



Gray Wolf Trail Crew

in partnership with

BCHW, Peninsula Chapter



Lower Gray Wolf Trail (#834), Olympic National Forest

23 June 2026

Crew members

Jack Bochsler	Joanne Graves
David Graves	Fred Inman
Hannah Graves	

Quick Stats

On-trail volunteer hours: 42.5
Hours including travel time: 54.5
Miles worked: 4.2 miles
Total miles hiked: 8.4 miles
Trail standards: Hiker

Objectives:

- Clear twelve fallen trees.
- Patch hole in puncheon deck.
- Clear debris from small slide area.
- Place "end of trail" sign.

Early spring reports from hikers said that about eleven trees had fallen across the trail. These reports were very useful in that they not only told us of trees down but gave their approximate sizes and locations. Since none were said to be very large nor a significant blockage to hikers, work on this trail was postponed until June as more critical work on other trails needed to be completed first.



Achieved:

The crew removed all the fallen logs from the trail. It was excellent experience for Fred and Jack who are A-certified crosscut sawyers looking to achieve B-certification.



Factors such as double logs close together, strong side binds, and highly-tensioned rootballs provided a wide



assortment of factors for them to analyze and then to evaluate the effectiveness of their cut plans. They also took turns practicing their saw-lead skills by instructing Hannah on cutting techniques.



Aside from removing the trees, the crew accomplished three other tasks: 1) rebenching a small slide area by clearing rock/soil that regularly slides down into the tread, 2) clearing a puncheon from much debris on and between the planks, and 3) adding an end-of-trail sign. The first two were routine maintenance that may seem less important than removing trees, but can easily lead to an impassible trail if

the slide tread disappears or the puncheon rots out. The last task was particular to this trail; hikers have reported in trip reports that they are unsure where the trail ends and have inadvertently kept hiking toward the dangerous slide area which years ago took out the cross-river bridge.



Finally, what would a trail crew be without a kind leader giving everybody a break from a nearly 8.5 mile working hike in warm weather by relaxing in the cool shade near a warbling mountain stream. 😊



Task(s) remaining:

1. Removing the ever-intruding brush from the tread corridor particularly on the first river flats and the upstream ascent from them.
2. Rebenching the tread on the upstream ascent from the first river flats.

David Graves

27 June 2026