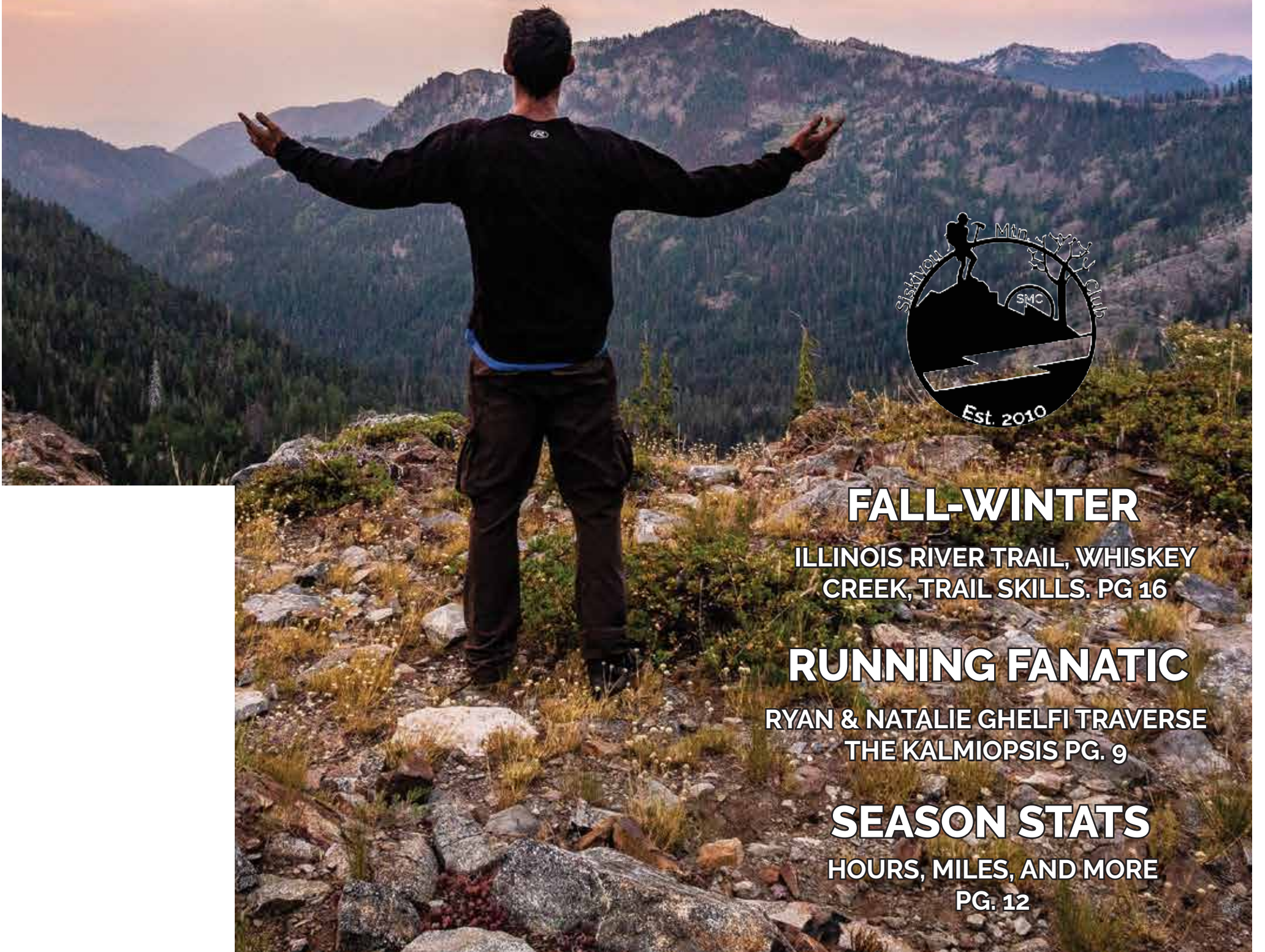


THE SISKIYOU HIKER

Outdoor news from the Siskiyou backcountry

INSIDE: HIKES, GUIDES, MAPS



FALL-WINTER

ILLINOIS RIVER TRAIL, WHISKEY CREEK, TRAIL SKILLS. PG 16

RUNNING FANATIC

RYAN & NATALIE GHELFI TRAVERSE THE KALMIOPSIS PG. 9

SEASON STATS

HOURS, MILES, AND MORE PG. 12

Heartburn and heritage high in the Kalmiopsis: Miscreants leave a mark

by Paul Fattig
for the Siskiyou Hiker

Local author Paul Fattig shares story of his family history in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. To learn more, check out his book "Madstone."

One of my favorite mountaintops in southwest Oregon is Pearsoll Peak on the northeastern edge of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness.

Not only can you visit an historic fire lookout but you have a wonderful vista when atop the rocky point rising 5,038 feet above sea level. We once spent a night on Pearsoll when it was bathed in the light of an exceptionally bright full moon. You could see the ghostly fog creeping in from the coast, pouring in slow motion over mountain passes into the deep canyons below. It was a beautiful night to remember.

Yet, while I dearly love the place, Pearsoll has also caused me a little heartburn over the past half century. The problem is that my moniker is chiseled in stone about 30 feet or so east of the

fire lookout. Writ large, its presence has raised the ire of folks who rightfully believe it is poor form to sully any place with graffiti, especially spectacular spots like Pearsoll Peak. While writing for the Mail Tribune newspaper in Medford for some 22 years, I would periodically get a call from a miffed Pearsoll visitor irked at the sight of my name etched in rock. I would patiently listen to their complaint, tell them I concur with their concern, and then explain I am not the guilty party.

To find the culprit, we need to go back almost 90 years, well before I was born in Grants Pass. Let's go all the way to about 1930. That's when my father and Art Cribb were part of the small crew deployed by the U.S. Forest Service to construct the fire lookout.

As young men - my father was about 24 at the

time - are wont to do, they quickly came up with activity to fill their idle time while waiting for mules to haul building material to the peak. Grabbing their hammers and chisels, they began carving their names on a rock about the size of a refrigerator. Apparently they had plenty of time on their calloused hands because their names are deeply engraved. Their inscriptions have withstood the erosion of time.

Later, my father, who was born in Ashland in 1906, would marry and beget five children, including two sets of twins. Apparently running out of names, he, at our mom's suggestion, agreed to name one of the twin boys in the last of the litter after himself. That would be me, although I only use the "Junior" on my name when signing a legal document. Sadly, my namesake died of cancer when my twin and I were nine so I never got to use "Junior" to differentiate between father and son.

Incidentally, if you are the one who read my book, "Madstone," you would have recalled the Pearsoll Peak anecdote on page 106, had you been paying attention and not dozed off.


In defense of the young graffiti artists atop Pearsoll Peak, they were fellows well liked by their peers.

They loved and respected the outdoors. Art and his wife, Irene, a wonderful teacher at Kerby Elementary School, were good friends of our parents. As far as I know, Pearsoll Peak was the only place where the then youthful miscreants practiced their primitive writing technique. I like to think they would not have condoned it today.

