

Received, S. C. O. *Oct 27 1911* *11th upred 79*
 No. *1.8*
 INDEX

FIELD NOTES

OF THE SURVEY OF

The original land of Fredrick Post
in Township 50 North
Range 5 West

OF THE BOISE MERIDIAN,
 IDAHO,
 AS SURVEYED BY

W. Clayton Miller
 U. S. Deputy Surveyor.

Under *Special* Contract No. *133*
 Dated *June 19th* 1891
 Survey Commenced *November 10th* 1891
 Survey Completed *12th* 1891

Received at the Gen'l Office
Plates Transmitted Sent S. C. O.
January 6, 1893

file Post Falls

Post Falls

date 1989



Q'emiln Trails



POST FALLS
 PUBLIC LIBRARY
 821 N. SPOKANE ST.
 POST FALLS, ID 83854

REFERENCES:

1. Wild Animals of North America, The National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.
2. Water, Prey and Game Birds of North America, by Wetmore, Alexander, The National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.
3. Eagle Scout Project: "The Study of a Possible Nature Trail", by Perry Woodard, Boy Scout Troop 8, March 1, 1973
4. The Rocky Mountains, by Zim, Herbert, Ph.D., A Golden Regional Guide, Golden Press, New York
5. Trees A Guide To Familiar American Trees, by Zim, Herbert, and Martin, Alexander, A Golden Nature Guide, Golden Press, New York
6. Flowers, A Guide To Familiar American Wild Flowers, by Zim and Martin, A Golden Nature Guide, Golden Press, New York
7. Mineral Ridge Trail Guide, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
8. Trees of Idaho, by Burlison, Guernsey, Johnson, University of Idaho, College of Agriculture, Agricultural Extension Service, Bulletin 289

SPECIAL THANKS

At this time I wish to thank Debbie Pyle of the Post Falls Parks & Recreation Dept. for constant support during the project.



Q'emiln Trails

POST FALLS, IDAHO

Project sponsored by: City of Post Falls, Bureau of Land Management, The Washington Water Power Company, North Idaho Private Industry Council, Panhandle Area Council, and the Idaho Job Service.

THE OSPREY (PANDION HALIAETUS)

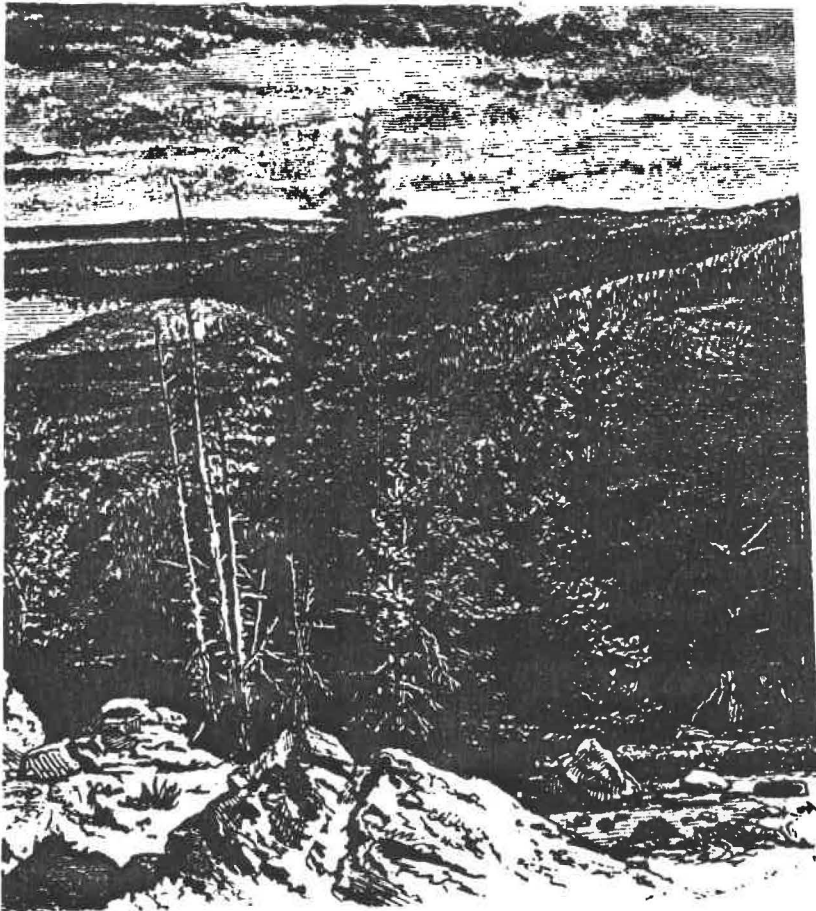
It is almost impossible to walk our trail system on any given day during the summer and not notice the Ospreys. We have one of the largest concentrations of these birds in our country along the Spokane River.

The range of the Osprey is from northwest Alaska to Newfoundland, south to Baja California and Florida. In winter they travel to Peru and Brazil. This bird, known also as a "fish hawk", is found on every continent except Antartica.

Description: white head, black mask, black and white underparts, and long angular wings that may span up to six feet in maturity.

The Osprey will circle above, scanning the water for a fish. Then he will plunge with feet thrown forward. The bird will vanish in the spray and then reappear to flap away with a fish. His outer toes can move forward and back like those of an owl.

Please refer to books in the library for interesting facts about the Ospreys' nest building, rearing of young, and problems brought about by man's interference.



