

# Bigelow Lakes Loop

This beautiful trail is located near Oregon Caves National Monument and is considered by many to be the most scenic loop trail in Josephine County. The trail climbs through the meadows of a designated Botanical Area to a ridge overlooking Mount Shasta, the Red Buttes wilderness, and Siskiyou wilderness. The Marble Mountain wilderness and Trinity Alps can also be seen in the distance.



**LENGTH:** The loop is about four miles long if starting from the parking area near the washout on USFS 070.

**ELEVATION:** About 700 feet total elevation gain.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** From Oregon Caves, take USFS 960 and drive three miles to the intersection. Turn right and drive half a mile to the intersection on the right. Drive about half a mile to the parking area.

**DESCRIPTION:** The trail follows a decommissioned road to the trailhead for the Mountain Meadows trail and climbs gradually through meadows and a hemlock forest to a ridge and the fork of the Red Buttes trail. Stay on the ridge and climb to a rocky high point, Mount Elijah. Watch for Mount Shasta on your left as you ascend. The trail continues down the rocky ridge and enters a forested area. An unmarked trail takes off downhill to the left. Continue straight ahead through the forest and after walking about a half mile, watch carefully for the trail on the right that takes you back to the decommissioned road and your car.

