappearance.

First we need to find it. It could take several days of careful sleuthing. Once found it will need to be flagged. Then we would pick up all the debris on it and go after vine maple, rhododendrons, etc., obscuring the visibility. I think that the problem with Plaza Creek is that the trail was never substantially built initially. (Unlike Corral Springs) It was likely used most when there was still a Guard Station at The Plaza and when the campground at Twin Springs was active. At that time - seventy to eighty years ago - the timber was small. That side of the canyon was just recovering from the fires of the late 19th Century which (stand replacing series of fires) denuded the area. Consequently, the route was not blazed. There is likely timber towards the bottom unaffected by these burns which may be blazed.

I would be willing to spend some time looking for it if there are others interested. I am aware that there are x-treme boaters and fishermen for whom the heart of Roaring River holds an attraction. There area is highly remote and hitherto inaccessible except by cross-country adventurers. When are the water levels at Plaza Creek adequate to float out to the Clackamas?

Historically, there were other trails into Roaring River country. The Cougar Creek trail from west of Signal Buttes holds some interest for me but it looks to be about four or five miles to the river. There had been two additional trails down to the upper reaches of the river off the Abbot Road but I have yet to find any sign of them. One from about a half mile beyond Plaza Lake Trail (east) and the other from Hambone Springs.

At some point in the future this area may become Wilderness. It would be easier to find and save Plaza Creek Trail before that happens.

e-Write me and we can see about a Plaza Creek exploration.

trailadvocate@hotmail.com

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Re: Grouse Point trail 517: road 4611 to river**Zack Byerly** : 7/20/2005; 3:54:37 PMReads: 113, Responses: 1 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

I have a Fish Creek quad map that is dated 1956 and it shows a continuation of the Corral Springs trail that crosses the Roaring River and then follows the South Fork Roaring River. It finally ends/begins in the area of Frazier turnaround. Wasn't sure if you were aware or if any one may have traveled it before. I am very familiar with the northern ridge of RRiver canyon but I have yet to do much cross-country on the southern ridge of the canyon.

[Discuss this message.](#)**Re: Grouse Point trail 517: road 4611 to river****Donovan** : 8/7/2005; 2:23:15 PMReads: 118, Responses: 0 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

That's old trail 511. There is an account written by a party who helped build it in the thirties in the book available at the Clackamas Lake Guard Station about Clackamas country forest service activities.

I have looked for the start briefly at Frazier Turnaround but found nothing. They didn't spend much time on it so it was likely not substantial. Would be fun to look for.

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