

TRAIL CREW NOTES

October 2, 2024

Location: Lower Dungeness (833.3), ONF

20-21 September 2024

Eric Nagle (8hr)
Mike Bonomo (8hr)
Paul Hornberger (8hr)
Fred Inman (6hr)
James (Mike) Forsyth (6hr)
James F. Miller (6hr)
David Graves (14hr)
Hannah Graves (14hr)
Greg King (14hr)
Randy Kraxberger (14hr)

Hours on job: 98

- Objective(s) for the crew:
 - Finish replacement of two rotting puncheons (9-foot puncheon #3 and 72-foot puncheon #5 on April 2024 inventory).
 - Work on the puncheons was begun by Washington Trail Association (WTA) crews. They spent five days on the project but were unable to completely finish the puncheons. Puncheon #3 was a stand-alone project while the 72-foot puncheon #5 has two sections that need to remain as puncheons and a center ~45' section to be converted into turnpike. WTA worked on the first puncheon section (#5a) and on dismantling the middle portion of puncheon that will be converted to turnpike.
 - Still to be completed. Puncheon #3 required bulkheads, decking, bull rails, and approach ramps. Puncheon 5a needed bull rails and approach ramps for completion. The turnpike conversion and puncheon #5b were not targeted for this crew.
 - Sills, stringers, and decking used by the WTA crews and this crew were cut by previous Gray Wolf crews in July.
 - Move yet-to-be used stringers off ground to reduce rotting until they can be used.
- Task(s) accomplished:
 - Bulkheads, decking, bull rails, and ramps were added to puncheon #3. This stand-alone puncheon is now complete.
 - On the first day, a team installed the decking, bulkheads, and bullrails. They cut spacers to keep the bull rails off the decking. They completed the uptrail approach ramp and started on the downtrail ramp.
 - On the second day, a team completed the downtrail ramp and then moved downtrail to assist with the work on puncheon #5a.
 - Due to puncheon 5a's final height above the ground, enough rock was needed to build two approach ramps nearly 3-feet high. This task was made more difficult by the nearby hillside having been extensively quarried by the

earlier Northwest Youth Crew in the #4 puncheon-to-turnpike conversion plus rock for the sills of puncheon 5a. Further complicating this was a mud/ bog at the base of the hillside (despite it being September – hence the need for the puncheons) with a ground hornet nest just to the side of the bog.

- Despite these impediments, the crew used old puncheon decking along with rock nets and a rope pulley to bring enough rock across the bog to complete the uptrail approach ramp to puncheon #5a. No boots were lost to the mud but a few rocks did submerge sufficiently to be a lost cause.
- The hillside near puncheon #5a has been quarried to the extent that further quarrying risks undermining the trees standing above the area. So, a new source of rock is needed to build the downtrail ramp for puncheon 5a, complete the middle conversion to turnpike, and build puncheon 5b.

○ Task(s) remaining:

- Find rock to complete puncheon 5a, the middle conversion to turnpike, and puncheon 5b. Finish the middle turnpike conversion and build puncheon 5b.
- Address the remaining 14 puncheons and bridges on the trail according to their individual condition and location relative to two ONF-desired cross-river bridges to bypass slide areas on the trail.

David Graves
Gray Wolf Trail Crew

Puncheon #3.

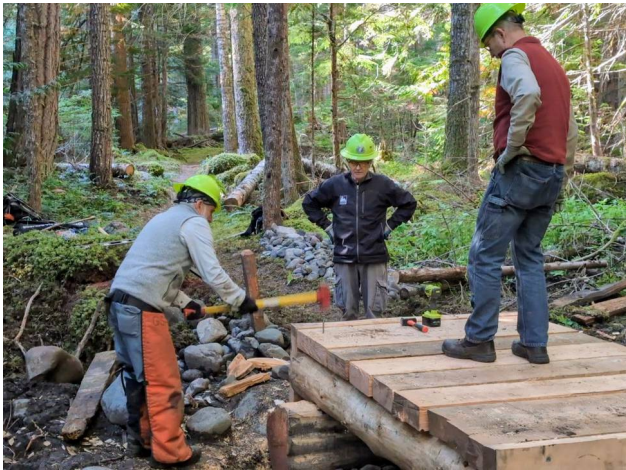
Decaying puncheon.



Work completed by WTA.



Gray Wolf work underway.



At end of Sept 21.



Puncheon #5.

Decaying puncheon.



Work completed by WTA.



Work underway.



Near end of Sept 21.

