

For additional State Park information contact:

Collier Memorial State Park  
46000 Hwy 97 N  
Chiloquin OR 97624  
(541) 783-2471



Check out other  
Oregon State Parks by visiting  
[www.oregonstateparks.org](http://www.oregonstateparks.org)

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department  
725 Summer St. NE, Suite C  
Salem OR 97301  
(503) 986-0707  
**1-800-551-6949**



To join the Klamath Rails-to-Trails Group, contact:

PO Box 532  
Klamath Falls OR 97601  
(541) 884-3050



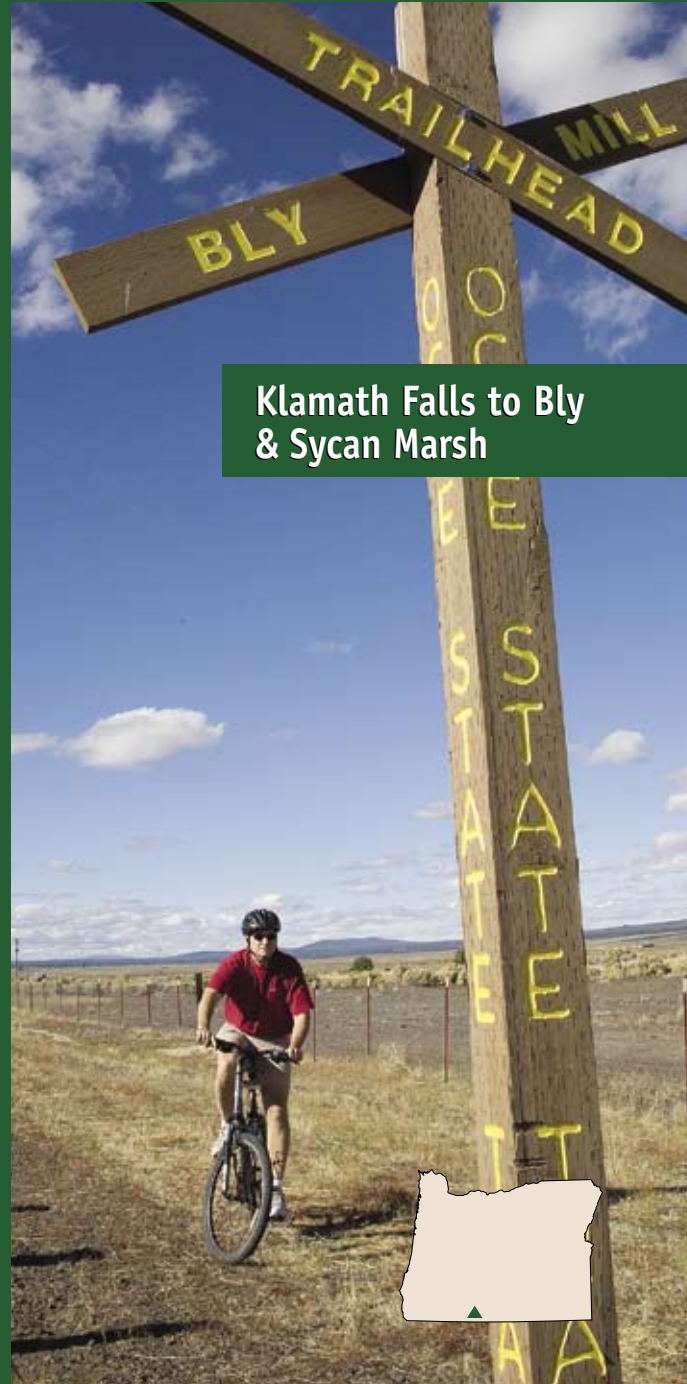
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This brochure is available in alternative formats on request.  
Write to OPRD, 725 Summer St. NE, Suite C, Salem, OR 97301;  
or call (503) 986-0707 (for the hearing impaired 1-800-735-2900).

