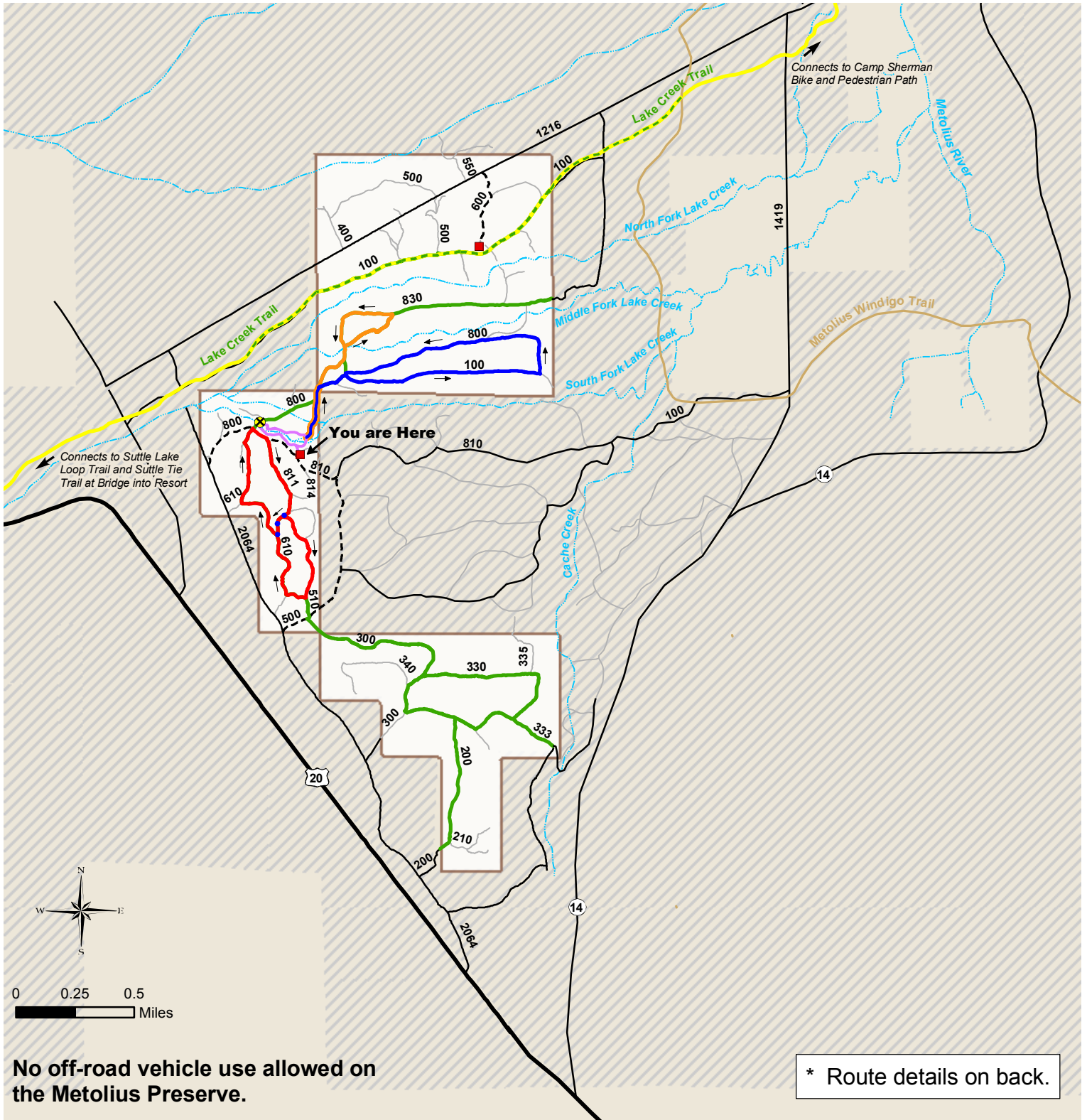


Trail Use on the Metolius Preserve



- Preserve Boundary
- US Forest Service Land
- Streams
- Kiosk / Parking Area
- Temporary Bridge Closure

- Forest Service Road
- Vehicle Access to Preserve
- General Hiking / Biking
- Portion of Lake Creek Trail open to horses

Marked Trails through Metolius Preserve*

- Lake Creek Trail
- Becky Johnson Nature Trail
- Blue "Birding" Route
- Orange Route
- Red Route
- Red Route Shortcut (Marked in Blue)



Route Details for the Metolius Preserve

With the exception of the Lake Creek and Becky Johnson Nature Trails, all routes are marked with corresponding colored reflectors.

