



Waters Creek Trail. Photo by Lee Webb..



TRAILS

FROM PAGE 1

Proceed 2.3 miles to the small gravel parking lot, restroom and trailhead.

Waters Creek Trail has two loops. The first is a one-mile loop that is graveled, providing a great walk for families with small children or those desiring an easy stroll. The trail travels through an open meadow bordered by oaks, and then follows the riparian area of Waters Creek. The 2.5-mile second loop is definitely more of a workout, climbing higher up the slope and passing through a mixed conifer/hardwood forest setting.

Waters Creek Trail was constructed using proceeds from a selective logging sale in the late 90s; the trail is located adjacent to these upslope-managed sites. Signs of prescribed burning and the opening of the canopy are now almost impossible to distinguish. Numerous draws that flow water in the wet season were protected with a vegetative buffer. Harvesting some timber, while providing for a visually pleasing recreational experience, has been successful.

Interpretative signs that line the trail have become well-worn, but are worth checking out for information about some key forest elements and even some quotes

on the varying philosophies that society has of nature.

Directions: Take Highway 199 south 12.5 miles from Grants Pass (measured from the intersection of Highway 199 and 238). Turn right onto Waters Creek Road just south of Wonder (about a half mile from the Wonder store). Travel 2.5 miles, just past the Forest Service boundary, to parking site and restroom.

Limpy Creek interpretative signs were recently replaced as a memorial to the late Larry Cosby, who designed and implemented the trail (also Waters Creek Trail) and for many years provided the graphic layout for the *Applegater*.

On a regular basis I meet locals who share what a meaningful place these trails are to them and their family. They say these hikes are a "must do" for any of their out-of-town visitors. In addition, both trails have had lots of community involvement with and support for their creation and maintenance. If you have not discovered these hikes, add it to your must-do list. And, as with most locations in SW Oregon, be on the lookout for poison oak.

For more information, please contact Wild Rivers Ranger District on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, 2164 NE Spaulding Avenue, Grants Pass, OR 97526, 541-471-6500.

Linda Mullens
Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest

Trailhead of Limpy Botanical trail. Photo by Linda Mullens.



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Fun and Games by Marvin Rosenberg

This is an easy one, called **FIND A PAIR**.

A Ruch school child is in a hurry in the early morning when it is still dark out. The child is very organized and has only two colors of socks in his drawer and, being a very methodical child, knew the drawer contained eight blue socks and ten red socks. The question is, how many socks was it necessary to remove from the drawer before it was certain that there was a pair to match?

Answer on page 24.