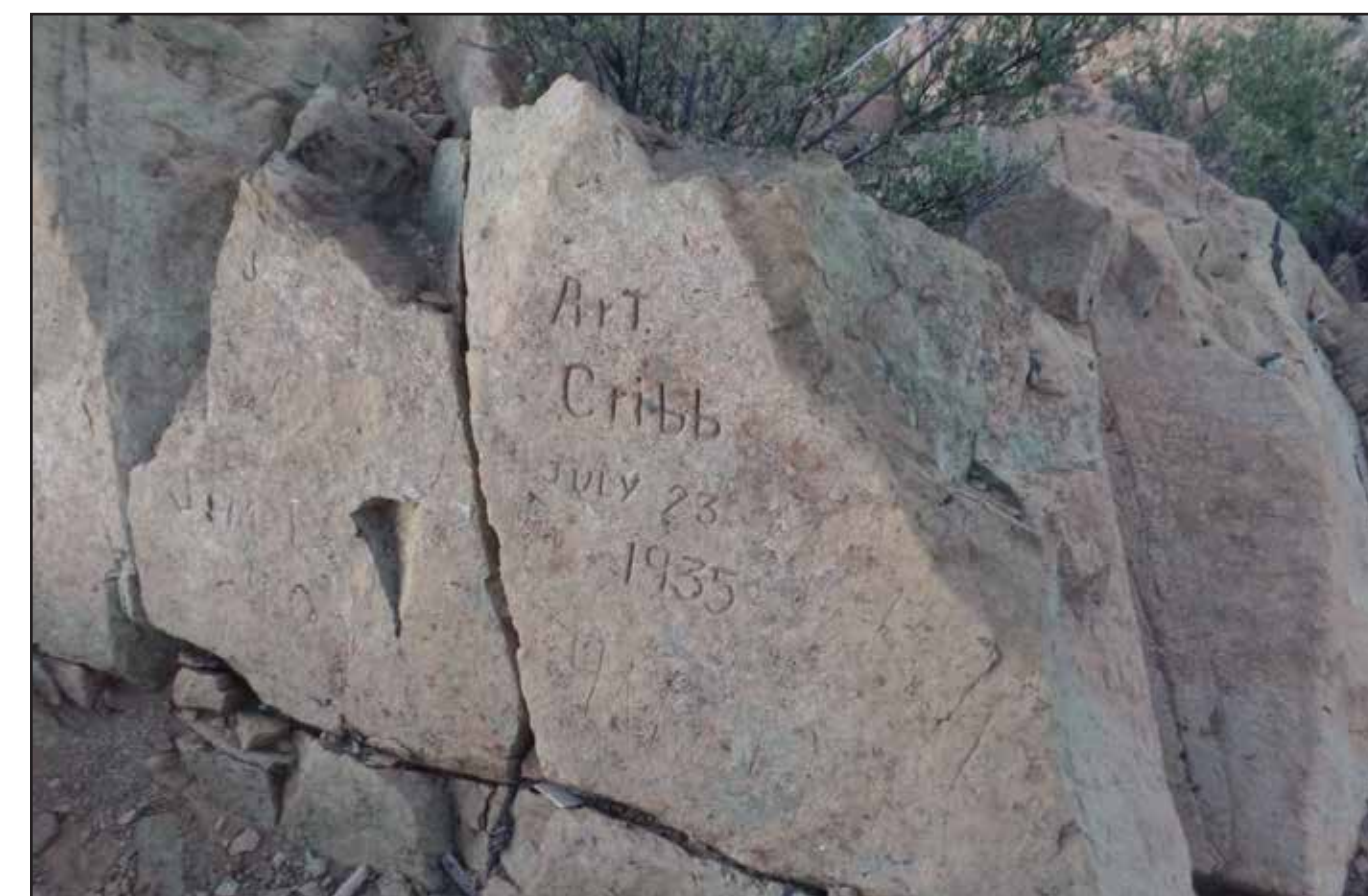
A wisenheimer friend once suggested I could go to Pearsoll with a hammer and chisel and add "Senior" to the graffiti. However, as the old maxim reminds us, two wrongs don't make a right.

Besides, as I get longer of tooth, I look at it as part of the region's rich history. Still, at the risk of seeming to promote a double standard, I urge others not to follow the path taken by a certain Paul Fattig who wrote his name in stone back in the day.

Author Bio:
Paul Fattig grew up in the Rogue Valley and describes himself as a "recovering journalist" after writing for the Medford Mail Tribune for some 22 years. He has published two books through Hellgate Press: "Up Sterling Creek Without a Paddle" and "Madstone."



"They loved and respected the outdoors."



Etchings: Names withstand the erosion of time atop Pearsoll



Founding donor Steve Marsden and Field Director Aaron Babcock at Pearsoll Peak fire lookout, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest



“The hardest thing I’ve ever done” Wilderness Conservation Corps Interns reflect

for the Siskiyou Hiker

In spring 2018 Yutaro Sakairi was cruising summer opportunities on his University of Washington website and found the Siskiyou Mountain Club. “I didn’t want to stay inside for the summer,” he says. “I thought it would be a great opportunity to be surrounded by nature. That’s all I wanted.”

Yutaro was born in New York and grew up in Tokyo before heading to Seattle to study biology. He’s fluent in English, Japanese, and French.

He admits he didn’t know what to expect for the work. But he says he felt welcome. “Nobody had any biases, and I appreciated that.” That doesn’t mean the work wasn’t hard, he adds. “It was the toughest experience of my life.”

That fostered a bond with his crew.

“It was like we knew each other for a lot longer than we did,” he says. “It felt like family.”

It was a growing experience for Sterling Dintersmith, too. She found our Conservation Corps program through web searches for the Kalmiopsis. She became intrigued with the area after working there with the Northwest Youth Corps, and joining the Club was a natural step.

She says she doesn’t like the Kalmiopsis more after 2018. “I like everywhere more. I feel a better ability to connect with other places,” she says. And while Sterling got to know the Kalmiopsis better, she got to know herself better, too. “and where I fit in with a small group.”

Haleigh Martin grew up in Virginia, and graduated from Virginia Tech in the spring with a degree in forestry.

She also became intrigued with an online job posting. “I knew it was exactly what I needed,” she writes.

Haleigh spent her summer working in the Marble Mountain and Kalmiopsis Wilderness Areas. The

challenge Yutaro and Sterling encountered resonates with her. “I uncovered a more rugged and motivated version of myself,” she writes. “It was the hardest thing I’ve ever done.”

