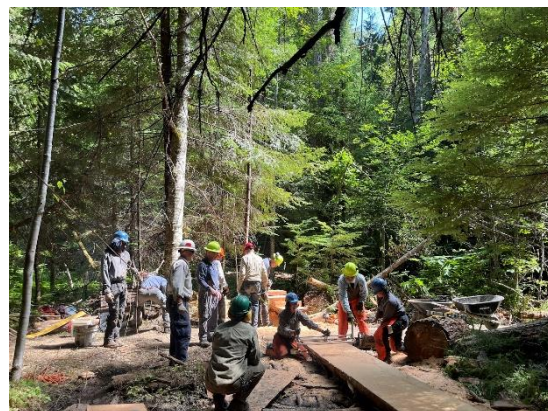


**NY YOUTH CORPS, PUNCHEON TO TURNPIKE CONVERSION
(PICTURES DON'T INCLUDE DEMOLITION OF THE ROTTEN PUNCHEON)
LOWER DUNGENESS TRAIL, AUGUST 2024**

WHAT AN AMAZING YOUTH CREW! This group worked on a 102-foot puncheon to turnpike conversion on the Lower Dungeness Trail for 3 weeks (late July to mid-August). ONF hired them, some of the Gray Wolf Crew (Rebecca, Martin, David, Toothpick) organized the project and supervised / taught them. BCH provided the financial assistance to buy some highline material and help volunteers with mileage reimbursement. The Gray Wolf Crew went in ahead of them to cut curb logs for them (but they had to debark and haul them up the trail). We wrote up specific instructions for them and were on site on their first day (and some others) to teach them the skills they needed for this project. Our crew also set up a highline for them to be able to haul hundreds of bags and buckets of fill. But they took it from there. What an amazing group! They had never done a turnpike before and were learning from the ground up, but they nailed it! With their incredible work ethic, curiosity, willingness to learn, sense of humor and incredible pride in their work, these young adults have created a trail structure that will need no tending and is forever and sustainable.

We are deeply proud of them and immensely impressed by their representation of their generation.





The youth crew got to learn how to use the Alaskan Saw Mill to make puncheon decking (for a different project)! Members of the Gray Wolf Crew were happy to help and teach them.



They learned how to make stakes out of old puncheon decking.



This was built correctly.
This picture of their actual turnpike matches the section drawing I gave them out of the *Lightly On Land* book that shows a turnpike constructed with large rock on the bottom, decreasing to cobble size rock and finally tamped and mounded fill on the top. Because they built this correctly, it will easily stand up to bikes, horses and countless hikers and runners.





Before



After



The crew (left to right): David Friedemann, crew lead, Mia Red Crow, Laneeka Jones, Claire Hardie, Michael Werner, Aaron Jackson