

Trail Advocates

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

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Cache Meadow Trail to Grouse Point Trail

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Posted on: 6/22/2009; 9:51:13 AM

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On Thursday I planned to hike the Cache Meadow Trail (TR 702) to the Grouse Point Trail (TR 517) and head up to the area above Rock Lakes Basin. The trail was under a couple of inches of water just after leaving the trailhead on Road 140, but I could tell where the trail, actually more like a small stream, was.

I'd never been there before so I didn't know exactly where the junction of TR 702 and the short spur that leads to Bob's Buck Camp and Trail "X" was. Due to the water all around me I missed the junction by the pond and ended up at Bob's Buck Camp, so I decided to take Trail "X" up to Cripple Creek Lake and cross over the stream coming out of Cache Meadow to pick up the trail.

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There were patches of snow but the trail could be picked up easily until after Cripple Creek Lake when the snow patches became larger. After crossing the stream I used my GPS to locate TR 517, as shown on the map, but there was a foot or so of snow covering the ground and the trail was not visible. This was at 4300 ft. elevation. I turned back, crossed the stream and headed back to Cripple Creek Lake to spend the night.

On my way out Friday morning I found a pile of scat on the trail. This was about halfway between Cripple Creek Lake and the stream that crosses Trail "X" . Appeared to be bear, but I'm no expert.

Any idea when the snow may be out of the area? I don't mind large patches but I **hate** post-holing and not knowing where the trail is!

Gary

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