THE HOARY MARMOT (MARMOTA CALIGATA)

This animal may be seen scurrying around the corner ahead of you as you walk our system or dotting behind a rock on a cliff above you. His dropping spots can be found on higher vantage points throughout this trail system. Especially on the cliffs in the High Meadow area, the high rocks in the Forest Fire and C. Miller Trails and on the cliffs to the north side of the river.

The hoary marmot ranges from 25-31 inches in length, 5-15 pounds in weight. This animal can be found from Idaho to arctic Alaska. It is the largest American marmot. He is distinguished by black feet, grizzled coat, a black streak from head to each shoulder. His shrill whistle warning signal can be heard up to a mile away. He eats flowery plants, berries, roots and grasses during the summer and fall and hibernates during the winter.

The marmot is stalked by wolf, coyote, fox, lynx, grizzly and the golden eagle.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

Introduction	2
Block map	3
Fire	4
Upper Cliff Trails	5
Riverside Trail	6
Old Wagon Trail	7
Fishing Hole Trail	8,9
DN Loop	10
Swimming Hole Trail	11
Old Homestead Trail	12
Boundary Trail	13
Trail system map	14,15
High Meadow Trail	16,17
Mining Claims Trail	18,19
C. Miller Trail	20,21
Forest Fire Trail	22
Flowers	23
Important trees	24
Shrubs	25,26
Ferns	27
Hoary Marmot	28
Osprey	29
References	30

Welcome to Q'emiln trails. "Q'emiln" means "throat or gorge of the river" (Spokane River). There had been a Coeur d'Alene Indian village here until the move to the De Smet area in the late 1870's.

Our trail system consists of 13 designated trails with a total distance in excess of 4 miles. The purpose of this project was to disturb as little as possible of the area and yet provide the hiker with a variety of scenes and a better glimpse of the native flora and fauna.

The total project was completed in an eight week period with a work crew supervisor and a work crew of six young people with an average age of 16 years.

Work crew supervisor/site planner, and editor: Rick Lopes

Work crew members:

Allen Brothers

Jean Paul Cook

Toby Garber

Dave Nick

Rachelle Reynolds

Mark Sherman

FERNS AND MOSSES TO NOTE

DEERFERNS have evergreen vegetative fronds 1"-3" high formed in tufted rosettes. From these rise delicate, narrow, spore-bearing fronds 16"-20" tall. Note these in spring and early summer.

LADY FERNS have widely tapering fronds arching gracefully. They are broad, delicate, and light green in color. They grow in open clumps 4'-6' high and form carpets under the conifers.

RUNNING PINE has trailing stems which bear upright branches 3"-6" high. These are covered with soft, loose, evergreen scales.

SPIKE MOSS (LITTLE CLUB MOSS) is a slender branching moss-like plant related to ferns. Spores are borne in axils of small leaves. It is most often found on dry, barren ground near rocks.

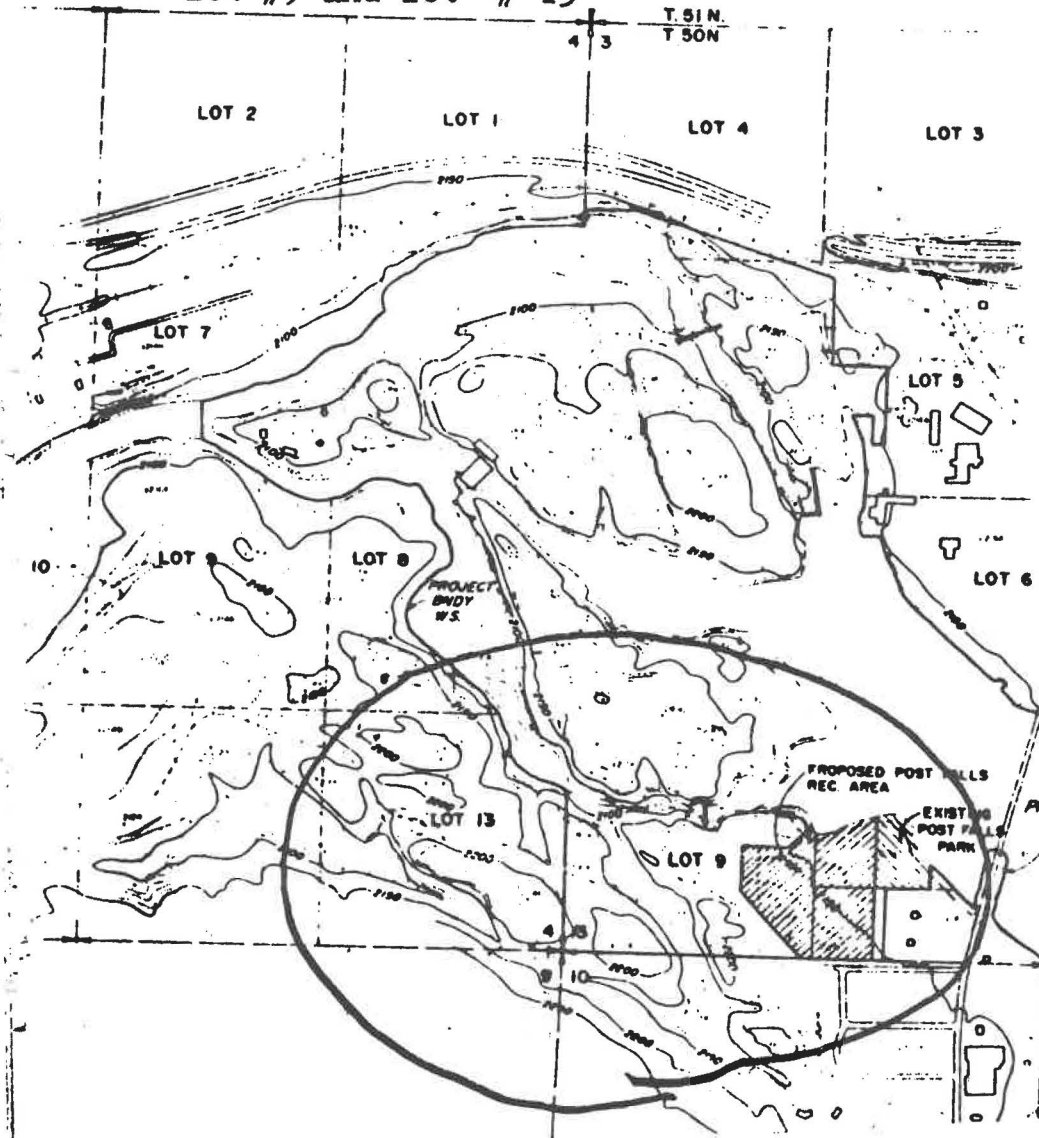
Its purplish-black berries were an important food source for the Indians in this area.

