

Photos of Little Deschutes Canyon Hike
Deschutes National Forest - Crescent District

September 20, 2021



The access road climbs over the terminal moraine of the glacier, with long views up the flat canyon floor.



Four miles further on, the dirt access road ends at the trailhead into the Mt. Thielsen Wilderness.



For the first mile, the trail follows the flat canyon floor, through an open forest of mature lodgepole pine.



Past one mile, the Little Deschutes is never more than a 100-yard, cross-country hike through the trees.



In the upper canyon, the trail climbs onto a lateral moraine of the glacier, with filtered views to the south.



At 2.0 miles, the trail crosses perennial Burn Creek and the meadows here can be a nice hike destination.



Below Burn Creek, off the trail toward the river, one finds moss-covered fens (peat wetlands)...



...and extensive wet meadows, with abundant elk sign and views of the glacier-sculpted canyon walls.