



Gray Wolf Trail Crew -in partnership with- BCHW, Peninsula Chapter

Snider Ridge Trail, Olympic National Forest

19 September, 2025



Crew members

Rebecca Wanagel
Barbara Maxwell
James Miller
Brian Berg
Rick King
Rodney Lemay

Martin Knowles
Eric Nagle
Sonya Langford
Mike Forsyth
Suzanne King

Quick Stats

On-trail volunteer hours: 88

Hours including travel time:
146

Miles worked: 1.0

Trail supposed to be
maintained for stock use.

Objectives: Snider Ridge is fine for most of the trail, but about 1.5 miles of it are badly-neglected and overgrown. Hikers were losing the trail. It was difficult to fight your way through the encroaching brush, trees and branches. The tread was broken down and full of mountain beaver holes. Easy to lose your way and literally impossible for horses. Snider Ridge is a connector trail between Mt. Muller and Kloshe Nanitch; they are all supposed to be stock-rated. We had to take a poorly-maintained, narrow Forest Service road up to the Klash Nanitch lookout (45 mins each direction) and then hike 2 up and down miles to get to the job site.

1. Clear all overhanging branches and brush from 1.5 miles.
2. Cut down dozens of small trees that had grown up alongside and into the trail.
3. Re-tread where the tread has either broken down or gotten grown over.
4. Cut out any logs across the trail.

Achieved:

1. Brushing done for 1 mile out of 1.5.
2. Re-treading done for about ¼ mile.
3. Small trees and branches encroaching into the trail have been cleared for about 1 mile.
4. Cleared a handful of trees across the trail.

Future work (Saturday, 9/27):

1. Return with 2 power brushers, hike back up to the ridge and continue where we left off. Our goal will be to finish the brushing, all necessary tread work and clear any remaining small trees and branches.



Snider Ridge connects **Mt. Muller** to **Kloshe Nanitch**. Littleton Horse Camp is at the bottom of Mt. Muller. The purple, blue, and orange trails are the ones we logged out in June, you read about those in an earlier summary report. The west end of Lake Crescent is on the right side of the map. We had amazing views of Lake Crescent, Mt. Olympus and the entire Sol Duc valley from up on the ridge.



Do you see a trail here? Yeah, neither do I. Welcome to Snider Ridge.



Would you believe this is the same spot? Look about 5 feet down below Suzanne's left foot. Way down there is where the trail had ended up as people fought their way blindly through the brush. Mountain beaver holes await any ankles whose owners cannot see where they are going. Rick is behind her, throwing brush to cover up the incorrect trail. We had re-established the tread where it was supposed to be after the tree removal and brush teams had gone through.



We had to remove small trees by the dozens and trim back branches by the hundreds.



This was the first time Rodney (right) worked on one of my crews. I am extremely appreciative that he, along with Martin (left) was very willing and able to run the brusher all day long. Most of us mere mortals don't love doing that for too long but these two were unstoppable. Quite literally. We never saw them once they got ahead of us and I had to find them to beg them to stop when the rest of us were tired and wanted to quit! Thank you!



The tread work caught us off guard with how difficult it was. The brush and grasses were strongly rooted. We decided to make less progress but do it right. Barbara demonstrates how difficult it was to focus on anything but the views!





**The work was hard, breaks were necessary.
The views just wouldn't quit, even once we got back at it.**

To be continued next Saturday ... (to sign up go to www.graywolftrailcrew.org)