SNOWBERRY is named for its large white berries which are eaten by birds and deer. The flowers are pink and hairy inside and appear here during late June and early July. The leaves are thin and oval.

SYRINGA is grown commercially as "Mock Orange". It is a hardy plant bearing numerous white, sweet-scented flowers in late June to early July. These showy, fragrant flowers have four petals. This is Idaho's state flower and can be seen along the base of the Upper Cliff Trail.

THIMBLEBERRY has white flowers that measure 2" across. Its flat raspberry-like fruit is eaten by birds and other wildlife. This shrub is thornless.

Q'emiln Trail System is located in lot #9 and lot #13



FIRE

From our earliest years each of us can recall Smokey's lessons on fire prevention. Today, please pause and examine visual examples of his admonitions.

Our Forest Fire Trail illustrates the 1985 fire here.

The Mining Claims Trail is now scarred by an arsonist's deeds in 1986.

As you contemplate these scenes please resolve to be very careful and preserve our trail system's beauty and our earth's beauty always.

SHRUBS

ELDERBERRY is a shrub of the honeysuckle family. It bears clusters of small white flowers and purple or red berries. Elderberries are commonly used in making wine, jelly, perfumes and medicine.

NINEBARK is a spreading shrub with paper-like bark that peels off in layers. In early summer it produces white flowers and then 2"-3" flat seed pods.

OCEANSPRAY can grow over ten feet tall. The doubly serrated leaves grow alternately on the stem. In spring its cream colored blossoms tend to "wave" with the breeze. The seed pods persist through the winter.

OREGON GRAPE or HOLLY GRAPE is a low growing shrub with shiny, evergreen leaves. The edges of the leaves are serrated and prickly. Old leaves may have red and yellow on their edges. The berries are good for making jelly and the shrub serves as forage for elk and deer. This appears along the edge of Ledge Trail and other areas throughout our system.

SERVICEBERRY forms dense thickets near the Old Homestead. It has a white flower with five long, narrow petals and blooms in early June.

IMPORTANT TREES TO NOTICE

ASPEN average 40'-60' in height. The nearly round leaves are on thin, flattened stalks. The slightest breeze stirs them and gives the name, "Quaking Aspen", to this tree. A young tree's bark is pale greenish white. Age roughens and darkens the bark.

DOUGLAS FIR is the most important timber tree world-wide. They have flat, soft, short, blue-green needles that grow in a spiral around the twig. However, they are most easily identified by their reddish cones, 2"-3" long with narrow, three-pointed bracts sticking out from between the scales. On the average, Douglas Fir grow to be 100' tall.

PONDEROSA PINE or WESTERN YELLOW PINE has long needles (4"-7") in clusters of three. A young tree's bark is dark brown and furrowed. Older trees have large, flat, scaly, reddish plates. The brown cones are 3"-5" long with sharp spikes at the tips.

TAMARACK has slender, dark needles an inch long which grow in tufts at the ends of branchlets. Small, scaly cones grow upright. Tamaracks average 60' in height and shed their leaves with the coming of winter.

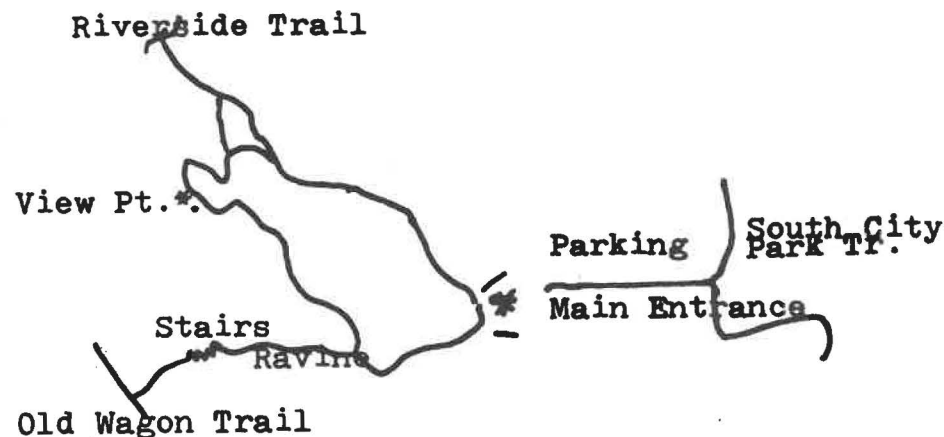
UPPER CLIFF TRAILS

2446'

These trails serve as an introduction to the whole system. From the base at the sign map you can go either south or north and hike across the north-south ledge overlooking the canyon below. From these viewpoints on this trail you can see the Swimming Hole Trail below you and burned trees on the ridge across.