Interns at a glance:

- Worked **4,750 hours** on trails
- Restored Clear Creek National Recreation Trail from Young’s Valley to No Man’s Trailhead (**24 miles**).
- Restored Upper Chetco Trail 1102, Tincup Trail 1117, Johnson Butte Trail 1110 (**32 miles**)
- Maintained **30 miles** of the Pacific Crest Trail, Marble Mountain Wilderness
- Recruited from three countries and three states
- Worked in Marble Mountain, Siskiyou, and Kalmiopsis Federal Wilderness Areas



photo by Trevor Meyer



photo by 2018 intern Zach Lopez



A well-seasoned late summer crew after a tough day of work. (From left) Jamie Schmidt, Nick Hodges, Haleigh Martin, Eliasa Collins, Karly White, Luke Brandy

Working overtime in the Siskiyou Wilderness

by Yutaro Sakairi, 2018 intern for the Siskiyou Hiker

2018 Wilderness Conservation Corps intern Yutaro Sakairi shares his memories of work on the Clear Creek National Recreation Trail

It was Sterling who brought it up. “So I think we need to talk about this project,” she said on July 15th. It was 2pm, the end of our official eight hour work day. The log we had started to crosscut was only halfway cut, and we were waiting for our crew leader, Nick, to start the debrief to cap off a long day.

“Are we gonna finish this project?” Sterling continued. “There’s no way we’ll finish it if we keep working just eight hour days.” That’s an intern’s obligation, to work eight hours a day. We receive a stipend and some tuition reimbursement.

We’d all been thinking the same thing, thinking about the feasibility of the project. To reach our goal of

clearing the 21 mile Clear Creek National Recreation Trail, a deeper commitment, and overtime, were unavoidable.

Nick took over: “Yeah, what do you think, Mia? Yutaro?”

I started asking myself if I wanted to do it, or if I could do it. To be honest, I was never passionate about this work. I didn’t hate it, but it wasn’t something I enjoyed doing. It was hot, sweaty, dirty, and just intense. I’ve always worked hard, out of the obligation I made. This question was challenging my commitment to the work.

I waited a minute to respond. “Yeah, I’m down.” Deep in my mind, I knew this time would come, but I was afraid to have the decision here, right in front of me. At the same time, I think I wanted to see how far I could go.

I wanted to prove to the world and to myself that I am capable of challenging myself to the limit. And

most of all, I wanted to see us complete this project and be proud of ourselves. Mia agreed as well, and we all started to work harder with a big goal ahead.

We ended work that day well after 2pm. While Nick and I bumped forward to cut some more logs, the rest of the crew stayed behind to finish up the log we were working on.

Something changed within us that day. The team finally bonded to complete this enormous project. Starting that night, we started eating together at dinner.

After I changed my mindset, I started enjoying the work. I felt I was becoming an important part of this crew and realized that what I do really matters. Previously, I would check my watch now and then to see how much longer we had left before the next break, or the end of the day. I stopped caring about the time, and started concentrating on the work.

Time flew by. We worked 12 hour days through that hitch. It was satisfying to get so much work done with motivated people working for a cause.

The beauty of the Siskiyou Wilderness helped. By the end of the second hitch, I was becoming familiar with the area, and each

time I passed a switchback, or a log we cut, and each time I suffered a steep ascent, my attachment to the place grew. We built ownership in this massive, gorgeous Wilderness.

The eighth day was exceptional. We knew it was going to be a long one, so we started at 5:30am, hiking north from Trout Camp toward Young’s Valley, about eight miles. It took a long time working through brush, downed logs, and a landslide, but we did make it to Young’s Valley. It was gorgeous. A big, beautiful, grassy meadow. And it became my favorite part of the Clear Creek National Recreation Trail.

That day we ended back at Trout Camp at 8:45pm. I felt more satisfied than tired that night, and felt like I found the reason why people love trail work.

Author Bio:

Yutaro Sakairi was born in New York City and grew up in Tokyo. He now studies Biology and French at the University of Washington in Seattle. Following the internship, Yutaro plans to complete his degree and pursue field biology work.



1. Little Chetco Loop: A hike through rigor and resilience

Hike to the headwaters of Oregon's largest undammed river and see the remnants left by the Chetco Bar Fire.

Description:

From Babyfoot Lake Trailhead, head south on the Kalmiopsis Rim Trail 1124 and then down Emily Cabin Trail 1129 to the Little Chetco Trail. Follow the Little Chetco back up to the Kalmiopsis Rim.

The Little Chetco is more of a creek than a river, but the route does offer expansive views of the 180,000 acre Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area. There's hardly any shade along the hike, and recent wildfires have left the area looking and feeling destitute. But look deeper into the succession of this diverse ecosystem and you might become inspired by the rigor and resilience of life.

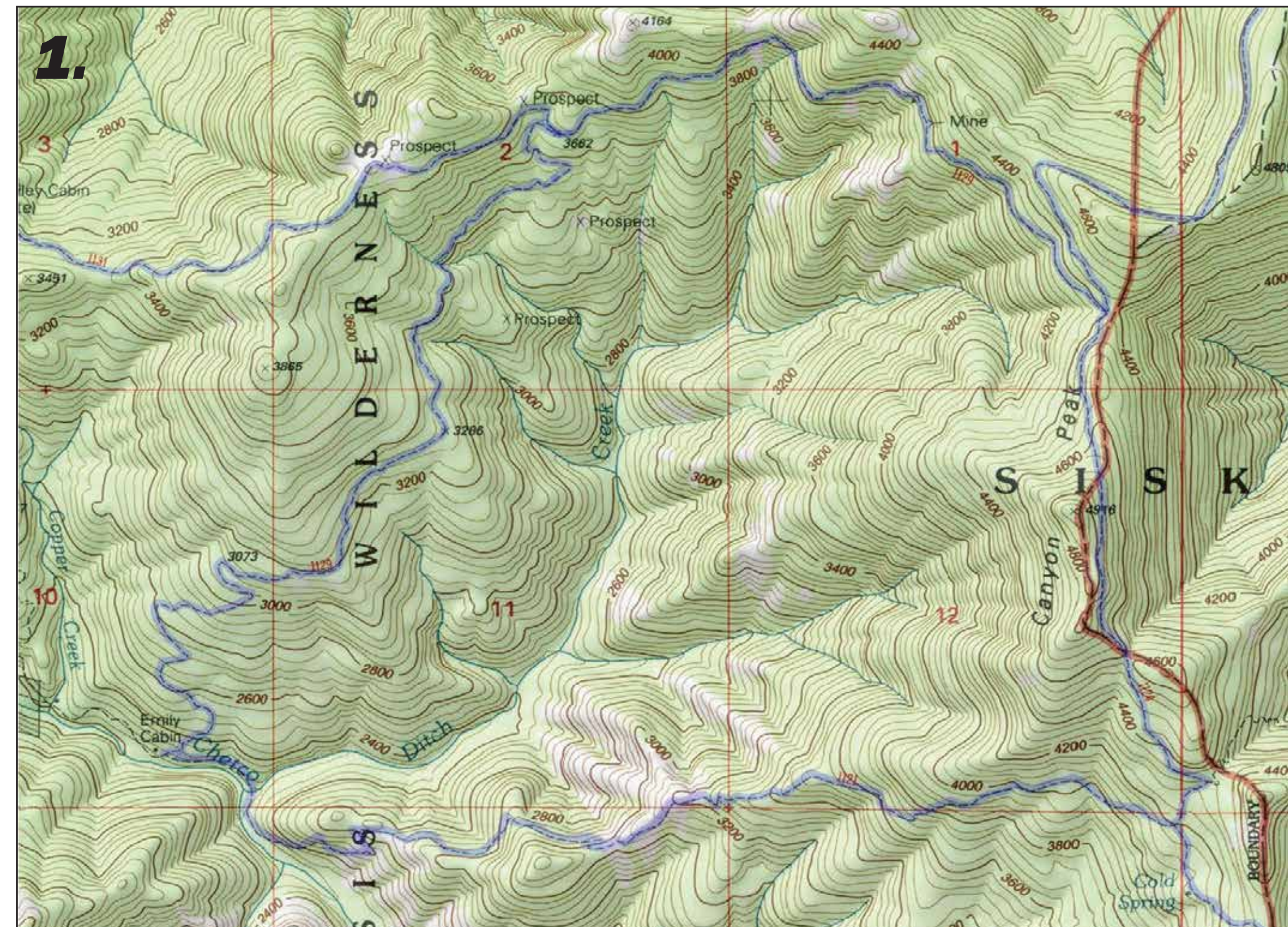
Watch out for falling snags killed by the 2002 Biscuit Fire and weakened by the 2017 Chetco Bar Fire. They do tend to crash in wind and snow events, but often fall without warning. Watch out for poison oak and renegade miners. The area is also known for its population of larger-than-life cougars that stalk limp and tired hikers.