63400-8752 (9/07)



# OC&E Woods Line State Trail



Klamath Falls to Bly  
& Sycan Marsh



## Welcome

to the OC&E Woods Line State Trail,  
Oregon's longest linear park! This 100-mile  
trail is built on the old railbed of the Oregon,  
California, and Eastern Railroad (OC&E).  
The trail, which is open to all non-motorized  
recreation, begins in the heart of Klamath  
Falls, and extends east to Bly and north to  
the Sycan Marsh.



*Robert E. Strahorn (third from left) founder/  
promoter of the first OC&E Railroad, circa 1917.  
Photo courtesy of Klamath County Museum.*

## Strahorn's Dream

The Klamath Falls Municipal Railway was the dream  
of Robert E. Strahorn. He envisioned a railroad  
that would connect the Southern Pacific rail line in  
Klamath Falls with the Nevada-California-Oregon line  
in Lakeview, the Union Pacific line in Burns, and the  
Great Northern's line in Bend.

Construction began on July 6, 1917. By 1923 the  
line had reached the community of Sprague River. Six  
years later the Railway reached Bly, which became the  
end of the line for the OC&E Railway.

## Timber-r-r-r!

The new railroad brought growth to the area. Logging  
camps with spur railroads sprang up almost overnight,  
and by 1919, four lumber mills were located on the  
main line. The engines transported carloads of enor-  
mous pine logs to the mills, often carrying as much as  
one million board feet a day!

In 1990, OC&E's incarnation as a logging railroad  
ended. Weyerhaeuser Co. railbanked the right-of-way  
to the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department,  
and the transition from a railroad to a trail began.

## Washburn Way to Olene

The OC&E State Trail begins in Klamath Falls at Washburn Way, with trailhead parking at Crosby and Avalon. The first 7.1 miles have been paved between Washburn Way and the community of Olene. This trail section is well used with schools, parks, businesses and neighborhoods nearby. On most any day, this portion of the trail will be bustling with joggers, walkers, in-line skaters and bicyclists. There are also additional trailheads at the Hwy 39 and Reeder Road crossings along this trail section.

## Hwy 39 to Olene

Mt Shasta rises to the south as the trail passes through farmland on its way to Olene. As you approach Olene, notice the mountains that form Olene Gap, indicating the Lost River's course through this narrow opening. After reaching Olene you will encounter gates on the trail. Please, pass through, but close them behind you. Wide tire bicycle, foot travel, cross-country skis and equestrian use are well suited for the remaining 88 miles of trail.

## Olene to Switchback Hill

Beyond Olene, the trail's surface is less improved, but rewarding nonetheless. The trail travels north through juniper and sagebrush before swinging east at Swede's Cut. Swede's Cut is named for a group of Swedish workers who used star drills and black powder to move more than 10 feet of boulders and hardpan soil, creating a route that maintained the gentle railroad grade. Continuing east, the trail skirts Dairy. This area was first settled by Dutch dairymen who supplied the area with rich milk products. The trail resumes its northward path to Switchback Hill.

## Switchback Hill

Strahorn's original plan called for a tunnel through Bly Mountain, but funds ran short and a more economical route was laid. A temporary double switchback was built over the hill instead. The double switchback allowed trains to be split to navigate the hill. Before the railroad ceased operation in 1990, this "temporary" switchback was the last of its kind operating in the United States.

A restroom and camping are available at the Switchback Trailhead (mile 32.5). This trailhead is located within the national forest and offers spectacular views of the surrounding forest lands and unique geography.