From the top you can gain access to the canyon below by using the south stairs through the ravine (296') or by hooking up with the Riverside Trail and following it west and joining the Swimming Hole Trail.

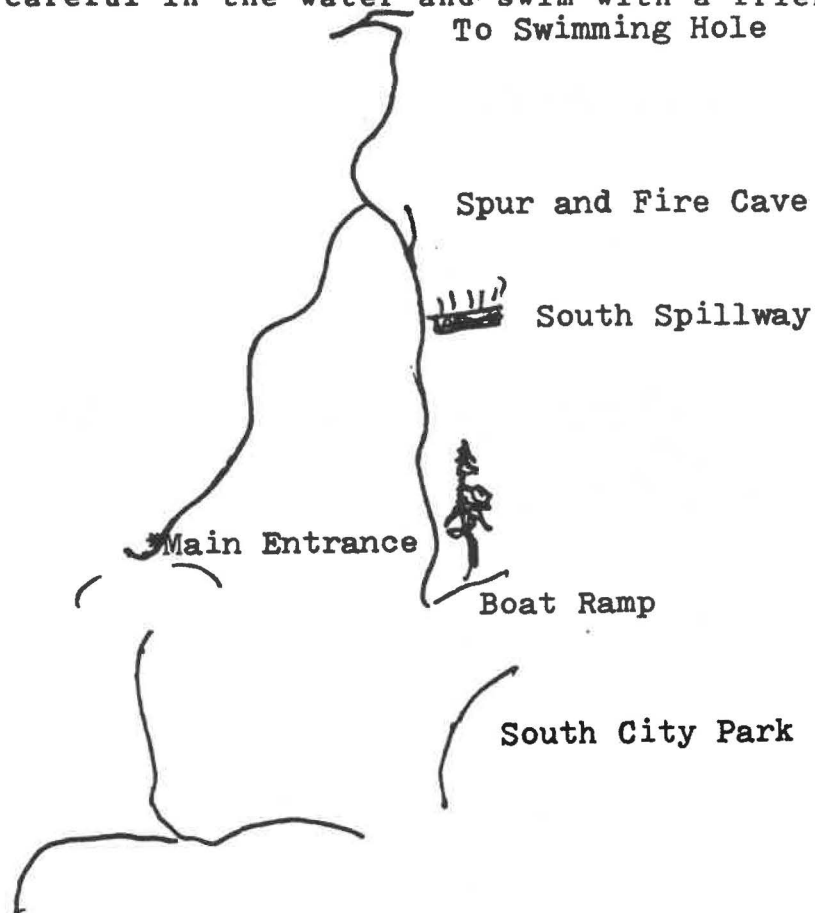
Caution, stay away from the edge!



RIVERSIDE TRAIL

The east half of this trail and its spur has been a walking path for some time. When you walk down on the spur you will see a walk-in rock shelter, the back wall well charred from years of use. This area, along the river, the Old Wagon Trail, and the Swimming Hole Trail are peppered with little caves. These caves can be dangerous, so please do not move any rocks that may trigger a shift in a formation or go exploring by yourself.

The river itself is dotted with tunnels and small caves made by moving water and shifting rock. What may have been a tunnel under water last year might be sealed at one end this year. Be careful in the water and swim with a friend.



FLOWERS YOU MAY SEE HERE

Avalanche Lily
 Balsam Root
 Beargrass
 Bellflower
 Butter-and-eggs
 Buttercup
 Fanleaf Cinquefoil
 Field Daisy
 Fireweed
 Fleabanes
 Foxfire
 Gaillardia
 Goldenrod
 Hawkweed
 Heartleaf Arnica
 Indian Paintbrush
 King's Crown
 Mariposa
 Mountain Harebell
 Mulleins
 St. Johnsworts
 Scarlet Gilia
 Scouring Rush
 Subalpine Daisy
 Trillium
 Vetches
 Wild Strawberry
 Yarrows
 Yellow Orchids

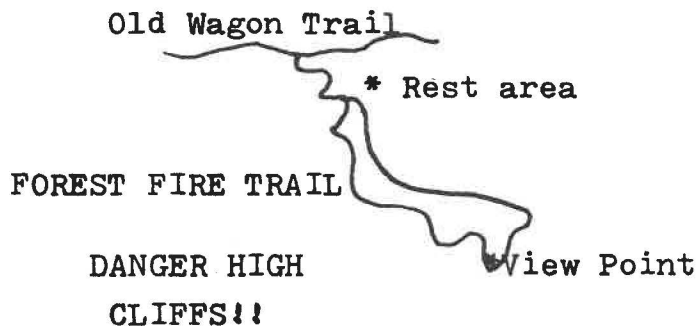
FOREST FIRE TRAIL

Forest Fire Trail, 968', is located to the south of the Old Wagon Trail, in an area that was devastated by a fire in the summer of 1985. The fire was caused by an unattended camp fire. One year later the fire weeds were noticeable along with new little seedlings. The scars of this fire will remain with us for years to come. Please no fires or smoking in the system.

Gravel was needed to cover the burned soil which had turned to cushiony dust on the trail. Notice the dead and badly wounded trees as you walk to the viewpoint at the top. Check the felled tree. This was done to prevent it from falling and spreading the blaze to the box canyon below. If you count the annual or year growth rings on the remaining stump of this tree you will see it's approximately 130 years old. Now you are at the viewpoint.