Don't expect signs pointing you in the right direction, or anyone to hold your hand on this intrepid hike through the western Siskiyou.



Hikers walk down Emily Cabin Trail 1129

Distance: 16 miles



2. Boundary National Rec. Trail: Green Valley to Mt. Elijah

Description:

This route shows up on a 1915 USGS topographic map, and connects the Oregon Caves National Monument to the Red Buttes Wilderness Area, and, ultimately, the Pacific Crest Trail. From Green Valley hike north through virgin true fir forests growing circa 6,000 feet.

Explore mountain meadows that explode with flowers in summer, and take in views far as Mt. Shasta, Mt. Thielsen, and the larger Siskiyou range. Stop at Mt. Elijah, continue on to the Oregon Caves, or use another handful of trailheads that connect to the Grayback Range.

This section of the Boundary National Recreation Trail was brought back to life by a cadre of volunteers in 2018.

Distance: 5 miles one way



photo by Jeff Thieret

3. Panther Ridge: Go meow before it's too late

Description:

The Panther Ridge Trail runs northeast to southwest for about 8.5 miles from Buck Point to the Clay Hill Trailhead, threading along the northern boundary of the 35,600 acre Wild Rogue Wilderness.

The historic route shows up in Civilian Conservation Corps documents and winds its way through a primeval forest that inspires a sense of time and rigor through the ages. The cherry on top: Hanging Rock, a massive sandstone outcrop that jettisons out over a massive cliff.

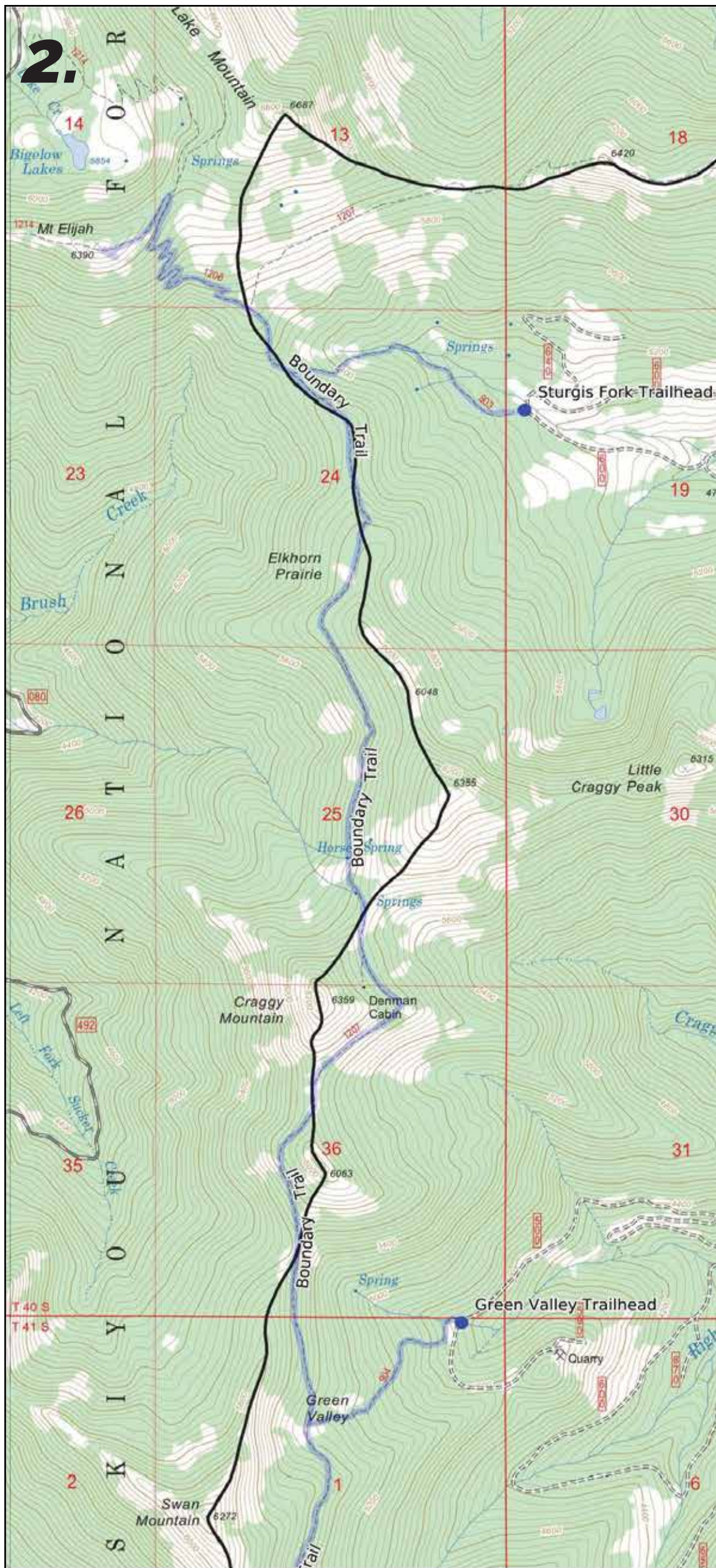
The drive is long enough that camping one, two, or more nights would be

well worth it. Use the Panther Ridge Trail to launch a multi day backpacking trip on the Wild Rogue Loop, or car camp and explore Mt. Bolivar and the historic settlement of Marial, which are both nearby.

Distance: 1-9 miles

There's more to the Rogue than a scenic river. Explore the Wild Rogue Wilderness on this hike through the most intact native forests west of Interstate 5 in Oregon.

