



Gray Wolf Trail Crew
- in partnership with -
BCHW, Peninsula Chapter
Snider Ridge Trail, Olympic National Forest
27 September, 2025



Crew members

Rebecca Wanagel (author of this report)
Martin Knowles
Ted Spoon
Brian Berg
Rick King
Greg King

Quick Stats

On-trail volunteer hours: 51
Miles worked: 1.0
Miles hiked: 8
Trail rating: hikers and stock

Objectives: Finish up the work we started last week. The goal was to end the day with the trail back to hikable and rideable condition. Same objectives as last week:

1. Clear all overhanging branches and brush.
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: All of the above! **

Future work:

Nothing more this season, but ** next year I would like to go back up there to work on getting all the remaining vegetation out of the tread. It's rooted hard and so there are still long stretches that have plants - most especially bearberry - growing in the tread.

My hope is that if word gets out that this is a delightful trail to hike again, it will get used more and that will be a natural way to control some of the plant growth.

There's no real need for pictures this week. Since this is round 2, I'll keep this report short and sweet.

Our crew of six accessed Snider Ridge by hiking up Mt. Muller. Meaning we started our day with a 3-mile uphill hike with tools. Good Morning! Once up there, the brush for the remainder of this trail was much worse than my memory dictated, plus it takes time to hike up there and get to where you needed to start. There was more work and slightly less time than I originally intended and yet we **KNOCKED IT OUT OF THE BALLPARK**. We absolutely got done what needed to be done. I am incredibly grateful to this and the previous crew.

Greg and Martin were on the brushers. Rick and Brian were taking out encroaching trees and branches. Ted and Rebecca were doing tread clean up and repair and also more trimming to make things look nicer after the brushers went through. Brian joined the tread team halfway through the day.

At the end of the day we were entranced by the colossal cliffs and valley views that we couldn't see on our way in. Sure, all of the crew except for me was tall enough to see over the brush, but when you're fighting your way through branches and you can't see your path to avoid all the mountain beaver holes, you aren't looking at anything but your feet. Now you can once again walk with ease and marvel at the view.

NOTE FOR EQUESTRIANS: Rick says this is rideable again. But please be aware that we cannot control the mountain beavers and there are a lot of them up there. If you ride this trail (by going up Mt. Muller's west side and then continuing west on this trail) make sure you either walk your horse the first time to teach them about all the holes, or take your well-trained trail horse / mule who understands these holes and how to avoid them. It's only about 1.5 miles out of 3.7 that need this caution, the rest is fine.