Caution! Caution! At this point stay behind the wall. The bottom is almost 200' below. Notice the tamaracks below you and the tall ponderosas across the canyon. As you descend from this viewpoint you can see Mt. Spokane and the ranges to the north.

Before you leave this trail you may wish to rest on our resting rocks and observe the struggling trees around you.

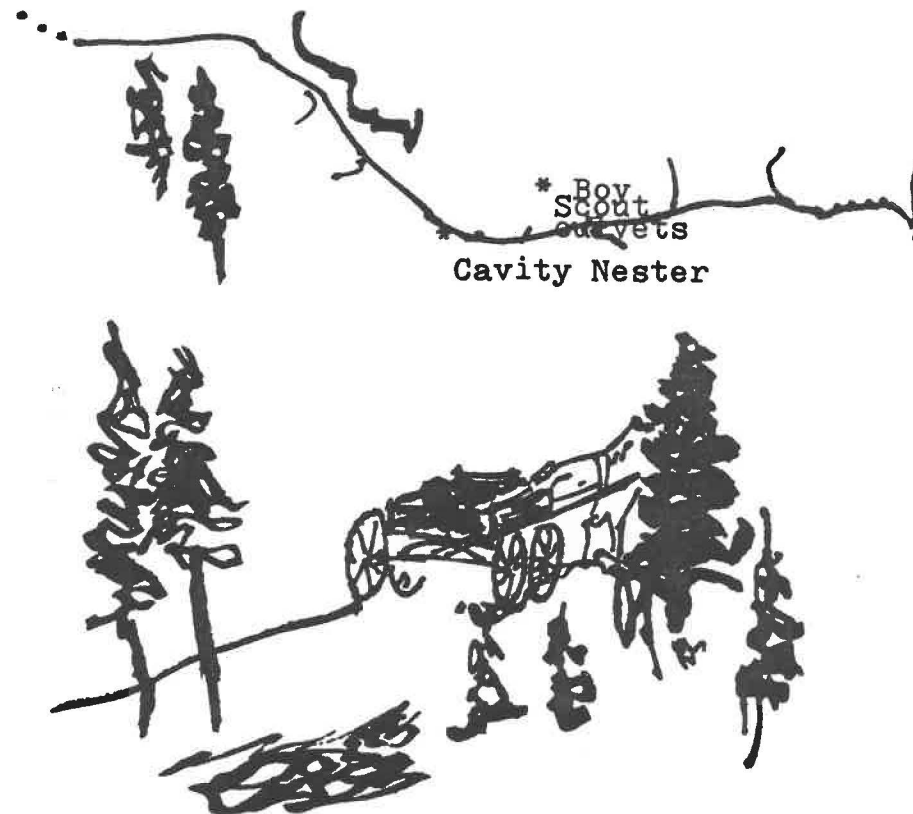


OLD WAGON TRAIL

The Old Wagon Trail is 2,500' long in our system. This road was built by hand and with the aid of horses around 1900 to enable people to travel into Spokane. As you round the many bends you notice the rock work that was done almost 90 years ago. You can almost feel the jilting directed straight through your posterior end to your bones as the iron wheels of the old buckboard hit the embedded boulders in the trail below.

From this trail you may enter the C. Miller Trail, our farthest west, then the Forest Fire Trail, The High Meadow, The Old Homestead, The Boundary and The Swimming Hole Trail.

During the construction of this system we have met several people that enjoy this trail as a cross country ski run.



FISHING HOLE TRAIL

This trail begins at the midway point on the Swimming Hole Trail (between the Riverside Trail and the Old Wagon Trail) and is 1025' long. The DN Loop is off of this trail and a short distance north of this loop you will see a rest area overlooking the fishing hole. The large rock serves as a natural resting place and is useful when you come back up from the shore.

As you sit on our "bench" you will notice four vertical rocks planted in the ground before you. These are compass points. The rock closest to the river is North. Face North with the "North" rock before you. East is on your right, West is on your left and South is behind you.