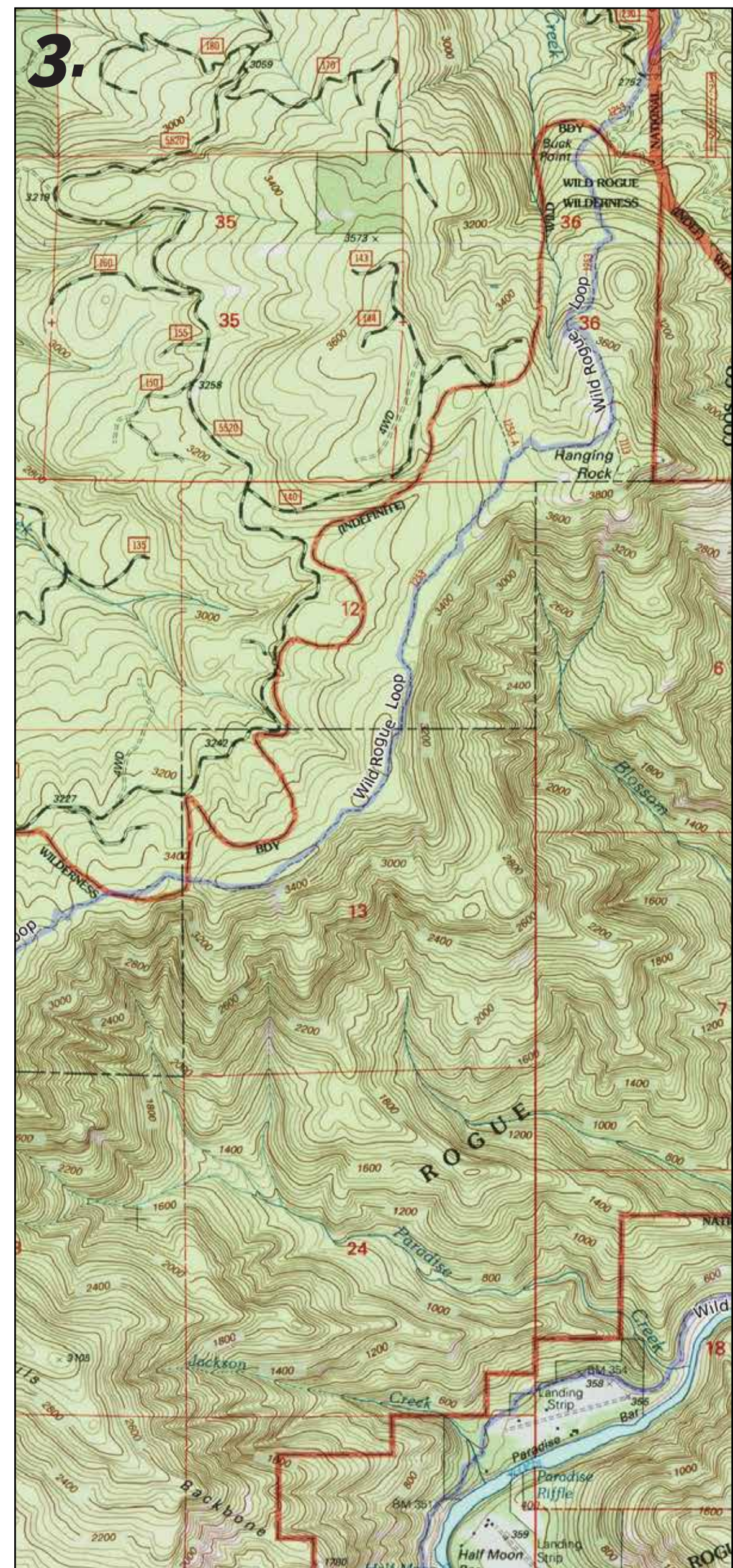




Hikers Seth Swan and Carol Eidsvoog enjoy the view atop Hanging Rock, the crown jewel of Panther Ridge



Wild Rogue Wilderness



Map you need not here? Come visit the Hiking Center and we'll print a custom route

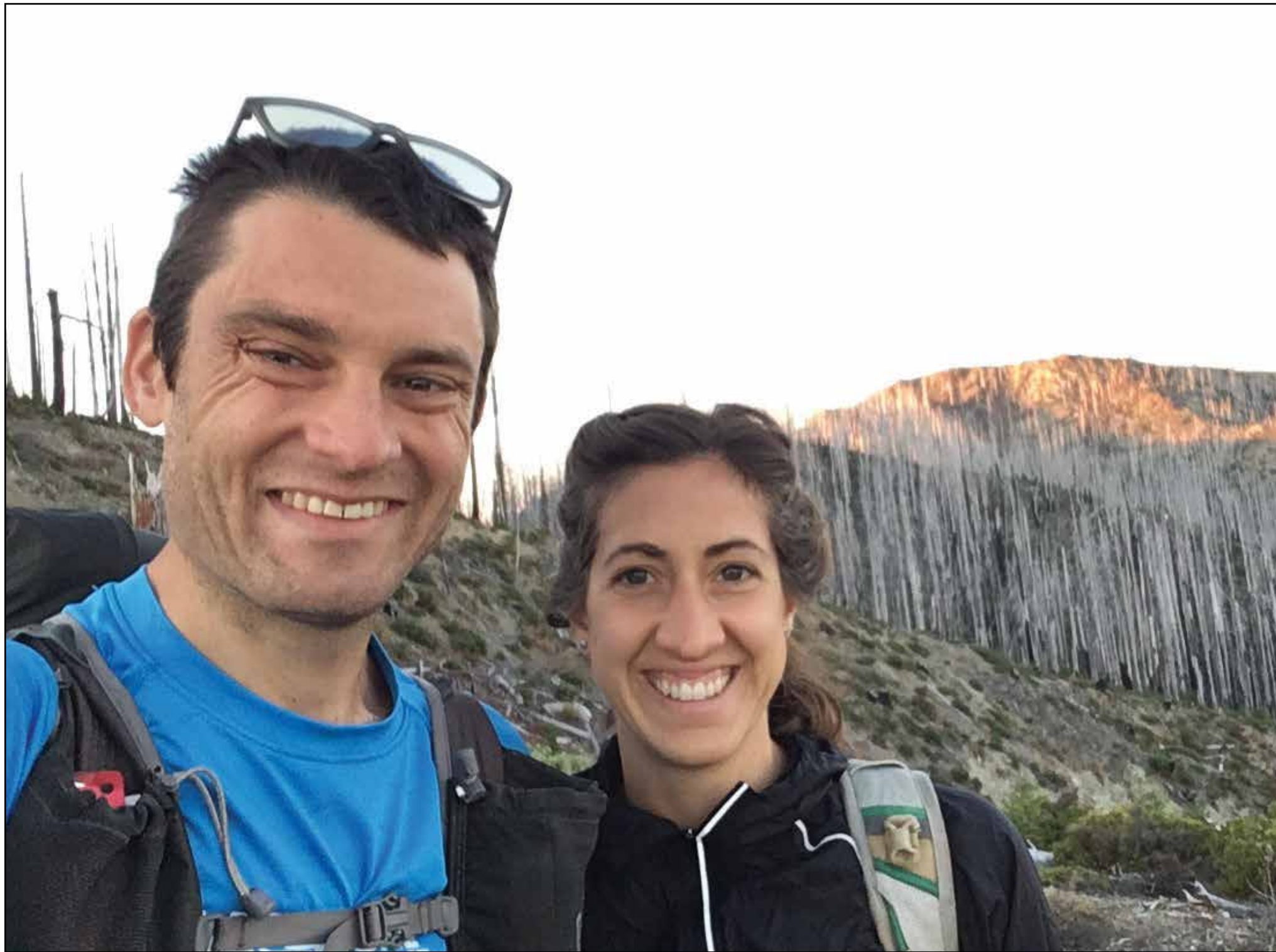


photo by: Ryan Ghelfi

All Smiles: Ryan and his wife, Natalie, start bright and early at the Babyfoot Lake trailhead

“Everything we could handle...and then some”

by: Ryan Ghelfi, board member for the Siskiyou Hiker

Ultramarathon runners Ryan and Natalie Ghelfi traversed a 52 mile route through the Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area. And they did it overnight. Read more...

