Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/14/2017 11:00:00 AM
First name: Dave
Last name: Payne
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Tuesday November 14

Elk Creek Project Comments

Recreation and Trails

1.
I would like to see a connector trail from Curly Jack Campground to the water ditch that leads to the Happy Camp Town Trail.

A potential route has been flagged. It crosses Curly Jack Road near the 1st govt residence driveway and follows one long switchback before it crosses the Elk Creek Road. The flagged route heads toward the town water tank, switches back and climbs on an easy grade to connect with the level water ditch. The route changes direction and follows the water ditch going behind the water tank to eventually connect with the town trail near its start. The start of the connector is in Curly Jack Campground and follows a water ditch around the curve of Curly Jack Road and connects with an existing rail that leads to the Curly Jack Road Crossing.

A connector trail of this sort would allow residents or campers a trail to access the Happy Camp Town Trail from the Curly Jack Campground without having to walk any distance on either Curly Jack Road or Elk Creek Road.

2.
I would like to see the Elk Creek Ditch Trail maintained and turned into a viable hiking trail on the public lands that it accesses and crosses.

An excellent spot for a southern trailhead exists and a short connecter trail accesses the water ditch just north of the Whooping Devil Cliffs.

The existing ditch trail is in good shape and provides a neat hiking opportunity along Elk Creek.

Possibilities for the northern trailhead need to be explored further.

3.
Please remember that Elk Creek is an eligible study river for inclusion in the national wild and scenic river system. Check appendixe of the Forest Plan for info. Study river or (outstandingly remarkable) values must be protected.

Thanks for considering my comments Dave Payne