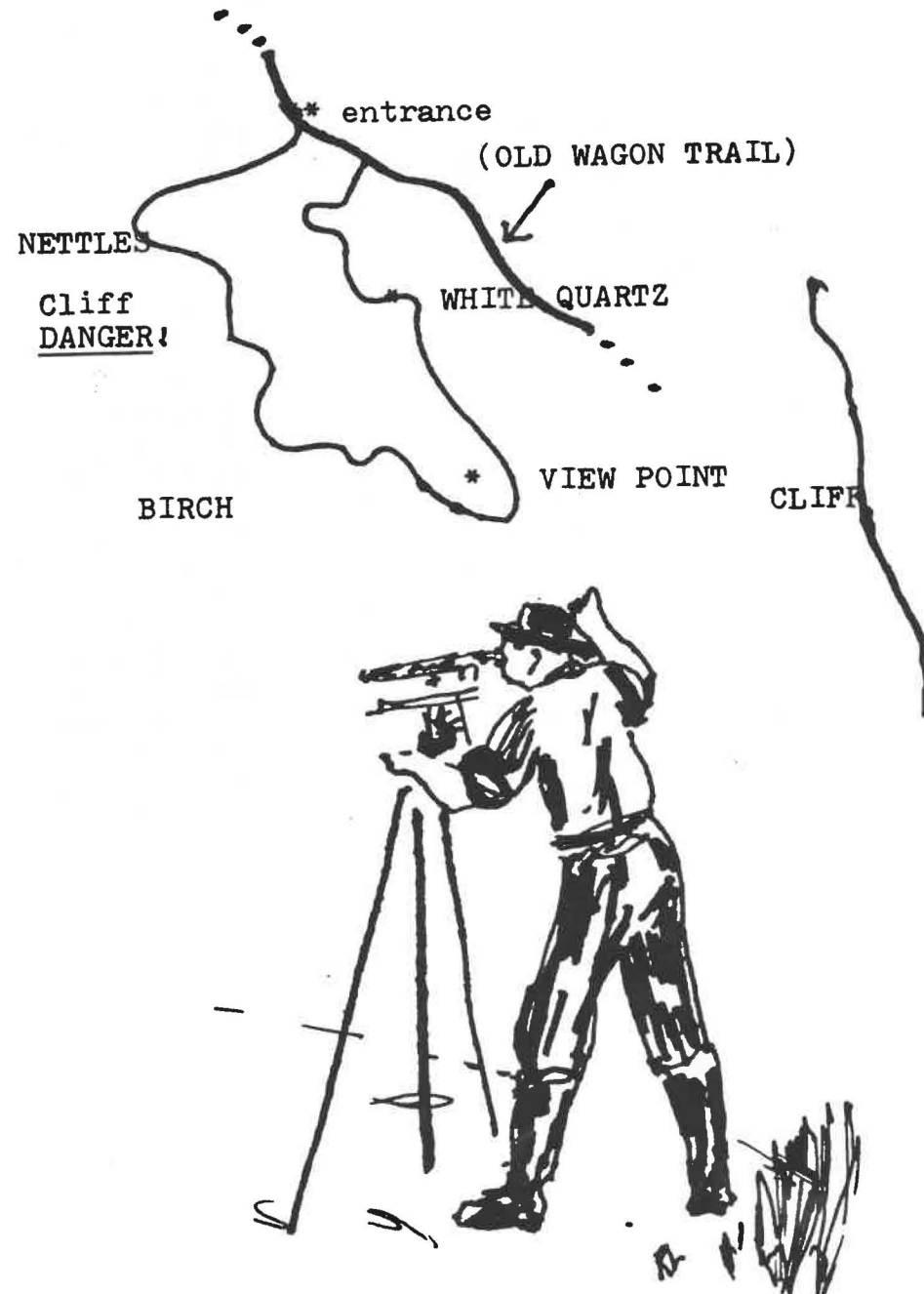
This was an extremely difficult trail to build. The cliff was steep, rocky, and trees and bushes were all over. The crew moved rocks, filled holes using buckets with gravel from below, carted rocks in chain formation to fill in stairs, and used logs found along the beach wherever possible.

Please note our erosion problem at the base and our attempts to slow down this process. On the bank you can notice what an important part roots play in conservation and see the various soil layers.

The logs in our retaining wall, were salvaged from the river and from falling trees. These logs were rebarred and packed with rocks all by hand.

C. MILLER TRAIL

824'



C. MILLER TRAIL

C. Miller Trail, 824' long, is located in the southwest section of our system, south of the Old Wagon Trail.

The trail was named after W. Clayton Miller, U.S. Deputy Surveyor, who first surveyed this property for Frederick Post in 1891. You will notice that a copy of the original Field Notes cover of that survey serves as our back cover.

Caution! Although this trail is an easy one to walk, this area is rimmed by a very high cliff overlooking a box canyon. Please STAY AWAY from the edge.

At one time there was a homestead in the canyon below and you can still see fruit trees and plenty of asparagus at the north end (just north of the birch grove). You may even notice a few of these plants on this trail. The base however is infested with nettles.

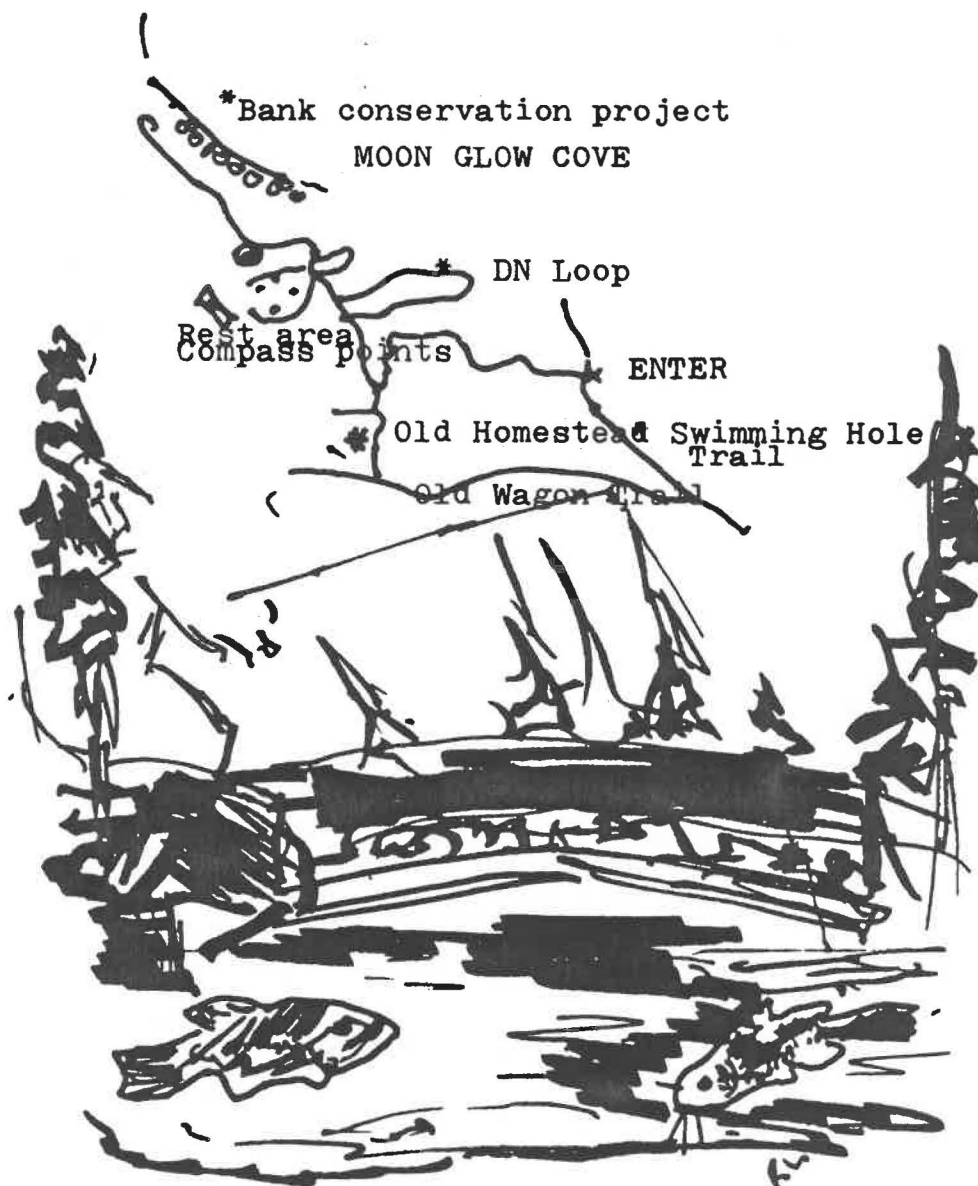
South of the birch you can see tall Tamaracks that grow up to 15' in circumference.

