

Trail Advocates

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

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Old trail to Jim Meadow?

Topic: Old trail to Jim Meadow?

Author: Doug Firman

Topic Started: 7/9/2009; 6:33:10 PM

Last Posted: 7/12/2009; 9:24:18 AM

Old trail to Jim Meadow?

Doug Firman : 7/9/2009; 5:33:10 PM

Reads: 271, Responses: 4 ([view responses to this item](#))

Does anyone know the story behind an abandoned trail which connects with the upper part of the Rho Creek trail and appears to head toward Jim Meadow? The junction is marked by an old sign post and is located just up the hill from the junction with the trail to the old Rho Ridge guard station. The 1963 FS map shows a trail at that location which leads to Jim Meadow but goes no further. Earlier maps that I've looked (1946 and 52) at do not show it at all. Any idea why would they build a dead-end trail in that location?

I followed it for a while and it's a pretty good trail. A few pictures here:

http://farm4.static.flickr.com/3622/3705309235_06958172e1.jpg?v=0

http://farm3.static.flickr.com/2654/3705309571_abd79cdc43.jpg?v=0

http://farm3.static.flickr.com/2672/3705309419_639fe412df.jpg?v=0

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Re: Old trail to Jim Meadow?**Donovan** : 7/10/2009; 8:28:03 AMReads: 211, Responses: 3 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

Thanks for checking that out. I have never walked it out. Maybe you can scope out the trail through Rho Mdw next time and let us know where it comes out. And Tumble Creek too. There are hewn posts at each trail junction off Rho Creek Trail.

I believe these side of way trails were primarily for sheep herders. Meadow to meadow. There was a lot of open country up there on account of fires. On Tumble Creek there is evidence of grazing allotment postings similar to what I've seen on the Old Skyline Trail in the Lemiti vicinity.

[Discuss this message.](#)**Re: Old trail to Jim Meadow?****Doug Firman** : 7/10/2009; 2:54:26 PMReads: 226, Responses: 2 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

I suspected that grazing might be the reason for that trail. Would that also be the reason for the guard station at that location - to oversee the grazing allotments up there?

Where would I find the Tumble Creek trail that you mention? Would that be at the edge of the clearcut near Fadeaway Spring? As you come out of the woods into the clearcut there appears to be a trail which heads off to the right while the Rho Creek trail heads left up to the spring and the road crossing. Is that it?

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Re: Old trail to Jim Meadow?**Donovan** : 7/11/2009; 6:14:57 PMReads: 213, Responses: 1 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

It's about 3/4 mile below Fadeaway. There is a hewn post. A slight draw. On the left.

First 30 feet washed bad, but then it's easy to find. Blazes. But, once into the lodgepole it's a scouting situation. This would have been open country. We only went a little way on account we had work to do below. Looking at aerials and the old maps, I figured it could miss the clearcutting on top and drop back down into Tumble Creek on it's way north in uncut territory. At Lowe Creek I figured it would be more cut up.

Did you walk clear over to Jim Meadow?

[Discuss this message.](#)**Re: Old trail to Jim Meadow?****Doug Firman** : 7/12/2009; 8:24:18 AMReads: 212, Responses: 0 ([↩](#) view responses to this item)

I didn't go all the way to Jim Meadow. I probably went only a 1/4 mile, if that, until the rhodies became a problem. But now that I know where it's headed, I might give it another try.

I don't recall having seen the post you mentioned on the trail below Fadeaway. But I'll definitely look for it the next time I'm up that way.

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