A running fanatic

Most people would describe me as a runner. It's a pretty accurate description. I run longer distances than most, having completed numerous 100 mile trail races. I own the record for the fastest time on the 93 mile Wonderland Trail around Mt. Rainier, as well as the fastest time to ever climb Mt Shasta.

You could say I'm a running fanatic. I also run my own coaching business called Trails & Tarmac.

In addition to running, I'm equally passionate about Wilderness. Having lived in the region nearly my whole life, I've certainly had access to a shmorgishborg of truly wild places, from the high Sierra, to the Trinity Alps, Marble Mountains, Red Buttes. The list goes on.

One of the few local Wilderness Areas I'd yet to enter was the Kalmiopsis. I'd long wondered about this vast range of coastal mountains, but I'd heard the trails there were totally defunct, so I'd avoided the Kalmiopsis until I came into contact with the Siskiyou Mountain Club.

The Leach Loop

I became a business sponsor of SMC in spring 2018, and got the chance to meet with Gabe Howe, the organization's executive director. He is nothing short of a zealot for the Kalmiopsis. It was through discussions with him that I learned what SMC had done to rehabilitate over 70 miles

of lost trail in the Kalmiopsis, and how the Leach Loop, a 52 mile double crossing of the range was "ready to run."

Initially running the loop in just one day was enticing. But I opted instead to do a two day fast pack and bring my wife, Natalie. So we enlisted help to take care of our two year old overnight. It was a risk to use this precious time together to explore a burned up and relatively unknown wilderness circuit.

Fast packing

We brought just enough gear to be comfortable, but little enough that we could still make good time. We brought:

All told, my pack weighed about 15 pounds fully loaded, and Natalie's was somewhere around seven. Running with packs this size is manage-

- two one pound sleeping bags
- two one pound pads
- a two pound tent
- 12 oz. cookset
- a few pieces of clothing
- two headlamps
- first aid kit
- cellphone

able, but one major caveat is that there is very little actual running on the difficult ascents of the Leach Loop. So we hiked most of the ascents and ran on the flat and downhill terrain.

Fire on the landscape

It's hard to narrow down what is so appealing about the Kalmiopsis. I knew we'd see a lot of burned forest, and damage from the Chetco Bar Fire in 2017 was greater than I'd expected. Only small pockets of living trees survived along the route, including some lone wolf pines growing from high ridge tops. I found the stark landscape beautiful in its own right.

The Chetco easily surpassed: Babyfoot Lake to Box Canyon

At about 10 miles from Babyfoot Lake Trailhead, we descended deep into the Chetco River canyon, crossed Carter Creek, and had our first chance to gaze into the opalescent blue waters of the Wild Chetco. I'd long thought the Smith River had to be the most amazing water in this region, but the Chetco easily surpassed it.

We were still feeling strong and decided to try and make it at least 18 miles before lunch. The day wore on, and even before we reached Taggart's Bar (mile 16.3), signs pointed to a tough second half of the day's run. We climbed over into Box Canyon, arriving at yet another dazzling creek and stopped to devour the midday meal. During lunch we realized our food stores might not be sufficient; cavalier planning on my part.

Box Canyon to Vulcan Lake

Natalie is no running neophyte. Her resume includes multiple ultra distance races including a tough 100k earlier this year. She expected the Leach Loop to be hard, but perhaps we'd underestimated how long the miles might take.

As we worked up the climb to Johnson Butte, ascending 2,600 feet in just a few miles, it became apparent that it was going to take all day to make 30 miles before dark. We found a bit of a second wind along the newly graded trail between Johnson Butte and Dry Butte (mile 21-25) and our sails remained just full enough to push up the climb into Vulcan Lake basin as evening light set in.

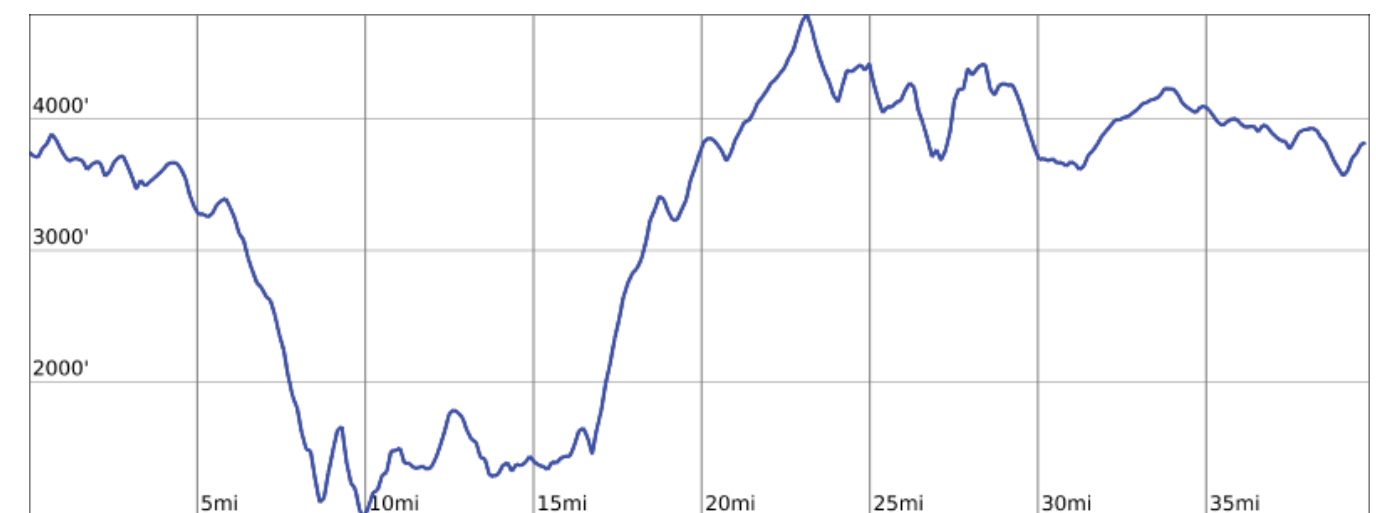
The lake lies at just 3,800 feet, but it has the feel and look of a much higher altitude lake, like one you'd find in the Red Buttes or Marble Mountain Wildernesses. It was the perfect place to lay over for the night after 7,700 feet of climbing for the day. We cooked three rounds of Thai noodles and consumed everything else that had not been earmarked for day two.