## Switchback Hill to Beatty

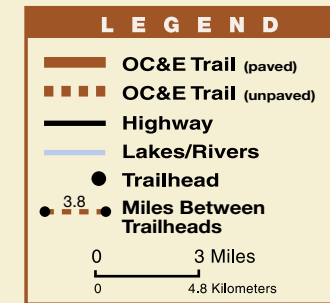
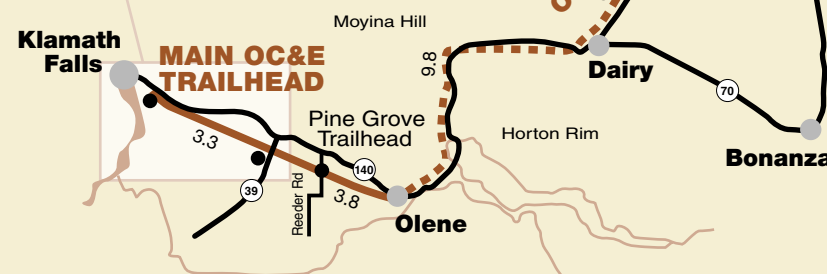
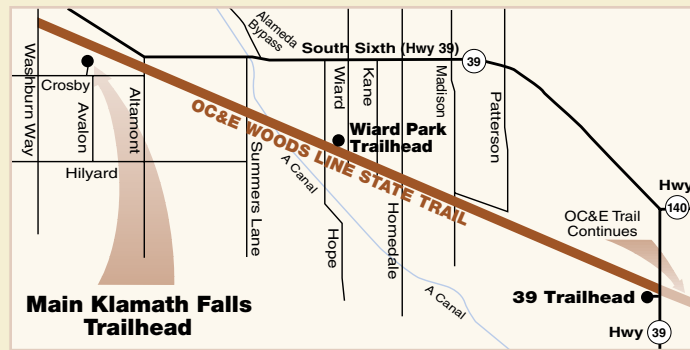
As the trail descends into the Sprague River Valley, it traverses timber and ranch lands. Agricultural activities abound in this fertile valley and trail users may encounter livestock in this section. The Sprague river will be your companion as you travel east to Beatty. This scenic section is rich in wildlife and waterfowl.

## The Woods Line Spur

The Woods Line Spur begins just east of Beatty and heads north. At mile 10 you reach Five Mile Creek, which will be at your side for the next six miles. Restrooms and campsites are located at mile 19, approximately halfway through this stretch, at Horse Glade trailhead. Continuing along the Woods Line Spur to mile 27 will take you to a spectacular structure, the Merritt Creek Trestle, which is 400 feet long and 50 feet high. The Woods Line ends seven miles north of this, at Sycan Marsh.

## Beatty to Bly

At Beatty the trail splits; one trail becomes the Woods Line heading north, while the main line continues east to Bly and the end of the line. Once a booming mill town, Bly is now a quiet little town.



## Please follow Trail Regulations and Trail Etiquette:

- You are traveling on a right-of-way. Respect private property adjacent to the trail.
- Motorized vehicles are prohibited. Violators will be fined.
- Pack it in, pack it out! Please leave the trail cleaner than you found it!
- Bicyclists and pedestrians: yield to horses. Greet the horse and rider to avoid spooking the animal.
- Equestrians – Please travel single file and use the wood chip trail where available.
- A 6-foot leash is required for pets. They must be under control at all times. Please remove any pet wastes from the trail.
- Discharge of firearms is prohibited.
- Camping is not allowed along the trail, except where designated.

## OC&E Woods Line State Trail

### Klamath Falls to Olene

- Multi-use Paved Trail
- Crosses A Canal Bike Path
- 1898 Steel Railroad Bridge
- Wiard Park

### Olene to Dairy

- Scenic Lost River
- Ranchlands
- Swede's Cut
- Dairy Y Siding

### Dairy to Sprague River

- Winema National Forest
- Devil's Garden
- Double Switchbacks
- Broad Vistas

### Sprague River to Beatty

- Wildlife Viewing
- Fishing the Sprague River
- Buttes of the Gods

### Beatty to Bly

- Wildlife Viewing
- Fishing the Sprague River
- Woods Line Trail
- Numerous Trestles

### Woods Line Trail

- Five Mile Creek
- Cross-Country Skiing
- Merritt Creek Trestle
- Sycan Marsh