

Table 5-2. Existing and Potential Components of a Recreation Trail System for the Headwaters Forest Reserve

Description	Distance (one-way) (miles)	Gradient ^a
From Elk River Trailhead (Northern Access)		
Existing Elk River Corridor Trail (Trail #2)	A gentle-gradient trail from the Elk River Trailhead (at the terminus of Humboldt County's Elk River Road) along the South Fork of the Elk River to near the confluence of the Little South Fork and the main South Fork.	2.9 Nearly level; 1% average; some variation
New Elk River Corridor Trail (Trail #2)	Under all alternatives except the No-Action Alternative (Alternative 4D), the existing Elk River Trail would be reconstructed and relocated in some segments and short spurs would be added to allow contact with the South Fork Elk River and historical sites along the corridor (e.g., Falk). Picnic tables would be provided at some of these spurs.	2.9 Nearly level; 1% average; some variation
Existing Little South Fork Elk River Trail (Trail #3)	A trail ascending the Little South Fork to near the existing boundary of the primary old-growth forest on the Reserve. The existing route is east of the river.	2.7 Average 10%
New Little South Fork Elk River Trail (Trail #6)	Under all alternatives except the No-Action alternative (Alternative 4D), the existing trail would be relocated to the west side of the creek and a loop would be constructed at the upper end that extends through an island of old-growth forest, disjunct from the primary old-growth grove. A round-trip hike around the loop from the Elk River Corridor Trail would be 3.7 miles.	2.0, east loop; 1.7, west loop 14%, east loop; 17%, west loop (would be reduced by switchbacks)
From Felt Springs Road (Southern Access)		
Existing Salmon Creek Trail (Trail #4)	An existing trail descending from the Salmon Pass Trailhead to above the inner gorge of Salmon Creek, then extending up the canyon of Salmon Creek where the primary old-growth grove can be continuously viewed. Entire roundtrip is nearly 4 miles.	1.9 (1.3 to river overlook; 0.6 up river canyon) 3% average, 12% maximum to river overlook; 2% up canyon
Salmon Creek Spur Trail (Trail #7)	A new trail from the existing Salmon Creek Trail, down a steep slope to a crossing of Salmon Creek at the edge of the primary old-growth grove.	0.1 50% ground slope requires switchbacks
Salmon Creek Trail Loops (Trail #8)	Two loops would be added to the Existing Salmon Creek Trail, returning visitors to the Salmon Creek Trailhead by different routes, while offering a shorter loop option from the parking area. These loops would allow round trips ranging from 2 to 3.6 miles. Contact with an isolated grove of old-growth forest would be provided for 0.4 miles along the shortest and longest loops.	0.7 and 1.0 new trail 0 to 11%

Table 5-2. Continued

	Description	Distance (one-way) (miles)	Gradient ^a
Universal Access Trail (Trail #9)	From the road between Salmon Pass and Alicia Pass, a new trail about 400 feet long into the edge of southern old-growth grove, providing wheelchair and walking access. A parking area would be developed at the trailhead.	0.1	Nearly level
Alicia Pass Loop Trail (Trail #1)	A gentle to moderately sloping loop trail, originating at Alicia Pass, passing through the southern old-growth grove for 0.6 mile, and returning to Alicia Pass.	0.8	Nearly level to moderately low grade
North-south through routes connecting Elk River Trailhead to Salmon Pass Trailhead			
Western Periphery Trail (Trail #10)	Connecting the New Little South Fork Elk River Trail to the Salmon Creek Spur Trail along the western boundary of the Reserve, passing through the edge of the main old-growth grove for 0.3 mile, with a designated primitive camping site in harvested forest near the junction with the New Little South Fork Elk River Trail.	1.6	9% between ridgetop and Salmon Creek
Historic Military Ridge Trail (Trail #5)	Connecting the Western Periphery Trail, at the edge of the main old-growth grove, to Alicia Pass, passing through the main old-growth grove for 2.4 miles along the ridge between the Elk River and Salmon Creek watersheds.	4.5	Gentle slopes on ridgetop; up to 15% across Salmon Creek canyon
Exhibition Routes			
Exhibition Routes	At various locations at various times to allow public tours to view various restoration project areas or other specific features, consistent with marbled murrelet and northern spotted owl nesting seasons and winter closure; would not involve physical trail development.	Various	Various

^a See profiles—figure 5-2