



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

Lower Big Quilcene Trail, Olympic National Forest

08 November, 2025

Report by Rebecca Wanagel



## Crew members

Rebecca Wanagel  
Bernt Ericson  
Bill Mueller  
LaVonne Mueller  
Brian Berg

Martin Knowles  
Eric Nagle  
Jon Behar  
Miguel Reabold

## Quick Stats

On-trail volunteer hours: 41  
Hours including travel time: 73  
Miles worked: 1.5

## Objectives:

Fall clean up and winter prep on top half of the trail, from upper trailhead to where we left off when we worked on the trail last month.

- Brush where needed
- Rake off deciduous leaves and organic material
- Clean drainages, check all culverts for flow and clean if necessary, create more drainage where needed

## Achieved:

All of the objectives were achieved EXCEPT for the length of trail we hoped to cover. We discovered that Jolley Creek, mile 1.5, which has a broken footlog, was not looking fun nor pleasant to ford. It was quite high and moving quickly. The broken footlog was way too steep, broken, and slippery to consider. We decided to do a good job on 1.5 miles and call it quits, an earlier day than expected. (side note: the GWTC will be replacing that footlog, but we're waiting for Forest Service approval to begin).

## Future work:

Due to the unforeseen Jolley Creek obstacle, we now have just over a mile of trail that has not been tended this year. At this point, it's more likely we'll get to that late next spring.

THIS DAY WAS DEDICATED TO MR. DON STONEMAN  
FEBRUARY 11, 1931-NOVEMBER 1, 2025



Don was the original founder of the Graywolf Trail Crew in 2007. He was also a dear friend. His legacy lives on in every log we buck, footlog we replace, handrail we repair, drain we clean, tread we maintain ... every trail we keep open in the wilderness that brought him so much joy.

Fun fact about Don (one of many!): Prior to 1958, in his 20s, Don accessed Hurricane Ridge in a VW Beetle up the old road that is now the trail called Wolf Creek, taking off from the original Elwha Trailhead at the top of Whiskey Bend Road.

Don was a craftsman and a wilderness man, dedicated to trails and their preservation now and forever. Cat Creek trail, a loop off of Lower Graywolf, was his creation. He loved the Graywolf trail in its entirety: from National Forest to as far as Cedar Lake in the National Park - one of his favorite backcountry fishing places. I asked his wife, Bobbie, to tell him before he died that we, the Graywolf Crew, will continue to take care of his beloved trails.

He taught his skills to the next couple of generations of trail stewards. May we do the same.





*We had to do some clearing on the road to get to the trailhead.*



*This 1-1/2 miles of trail is ready for winter!*

*Ridding the trail of deciduous leaves, brush debris and organic matter prevents mush and squish. Brushing keeps people from hugging the downhill edge, causing tread breakdown. Drainage of all sorts keeps the water from flowing unchecked down the trail. Water, while the stuff that makes our peninsula so lush and exquisite, is also the worst enemy of trails. Water does more trail damage than anything else short of fire. So we found, checked and cleaned culverts, widened or made drain dips, cleaned ditches, and got streams back into their channels.*