Lake Creek Trail (4.3 miles from Camp Sherman path intersection to Suttle Lake, passing through the Metolius Preserve)

This most recent addition to our trail map is the result of a collaborative, community-wide effort by the Deschutes Land Trust, Friends of the Metolius, Sisters Ranger District and numerous local businesses and residents. The entire length is open to biking and hiking, and a portion (including that which passes through the Metolius Preserve) is open to horses as well. The majority of the path follows old logging roads and is very well marked with cedar posts. Enjoy the many species of birds, butterflies, and other wildlife as you travel along.

Becky Johnson Nature Trail (0.6 miles)

This trail is gravel and for pedestrians only (no bikes, please). From the kiosk, follow trail north toward the stream (South Fork of Lake Creek). Near stream, trail splits for loop and can be hiked in either direction. Variable terrain and numerous opportunities to view and enjoy the stream along the way (including two viewing platforms on the southern half of the loop). Please be sure to stay on the trail to minimize sedimentation and erosion along stream banks.

Please note: this loop is temporarily disconnected due to a culvert removal and stream restoration project initiated in 2008 (noted as "temporary bridge closure" on the map). While the stream crossing is out, you may enjoy the trail in two separate sections.

Blue "Birding" Loop (2.1 miles)

Over half of the 83 total bird species observed at the preserve have been detected along this trail and around the 830 road (refer to map), so be sure to bring your binoculars along for this hike and enjoy the show.

To get started, follow the Becky Johnson Nature Trail north toward the stream and cross over both bridges. Once across second bridge, veer to the right along the well worn dirt trail and follow it north. This dirt path starts about ½ way down the northern ramp of the 2nd bridge. After a few minutes (and after passing over an ephemeral stream), you'll come to the 800 road. Head north until you see the road split. At this split, veer right (the **Orange Loop** is straight ahead). Follow the blue reflectors around the loop. This part of the loop is very open and exposed from previous logging activities and provides excellent views of Black Butte and other nearby mountains. If you're lucky, you may also spot some elk along the way.

Orange Loop (1.3 miles)

This is a favorite for our tours because it leads you through a variety of habitats (forest, stream, shaded, open) for diverse plant and wildlife viewing. To begin, follow the directions for the **Blue Loop**. At the split noted above, go straight ahead and continue north until you cross over a small stream (Middle Fork of Lake Creek) and then turn right. Follow the reflectors around the loop in a counter clockwise direction until you return again to the stream. Head out the same way you arrived.

Red Loop

More shaded and noticeably cooler on a hot day than some of the other loops; old roads covered by grass and well numbered. Trail is less confusing than it may appear by description below. Nice variety of rolling terrain and gorgeous golden ferns blanketing the forest floor in the fall.

From the parking lot, walk west until you see the intersection of road 811 on your left. Turn left to begin the hike. At the first fork, stay right on 811. At the second intersection, continue right. You'll see OSU's summer field camp structures on your left. Road then splits. Veer left (514) to continue on the longer loop or turn right on 811 for the shortcut loop.

Long Red Loop (2 miles): Road 514 turns into 510. Follow 510 until it intersects with 512. Turn right onto 512. Road 512 will intersect with Road 610, stay right. Follow 610, staying left at the intersection of 811 and right at all other intersections to complete the loop. At intersection with road 800, go right to return to your vehicle.

Shortcut Red Loop (1 mile): Turn right on 811. At the first intersection (610), turn right. Stay right at all road intersections to return to your vehicle.

*General Note: The above trails (except for the **Becky Johnson Nature Trail** and **Blue "Birding" Loop**, which are open **only** to pedestrians) are open to both hiking and biking. You are also welcome to explore the "general hiking and biking" trails noted in **green** on the map.*

The Metolius Preserve is a Community Preserve and we welcome you to enjoy it in a wildlife-friendly and responsible manner. For more information on how to get involved with the Land Trust or to join a work party or tour, please call us at 541-330-0017 or visit us on the web: www.deschuteslandtrust.org.