This area was logged years ago and you can see the loading ramp just to the west of the trails' entrance.

Please notice but do not disturb the lush moss that grows alongside the trail. The same applies to our outcropping of white quartz.

FISHING HOLE TRAIL

1025'

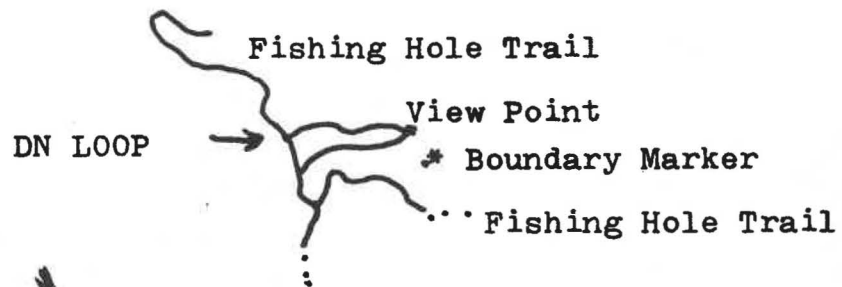


DN LOOP

The DN Loop is a short but breathtaking little trail. This trail offers views of the swimming hole, fishing hole, the South Spillway and Templins in the distance.

A north-south boundary marker exists 100' southeast from the viewpoint: This mark lines up with the bronze boundary marker on Boundary Trail and the Osprey nest in the snag on the point across the river as the north/south points of the BLM property.

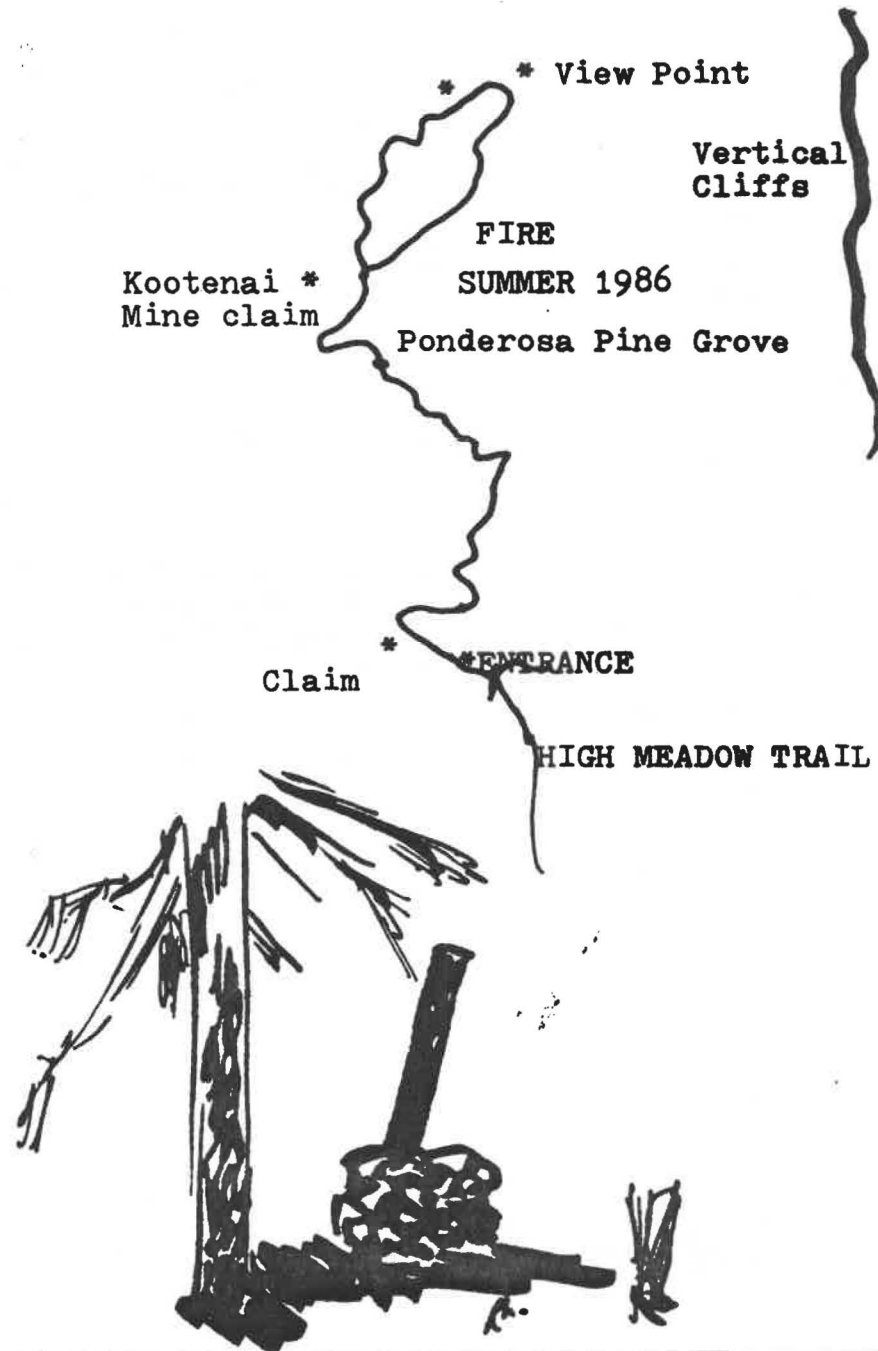
This trail was named by one of the trail workers and the name stuck.



