

Hiking Trail Maintenance Report

Trail Name: Susan Creek Falls

Date of Inspection/Maintenance: January 11, 2026

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1. Overview

Susan Creek Falls Trail is a scenic route located within a lush forested area, leading to the picturesque Susan Creek waterfall. The trail is approximately 1.5 miles long and is popular among hikers, bikers, and equestrians. It features gentle slopes, well-maintained surfaces, and offers access to natural viewpoints along the way. The purpose of this maintenance was to ensure safe and unobstructed passage for recreational users while addressing erosion and trail stability concerns caused by recent storms. Total mileage of trail clearing completed during this maintenance was **0.8 miles**.

2. Current Condition

- Trail Surface: Good condition; free of obstructions or obstacles impeding traffic.
- Trail Corridor: Maintained at 6 feet in width; minimal brush encroachment into the trail surface.
- Vegetation: No excessive growth observed along the corridor.
- Signage: No issues reported.

3. Maintenance Activities

- Obstacle Removal: Bucked and cleared 8 fallen trees resulting from recent storms.
- Erosion Control:
 - Reclaimed unauthorized user-created trails formed as recreationalists diverted around obstacles.
 - Constructed a log retaining structure to stabilize an uphill slope impacted by a root wad removal.
 - Addressed soil displacement and bank instability to prevent sediment transport and further degradation.

4. Volunteer Contribution

- Volunteer Hours: 8 hours per person, totaling 16 hours for the group.
- The Umpqua Trailblazers volunteer trail crew aspires each year to donate **500 hours** of volunteer service to the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and other land management agencies.

5. Issues & Recommendations

- Root Wad Scar: The uphill slope remains vulnerable; monitor for additional erosion after heavy rainfall.
- Unauthorized Trails: Continue to monitor and reclaim any new user-created paths outside the designated corridor to prevent sedimentation and habitat disruption.
- Drainage: Monitor and improve drainage within the near future to prevent water accumulation and erosion issues.

6. Photos







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