

Photos of Riley Creek / McClellan Mountain Trail
Malheur National Forest

September 7, 2011



The trail starts out through beautiful stands of mature fir and pine along Riley Creek.



These moist, verdant forests offer a stark contrast to the dry hillsides above the stream.



At one mile, the trail crosses Riley Creek (no footbridge, though fallen logs are handy).



The trail continues downstream, becoming the McClellan Mountain Trail at the 1.5 mile mark.



As the trail leaves the stream canyon, it winds higher, and views of upper ridges begin to appear.



Soon McClellan Mountain comes into view and one can start glassing for bighorn sheep on its flanks.



Looking back east over the dry, upper slopes of Riley Creek canyon.



After 2.5 miles, there are sweeping views south, back up the Riley Creek canyon— a nice spot for lunch in the shade and the hike turnaround.