MINING CLAIMS TRAIL

3023'

(main dam)



MINING CLAIMS TRAIL

There are several claims and markers in this section that were made in the early 1900's. The claim markers vary from a pile of stones in square formation (where the trail takes off from the High Meadow Trail), a rock pile with a 4"X4" timber set in the middle, to a scarred tree with a chiseled claim number on the inside curve. Please do not disturb the claims.

From this trail you can see views of the Spokane River and the main dam. Just beyond the Kootenai Mine claim, you come to vista point overlooking the river, the main dam and a vertical cliff across the river. Mt. Spokane can be seen in the distance. If you are lucky you can see the King Fishers swooping down or the Osprey circling above.

On the last day in July 1986 unknown arsonists set three fires in this section of our system and destroyed approximately 12 to 15 acres, including our markers, moss, trees, claim tree - all destroyed. Luckily our trail helped to slow the fire and allow the fire fighters to control it. For the most part, the present trail is the same as before the fire but with a marked change in scenery.

SWIMMING HOLE TRAIL

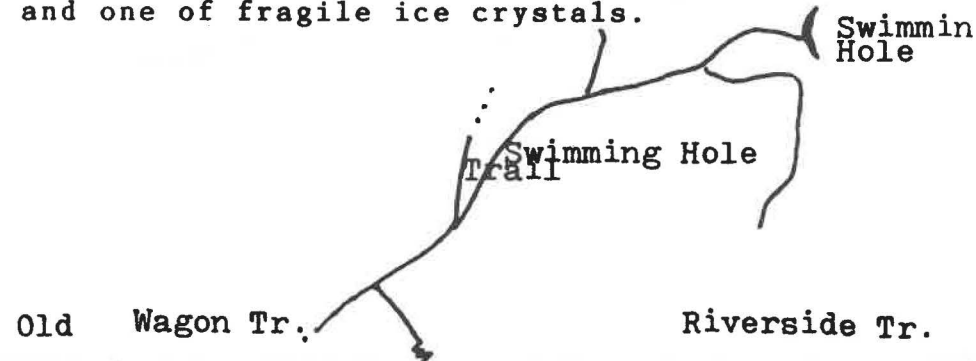
This trail is 851' long, including the Riverside connector, and is located at the west end of the Riverside Trail, or entered via the Old Wagon Trail or midway through the Fishing Hole Trail.

The trail parallels the base of a cliff and is dotted with rock fall caves and a natural spring. Because of the moist condition you will see lush growths of ferns. In the spring this area is heavily scented with Syringa, our state flower, that grows the length of the trail.

The swimming hole is in an idyllic location: the falls of the South Spillway, the Cascades down to the hole, the abrupt cliff to the north, the giant rocks up to 20' and more tossed like pebbles along the waters flow, the currents that funnel through rock, and the swimming!

Check the water out for depth and for glass (a few individuals show no consideration for others and toss their glass containers on the rocks and in the water). A rock from which you may have dived last year may have a pool that is filled with boulders this year. The rock that you swam under before may be sealed at one end now. So swim with a friend and be careful. Just back up to that swift current coming between those two rocks and enjoy your natural jacuzzi.

During winter and the spring runoff periods this area changes drastically to one of force and one of fragile ice crystals.



OLD HOMESTEAD TRAIL

The Old Homestead Trail is a short trail. It is 329' long and located north of the Old Wagon Trail and fairly close to the Fishing Hole Trail. It is also the end point of our High Meadow Trail.

The weathered holes here, are all that remains of the building site. At this point you will notice many intrusions the the form of plants not native to our area: apple and cherry trees, lilac and irises. Please do not disturb these plants.

Look around you - can you see how this site was protected from the winds? What was it like here during the winter months?



HIGH MEADOW TRAIL 1500'



Q'EMILN TRAIL SYSTEM

