Gray Wolf Trail Crew

in partnership with

BCHW, Peninsula Chapter

Slab Camp Trail (#838), Olympic National Forest

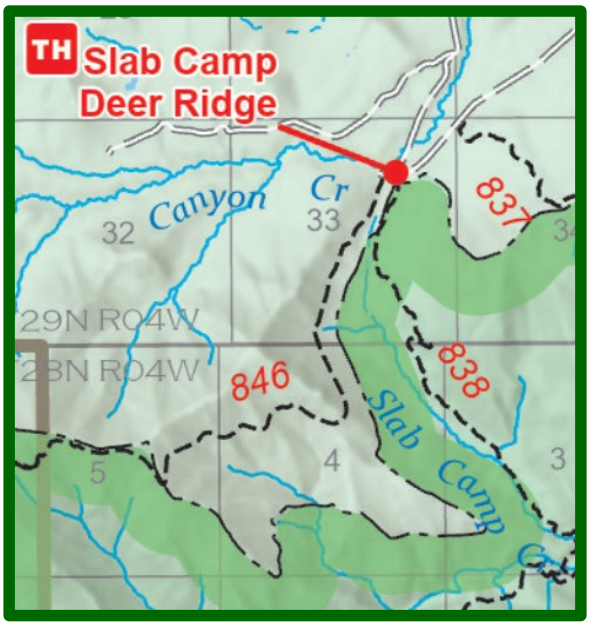
1 September 2026

Crew members

Rebecca Wanagel

Martin Knowles

David Graves



Quick Stats

On-trail volunteer hours: 15

Hours including travel time: 20

Miles worked: 0.1 miles

Total miles hiked: 5.2 miles

Trail standards: Hiker / Stock

Objectives:

- *Remove, if feasible, ~80ft fallen cedar leaning over trail with branches down into trail corridor.*

Achieved:

The cedar, which fell a few years back, has been a continuing impediment as it has kept sagging. While the trunk was well above the trail corridor, it's long branches hung down into the trail. The branches would get cut back repeatedly when they got in the way but this was time-consuming and it was impossible to cut them to stock corridor standards.





The tree had been left alone because its trunk was pivoted high up on the steep opposite side of Slab creek. Several other trees had also fallen just under or on top of the cedar so there were numerous complicating factors. In the left photo, you can barely see the top of the cedar's trunk. In the right photo, the cedar is completely hidden.



After climbing over and above the mess (which again, was at the midpoint of the cedar's length), the crew decided on a plan to remove 1) the complicating factors, and 2) the cedar itself.

First, from the trail, we cut the tree lying under the cedar so that when we cut the cedar, it would fall far enough to be removable. Next, we cut the log just uphill of the first log; this log was resting on the cedar. It pivoted clear.





Finally, we cut away the blocking wood up top and then the cedar itself which, as expected, quickly split and dropped the top to the ground.



The final tasks were just to cut off all the branches intruding into the trail and to remove the top portion of the trunk that was in the trail corridor.



Tasks remaining: None this year. Brushing upper trail in 2027.

David Graves, 1 September 2026