Vulcan Lake to Babyfoot: Everything we can handle, and maybe then some

A pre dawn start and quick off trail scramble brought us to the top of Vulcan Peak (4,600'). The summit afforded views across the Wilder-



photo by: Natalie Ghelfi



Elevation profile of the Leach Loop

ness, east to Canyon Peak, west as far as the Pacific. We ran along a trail-less ridge as the sun came up over the horizon.

During the next 11 miles we passed a dried up Chetco Lake, took in endless clear sky views of the South Fork Chetco and upper reaches of the Smith, and passed through infant forests springing to life 16 years after the 2002 Biscuit Fire.

We were lulled by these easier, smoother miles on the Chetco Divide Trail leading to Doe Gap, where the trail ascended and became much more difficult as it merged with the Kalmiopsis Rim. I had predicted from here to Babyfoot Lake Trailhead was seven miles. It turned out to be a beastly 11 miles with a punishing elevation profile.

Natalie became a bit withdrawn, let down by my poor forecast. It was not until Cold Spring, 19 miles into the second day, that we finally felt some sense of relief that'd we make it back at a reasonable hour.

The Leach Loop gave us everything we could handle, and maybe then some.

“No less enchanting”

A question I had going into this trip was whether or not I would have any desire to return to the Kalmiopsis. My most common haunts like the

Marble Mountains have higher altitude, intact forests, and dozens of formerly glaciated lake basins. The Kalmiopsis does not.

What the Kalmiopsis does have to offer is no less enchanting. There is nothing like looking out from a ridge top and surveying land that is truly wild, where there are few or no humans, where rivers run untamed. The Kalmiopsis provides the best opportunity for this type of experience in all of Southern Oregon, perhaps the entire state. A few days after we finished our trip I find myself staring past my computer screen dreaming of my next trip around the Leach Loop. Perhaps next year I'll find the time to get it done in a single day.

Author Bio:

Ultramarathon runner Ryan Ghelfi is a Siskiyou Mountain Club board member and is spearheading a number of important projects.

He lives in Ashland with his wife, Natalie, and son, Laiken. He owns Trails and Tarmac, a team of running coaches.





Before: Oldgrowth sugar pine chokes trail deep in Marble Mountain Wilderness

photo by Trevor Meyer



After: A hard day's work

photo by Trevor Meyer



photo by Trevor Meyer

2018 intern Zach Lopez in the Marble Mountain Wilderness



2016 intern and 2018 crew leader Eliasa Collins in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness

Season Stats:

Volunteer Hours: 1,499	Red Buttes Wilderness: 25.3 miles	Siskiyou Wilderness: 25 miles	Total Hours: 9,153
Intern Hours: 2,750	Wild Rogue Wilderness: 7 miles	Marble Mountain Wilderness: 15 miles	Total Miles: 170.8
Staff Hours: 4,904	Kalmiopsis Wilderness: 98.5 miles		

Jeff Thieret: Volunteer leaves legacy on National Recreation Trail

In 2014 Selma resident Jeff Thieret joined us for his first volunteer trip in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area, and over the years became a familiar face on day hikes, backpacking trips, and volunteer trips.

"I saw a need to provide more day trips for people," he says. So Thieret started leading volunteer trips in his proverbial backyard, brushing, treading, and logging out trails along the Boundary National Recreation Trail.

"We have lots of volunteers," says executive director Gabriel Howe. "But now we're getting volunteers to step out and lead," he adds.

That's huge.

What's also huge is that now someone could hike from the Oregon Caves south to the Red Buttes Wilderness, and from there take off on

the PCT towards Canada or Mexico. Thieret brought new long distance backpacking opportunities over just a few weekends.

He knew the trail well and was confident with the work. "What I didn't know is how much fun it would be," he says. "People have a great time." Thieret had help from a cadre of volunteers who returned week after week, and staff from the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

Boundary Trail Stats:

- 15 miles long
- Designated National Recreation Trail in 1979
- Highest peak: Mt. Elijah (6,390')



Trail Threads

The Chetco Bar Squad, a blend of interns, staff, and volunteers, tread the historic Upper Chetco Trail 1102 in August, 2018



Volunteer opportunity: Join the team

We're looking for a volunteer to work approximately four hours in our Hiking Center each week. You'd be responsible for holding down the fort during set hours and interacting with "walk-ins," members of the public looking for information, maps, and trip sign ups. Perform data entry and database management.

We can set hours based on availability of the right person for the job. While you won't be throwing dirt, your work will help the mission, and we're very, very fun to work with.

Sound like a position for you? Email karly@siskiyoumountainclub.org and start a conversation.

Winter hike: Rogue Wolf Loop open, needs work

In October a group of backpackers hiked the Rogue Wolf Loop in the Sky Lakes Wilderness. The 27 mile route had filled in with thousands of downed logs following the 2008 Middle Fork Fire, and we finished restoring it in 2017. Maria Katsatones was on the hike.

"The diversity of the meadow, forest, the burn, it just added to it," she says. There were places where the 2008 Middle Fork Fire overlapped with the 2017 Red Blanket Fire, but that didn't take away from her experience. "It was fascinating," Maria was there with 2016 intern Sam Hay-Roe, and 2017 intern Amalie Dieter. They both worked on the route.

"I loved having them," Maria says. "Amalie knew everything about the trail. She was our encyclopedia." Maria and her group had to climb over about 300 trees that had fallen in the burn areas since 2017, and the route will need ongoing maintenance to remain open.

2019: Holidays in the Wilderness

May 23 - 28: Trans-Kalmiopsis tradition

Join us for an extended Memorial Day Weekend in 2019 and help with our annual maintenance trip through the heart of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. Hike 27 miles from Babyfoot Lake to Vulcan Lake. Clear logs and brush, and rebuild

trail bench along the way. The trip is strenuous and you should have strong backpacking experience. Email info@siskiyoumountainclub.org or call 541-708-2056 for details and to get your name on the list.

July 4 - 7: Support the 2019 crew

Join our deputy director, Karly White, for a three night backpacking trip into a remote project site. Hike in food and treats for our interns, and work side by side with them for a day. See what it's like to be out in the field, and enjoy an extended holiday weekend deep in the Wilderness. Email karly@siskiyoumountainclub.org for details and to get your name on the list.

August 19 - 28: Ten days on

We're looking for a few hearty volunteers to spend an entire work hitch with our 2019 Wilderness Corps. Challenge yourself and spend 10 days side by side with our esteemed field staff and interns. These trips are self-supported and you should have strong experience backpacking. Participants are vetted and space is very limited. The work is strenuous and we complete projects as one unit. Email karly@siskiyoumountainclub.org for details.

