

ROCKYMOUNTAINSCRAMBLER: ADVENTURES ON THE TRAIL

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DAY FOUR:

July 4/22 Woke up after 6am and had coffee and breaky and cell service back at the picnic tables after packing up the tent. I took advantage of the service to post about a potential shuttle around the Lionshead fire closure on the Oregon Trail Angels Facebook page. There was ~20miles of trail closed, and we needed to figure out how to get around it (about 10 days away)

The lake was calm, and the clouds were low as we made our way around the nice trail by the head of the lake. We crossed the highway and hiked up the Fourmile Lake Road pleased with our alternate decision. Unfortunately, when we got up to the junction, there was a sign that the area was closed.

We were frustrated, but after looking at the map we found a route to get us back on the PCT. We walked the road to the trailhead for McCloughlin Mtn, and then looked for a bridge across the river...there wasn't one! We found a (sketchy) log to cross, and I almost had a heart attack when Mark lost his balance and ended up running across to make sure he didn't fall into the river 10ft below. I went across very slowly, trying my best to focus on the log and not the rushing water below. Whew.

The well-worn trail headed up and shortly we were back on the PCT.

SUMMARY

30km/18.6mi

670m/2200ft

7.75h of hiking from
7:45am-6:35pm

RAINY DAYS

Out of the 58 days we hiked the PCT, 3 of them were rainy enough to necessitate rain gear.

HIKER SNACK

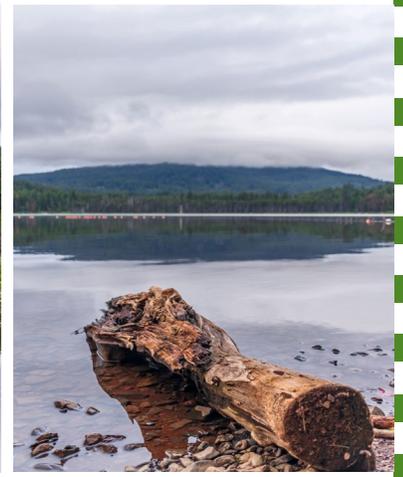
Stroopwaffles are thin round waffle cookies made from layers of sweet baked dough and held together by caramel filling. A dutch treat, they make a perfect snack to dip in your trail coffee.

Picture this page: rainy forest walks **next page:** Lake of the Woods reflections, getting water at Freye Lake, view of Fourmile Lake. Forest walking makes 30miles easier to accomplish.

We cruised to Freye Lake junction and took the spur up and over a hill to have coffee and **stroopwaffles** under a tree out of the rain. Rain gear on and headed down the trail for another break at Squaw Lake junction and a chat with Toppers and Cameraguy. The rest of the afternoon was a misting then raining forest walk, with occasional views of Fourmile Lake and such.

Christie Spring was hopping with people – two people setting up tents and many filling their water bottles. We grabbed 5L of water and chatted with GB and Fifty – they graciously lent us some Deet to battle the voracious mosquitoes.

We headed back down the trail – our goal was to do 30km, and we were making good time. Hikers passed us and we saw their tent at one of the sites along the trail. We came across a snow melt pond and figured we shouldn't pass up water so grabbed a Cnoc bag full. Not long after that we hit a spacious campsite at the next junction.



We gratefully took off our packs and loosened our shoes. After we set up the tent it stopped raining long enough for us to have supper under a tree. Into tent and journaling after 8pm. My knees and feet were quite sore – I took 1200mg IB before bed because last night they throbbed, and I didn't get much sleep. It was an early night as we planned on hiking another 30km the next day.



If you ever hike in Oregon, bring the highest percentage of DEET you can find...not citronella and not tropical scented bug spray. DEET is the only thing that can battle those buggers.

