



You Can Report On Trail Conditions

ROG 16-35 2/2020

National Forest Trails

Trails are a key part of many outdoor recreation experiences, but they are often taken for granted. National Forest trails are built and maintained by the Forest Service, but funding and people to do the work are in short supply.

You can help keep the trails open and safe by reporting trail conditions, especially early in summer, when little is known about the previous winter's damage. Reports late in the fall can help us plan next year's trail work.

How To Report

Report trail conditions to ranger district offices, the Forest Supervisor's office or to Forest Service employees you might see in the field. Leave a note on your way home or drop it in the mail. Include the trail name and number (if available), the trail's condition, its approximate location, date observed and, if possible, UTM coordinates or lat/long from a GPS. Use the back of this guide or, if you wish, report in person or by telephone. Photos are very helpful.

Adopt-A-Trail

Another way to help with trails is to become involved in the Adopt-a-Trail program. Interested clubs or organized groups do volunteer maintenance for a portion of the trail. For more information, please contact the nearest ranger district.

While hiking, you can remove debris from the trail and scatter it on the lower side. You can remove rocks over six inches in diameter, but be sure not to endanger anyone below. Picking up trash on the trail is helpful at any time.

Things To Report

We want to know about damage to any infrastructure, including trees across a trail, damaged/missing trail signs, dangerous stream crossings, damaged or destroyed bridges, impassable boggy areas, snow conditions and anything else you think we should know about.

Thanks for your help.



Terms You Need To Know

- **Ford:** A natural stream crossing that has been improved sufficiently for use by saddle or pack animals and hikers.
- **Switchback:** A sharp, short-radius curve in the trail, used on hillsides to reverse the direction of travel and to gain or lose elevation.
- **Abandoned or Relocated:** Debris placed deliberately across a trail means the trail is not meant to be used.
- **Trail Tread:** The surface portion of the trail upon which the traffic moves as distinct from backslope, ditch and shoulder.
- **Waterbar:** A device that redirects water off the trail, usually made with logs, stones or soil, installed at about 30 degrees angled across the trail.
- **Cross-Drain:** A dip constructed by contouring the material of the trail itself, serving the same purpose as a waterbar.
- **Washouts:** Where a trail tread has been obliterated by heavy water flow from whatever source.

Please see the Stanislaus National Forest "Trail Condition Report" form on reverse.





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Stanislaus National Forest Trail Condition Report

Trail Name _____

Reported By _____

District or Wilderness Area _____

Date _____

Damage Location (example: 1/4 mile up trail from Blue Creek)	Description of the Trail Condition (example: Two 24-inch trees across trail)
Accomplishment Report	

Sonora Supervisors Office
19777 Greenely Road
Sonora, CA 95370
(209) 532-3671

Summit Ranger District
#1 Pinecrest Lake Road
Pinecrest, CA 95364

Groveland Ranger District
24545 Highway 120
Groveland, CA 95321
(209) 962-7825

Calaveras Ranger District
P.O. Box 500 / 5519 Highway 4
Hathaway Pines, CA 95323
(209) 795-1381