Building out the team, meeting the mark

2019 marks a big turn in the SMC story. We've hired Karly White as our deputy director, and are in the process of hiring a deputy field director. White and her cohort will be responsible for helping double the number of volunteer hours and the size of our Wilderness Corps crew.

Clear Creek Bridge: Survived Klondike

This spring our volunteers and staff were busy hauling 20 foot, 170lb beams four miles along the rock, narrow Illinois River National Recreation Trail to rebuild the Clear Creek Bridge. We rafted the lumber down the river, hiked it up to the trail, and rebuilt the bridge.

Then the Klondike Fire came through, but word is that the bridge survived.

Want to stay up to date on Trail Threads? Sign up for our online newsletter! Email info@siskiyoumountainclub.org to get your name on the list.



The Chetco Bar Squad takes a day off to explore a remote creek drainage in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness

THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU

Interns:

Haleigh Martin
Yutaro Sakairi
Zach Lopez
Petros Tesfamariam
Sterling Dintersmith

Staff:

Eliasa Collins
Jamie Schmidt
Karly White
Jenna Comstock
Nick Hodges
Trevor Meyer
Rynn Hamilton

Board Members:

Tami Kelly
Doug Kendig
Dave Brennan
Mac Jefferson
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Ryan Ghelfi
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Luke Brandy
Erin Brandy
Andris Ollins
Chris Oswald
Nik Brown
Emma Anderson
Gary Roberts
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Angie Panter
Jerry Pendzick
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Kate McCredie
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Doug & Marina Kendig
James Harper
Anne Uzzell & Eric Ronemus
Bryant Zwart
Nancy Tappan
Brad & Stella Russell
Jason Middleton
Bruce Thompson

In Memory of:

Bobby Gross
Catherine Vilas Hayes
Autumn Gardner
Charles & Betty Howe

Editor's Note: When Siskiyou Mountain Club started in 2010, we were overwhelmed by the backlog of maintenance and neglect that plagued our Wilderness areas. With your help - the dirt that you moved, the trails that you walked, the dollars and hours that you donated - we've been able to reopen these areas for so many to enjoy. But SMC is much more than cut logs and pretty photos. We are a community. A community of people who care. People who aren't afraid to get their hands dirty, who look at a jungle of brush and say, "Game on." People like you. Thank you for being a part of our crew. Thank you for making our job so special.

November

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 WORK	5	6	7	8	9	10 HIKE
11	12	13	14	15 HIKE EVENT	16	17 HIKE
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 WORK	26	27	28	29	30	

December

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 WORK
2 WORK	3	4	5	6 EVENT	7	8 WORK
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 BACKPACK
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Details:

November 4th

Join trip leader Jeff Thieret and field coordinator Aaron Babcock for a work trip on the Elk Creek Trail in the Grayback Range. This trip is moderate and involves some heavy tread work. Beginners encouraged.

Email Jeff at jthieret@hotmail.com for details and to sign up.

November 10th

Join SMC board member Dave Eye for an autumn hike to Babyfoot Lake along the Kalmiopsis Rim. Step into the footprint of the 2017 Chetco Bar Fire and see for yourself how resilient life is in this commanding arm of Oregon State's third largest Federal Wilderness Area. Have lunch at the ancient cirque that is Babyfoot Lake and learn more about our work there.

Meet in Grants Pass at 8:30am and be back by dinner time. The hike is moderate, albeit with some steep pitches and sections of narrow tread. Everyone is welcome. Email Dave at daveeye@hotmail.com

details and to sign up.

November 15th

Join SMC Field Director Aaron Babcock for a moderate hike to Frog Pond high in the Red Buttes Wilderness Area. Count the number of conifers as you rise into the Siskiyou highlands and learn more about Aaron's work in the Red Buttes.

The trip is approximately five miles and moderate, but comes with some steep pitches. Enjoy ancient pines, open meadows, and have lunch under the cast of Mt. Emily, a regal crag at the head of the Applegate River. Trip is weather dependent. Will continue on with showery weather, but cancel for snow or heavy rain.

Meet in Ruch, OR at 8:30am. Be back by dinner. Email info@siskiyoumountainclub.org for details and to sign up.

November 15th

We rescheduled our in house movie night for November 15. Join us at 6:30pm for home cooked treats and a mash up of our fa-

vorite clips from the field. Enjoy a discussion with our leadership staff and get inspired to get out in 2019.

November 17th

Join SMC volunteer Luke Brandy for a guided hike through Lithia Park, and learn more about the conifers and the wide web of life in which they thrive. Will cancel for poor weather. The trip leaves the park entrance at 9am and will be complete by 12pm.

The hike is easy and Luke, who is a professional forester, will be on hand to answer questions and help interpret the conifers that define the Siskiyou Mountains.

Email info@siskiyoumountainclub.org for details and to sign up.

November 25th

Join us for a day of moderate work on the Whiskey Creek Trail, a historic route that reaches the highest reaches of the Upper Applegate. We need help treading, brushing, and swamping the historic route. The work is moderate and beginners are highly encouraged.

Leave Ruch, OR at 8:30am and

be back by 4pm. All you need is a sack lunch, water, and appropriate clothes. Email info@siskiyoumountainclub.org for details and to sign up.

December 1-2nd

Spend the day on the Illinois River Trail, with an option to stay overnight, or head home. We need your help brushing, scouting, and recording conditions from after the 2018 Klondike Fire which burned through this National Recreation Trail.

The hike is easy and everyone is welcome. Should you plan to stay overnight, volunteer Luke Brandy is bringing along a backwoods sauna. The carpool leaves Selma at 8am. Email info@siskiyoumountainclub.org for details and to sign up

December 6th

Each year we have interns who show up without proper gear. Drop off your gently used, lightweight, high quality gear to next year's interns.

We'll also be raffling off one refurb-

bished antique axe. Enjoy boozy holiday beverages, homemade cookies, and festive treats. Make a year end gift and help us bring 2019 on in style.

We are in need of:

- lightweight 1-2 person tents
- 65+ liter backpacks, men and women's sizes
- lightweight backpacking stoves
- sleeping bags and pads
- rain gear and warm jackets

December 8th

Join our Field Director for an introduction to trail work. Everyone is welcome, first timers encouraged. Hone your skills with the best in the business. Email info@siskiyoumountainclub.org or call 541-708-2056 for details and to sign up.

December 21-22nd

Join us for an overnight backpacking trip into the Illinois River. This is a moderate to challenging backpacking trip in a stunning area. Bring winter on in style with us.

Members only. Email info@siskiyoumountainclub.org for details and to sign up.

cut here

Our Mission:
The Siskiyou Mountain Club is a 501(c)(3) public charity that formed to restore, maintain, and promote primitive trails in the Siskiyou backcountry.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Total Donation: \$ _____

I will be making my gift by: _____ cash _____ check _____ card

card number: _____ exp: _____ sec. code: _____

Contact Us:

Hiking Center:

33 N. 3rd St, Ashland, OR 97520

Mailing Address:

PO Box 3566 Ashland, OR 97520

Email: info@siskiyoumountainclub.org

Phone Number: (541) 708-2056

Website: siskiyoumountainclub.org



JOIN US!

