

## TRAIL CREW NOTES

Location: Lower Dungeness (833.3), ONF

16 April 2025

Mike Bonomo  
Sue Bonomo  
David Graves  
Paul Kamps  
Greg King  
Martin Knowles  
Eric Nagle

Hours on job: 48

- Objective(s) for the crew:
  - Finish ramp from second of two puncheons built by Washington Trails Association (WTA) during the summer of 2024.
    - WTA spent five days on the project but were unable to completely finish the puncheons. A Gray Wolf crew finished the first puncheon and built one ramp to the second puncheon in fall 2024. Work on the second ramp was started by a March 2025 crew but the lack of nearby rock and a small crew size limited the progress.
  - Collect rock for 20-foot turnpike between second puncheon and next adjoining puncheon. Puncheon is scheduled to be replaced June 2025.
  - Remove tree that reported as fallen on top of/into trail below shelter.
  - Bonus task: remove newly fallen and unreported 36"-diameter tree that fell on turnpike recently built by Northwest Youth Crew.
  - Locate, inventory, and mark decking leftover from puncheon construction several years ago. Assess if decking is sufficient in amount and condition to finish the next puncheon replacement in June.
- Task(s) accomplished:
  - Before the crew could even reach the worksite, they encountered a tree that had fallen sometime between March 22 and this April 16 crew. Landing across the NYC-built turnpike, it blocked access between the worksite and the upstream rock sources. It also created a depression in the trail and drove one end of a turnpike curb log another nine inches into the soil, raising the opposite end of the curb log by the same amount. Both of these issues were also dealt with after the tree removal.
  - After removing the first tree, half the crew proceeded another mile downtrail to deal with the expected tree that fell on and along the trail. As fun would have it, it turned out to be a 54" diameter tree. Nothing our crew of three couldn't handle but it did take more time that projected. Cutting the tree up is only first step as you have to find a place to roll/throw the wood billets and chunks. Even once it's gone, there's a lot of cleanup and tread restoration work. It's unromantic but very necessary work.
  - Besides the logout crew, two of the crew headed down the trail where they measured and flagged unused decking that will be used in June. Their inventory shows that there is sufficient decking for the next puncheon, sparing us the time and work of bringing in the Alaskan saw mill and cutting more decking.

- The remaining two-man crew located and moved rock to finish the ramp; the second puncheon is complete. It was heavy work but made easier by one key change.
  - As seen in several photos, we brought in two wheelbarrows this trip. They were immensely valuable in transporting the rock from sites 1/4-mile up trail. We did not have these for the fall and March trail crews; sometimes it takes a while for this crew lead to catch onto the easier way of doing things.
  - Several fallen trees up the trail left convenient rootballs next to the trail, from where we were able to fairly easily dig out rock and good soil. We found rock in other areas but focused on the rootballs as they eliminated the time lost probing under all the moss next to the trail.
  - With repeated wheelbarrow runs, we accumulated rock which was then placed and top-coated with a soil-gravel mix. This was aided in the afternoon by the return of the victorious logout crew. It was packed down but settling is expected so we'll bring more soil down in June.
- Due to unending exertion by the crew, enough rock and soil was gathered and placed to not only finish the ramp but also the intervening turnpike. This will speed up project completion in June.
- We were very thankful for the sunny, though cool, weather that made for a perfect workday.
- Task(s) remaining:
  - Haul additional soil to add to the newly built intermediate turnpike as settling is bound to occur.
  - Build puncheon 5b.
    - Locate and haul rock for building puncheon 5b and the adjoining downstream 50-foot section of turnpike (converting from puncheon).
    - Haul available decking from downriver storage to puncheon 5b site. Identify and move timber for sills and stringers. Install.
    - Build upstream and downstream ramps connecting puncheon 5b to adjoining turnpikes.
    - Dispose of old rotting puncheon decking.
  - 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

### First things first.



### Puncheon #5a.

Decaying puncheon – 19 April 2024  
(looking downstream)

As of Fall 2024 (looking upstream)  
(newly gathered rock at the sides)



Our rock/soil supply house



Work underway (end of next puncheon at bottom)



What's up for June

All done! (minus the cleanup)



## Tree #2

Uffda! This is the trail.



First half gone and cleaned up.



Now for the rest.

