

LAVA LAKE MEADOWS WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

As proposed in the River Democracy Act of 2021

McKenzie Basin | Linn County | Proposed Miles: 9.0 | Willamette National Forest



The Park Creek system feeds Lava Lake and The Parks, unique seasonally-dry wetlands at the very top of the McKenzie watershed. The lava flow here filters spring and melt water into the headwaters of the McKenzie River, contributing to water quality and sheltering wetland plants and important pollinators.

What makes Lava Lake Meadows and Park Creek special?

SCENERY: The Lava Lake area is part of a 3,700 acre unroaded area that offers beauty and wildness in all seasons.

WILDLIFE: The open mountain meadows, lake, and seasonal wetlands offer important wildlife habitat. Beavers, bears, deer and elk, amphibians and reptiles, and numerous native pollinators utilize the area.

RECREATION: The Lava Lake Sno-Park offers access for nordic skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling in the winter. Trailheads that access the Three Pyramids Trail and Crescent Mountain are found along North Fork Park Creek.

GEOLOGY/HYDROLOGY: Lava flows that formed other upper McKenzie landmarks also formed Lava Lake. The lava rock here allows water to filter underground, feeding cold water into the McKenzie River headwaters year round.

WATER: As the climate warms and water becomes more of a commodity, having groundwater filtration and recharge areas like this - even when water is not actively flowing - will become more and more important.

Proposed Lave Lake Meadows Wild and Scenic Segments



<i>Segment Name</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Proposed Classification</i>
Lava Lake	0	Scenic
Mainstem Park Creek	6.0	Scenic
North Fork Park Creek	3.0	Scenic
Total	9.0 miles	

Friends of the Douglas-fir National Monument, Oregon Wild, and the Oregon Wild & Scenic Rivers coalition support this proposal.