

EXPLORING THE STERLING MINE DITCH TRAIL

This historic trail is located south of Jacksonville, Oregon. The trail is maintained for non-motorized recreation by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management Medford District (BLM) and the Siskiyou Upland Trails Association (SUTA). The Sterling Mine Ditch Trail (SMDT) provides recreational opportunities for visitors of all ages: short, level strolls for small children; long-distance hikes; runs; horseback trails; & mountain bike rides.

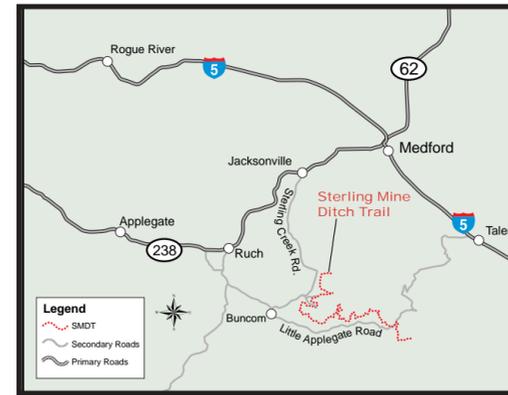
Currently, three trailheads are located along Little Applegate Road: Bear Gulch, Tunnel Ridge, and Little Applegate. There are three trailheads off Sterling Creek Road on unpaved BLM roads: Deming, Armstrong Gulch, and Wolf Gap trailheads. More trailheads are planned including a trailhead at Grub Gulch.

With a little planning and two cars for a shuttle, you can create a wide variety of routes. Horse trailer parking is provided at a landing east of the Deming trailhead, and at Armstrong Gulch trailhead, Tunnel Ridge, and Little Applegate trailheads.

Please help preserve and protect your trail! The trail is open for use by hikers and runners year-round, thanks to its 2,000-2,400 foot elevation. In the interests of maintaining the trail in top condition for all users, equestrians and bicyclists must avoid using the trail after significant rains.

These trailheads make it possible for trips of various lengths:

- **Short and level (1 to several miles):** out-and-back from Deming or Armstrong Gulch.
- **5 miles:** Bear Gulch trailhead to Tunnel Ridge trailhead and back along Little Applegate Road.
- **8 miles:** Tunnel Ridge to Little Applegate and back along Little Applegate Road.
- **12 miles:** Deming trailhead to Wolf Gap and back along BLM road 39-2-8 for 2 miles to return to starting trailhead.
- **17.5 miles:** Deming trailhead to Little Applegate (requires shuttle for one-way travel).
- **23 miles:** Full length of the open trail, from Little Applegate trailhead to the future Grub Gulch trailhead (requires shuttle for one-way travel).



The Sterling Mine Ditch Trail is maintained jointly by the Medford BLM, the Siskiyou Upland Trails Association (SUTA), and community volunteers. To learn how you can participate in work parties, visit SUTA's website www.sutaoregon.org.

