

## Trail Report Summary

June 2023

### **Jim and Donna Hollatz, DNR and State and Jamestown Tribe**

The focus of our trail work has been Miller Peninsula. All of the excursions have been "hike-in" with the chainsaws. A blow-down of 10 or 11 trees that was blocking Cable Trail was removed on May 27th. Three days have been spent in June by Jim and Donna and Rick King clearing corridor and fallen trees from Belly Deep. We are aware of another large tree across the route between Cable Trail and Don Tucker's property that will be removed before the Rhody Ride, planned for June 16-18.

### **Bill Mueller, OAT Trail (Thursday Trail Crew) and NOLT:**

(This is from Bill for April because I didn't get it into the May report)

The Thursday trail crew was very busy doing some needed trail maintenance on the OAT three of four Thursdays in April. (The April 6 work party was cancelled due to a covid illness.) Although the specific trail mile markers differed, the work projects always involved addressing water (drainage) issues that surfaced over the winter and tread damage from "tread creep" and vegetation incursion on the tread surface. Some resurfacing with gravel between MP 17.5 to 18 of the OAT took place also to correct some erosion issues. This continued into May and is expected to continue until a short realignment of the OAT started on May 4 is completed. The work is not as exotically exciting as building new trail, but is still rewarding and necessary and a benefit to the BCHW.

(And now for more current news)

5/4: OAT near MP 2

Bridge replacement, tread repair, drainage improvement

5/11: OAT near MP 2

Trail realignment, drainage repair

10 volunteers, 1 supervisor

5/13: NOLT Lyre River area

Trail tread repair, drainage repair

5 volunteers, 1 supervisor

5/25: OAT near MP 2

Drainage repair, switchback reconstruction

11 volunteers, 1 supervisor

## **NOLT / OAT, CONTINUED**

6/1: OAT near MP 9

Drainage repair, tread repair, curb log installation  
8 volunteers, 1 supervisor

6/2 and 6/3: NOLT new conserved area in Forks along the Calahah River. Brushing, drainage improvement, weed whacking – 7 volunteers, 1 supervisor.

6/8: OAT near MP 9. Drainage repair, tread repair including gravel placement.  
11 volunteers, 1 supervisor

Note from Bill:

Much mutually beneficial trail work was carried out between BCHW-PC and partners in May and into June this year. More expected. More volunteers would be very welcome.

## **Rebecca Wanagel, ONF and ONP**

5/13: We finished the Duckabush and it was a success. Tons of time and effort went into that and – as luck would have it – we had a heat wave that weekend. It was brutally hot. Anyway, you all have seen that report but I added a couple pictures to the end of how WTA finished off the project, so please take one more look.

5/19-5/21: The regional work party with collaboration between many chapters was a great success. Lots of amazing trail work AND campground work was done. I attached my summary of the trail work we accomplished that weekend.

Now I am shifting gears and focusing on the upcoming backcountry trail crews in the Olympic National Park. These will be:

Elwha: June 23-July 4 (packed in by ONP, packed out by Tullers)

Cameron Creek trail: July 13-July 20 (packed in by ONP, packed out by Tullers)

Lacrosse Pass trail (and possibly the Dosewallips leading up to it if that's not done yet): August 12-August 23. (packed in and out by Harold Wiese).

These take a ton of upfront time to organize and coordinate between crew members and packers, etc. They also take a really focused gear packing time. But we sent a load up today with the ONP mules led by Heidi Brill. We will retrieve our stuff at Elkhorn and start clearing the trail from there (ONP already cleared to Elkhorn due to cabin maintenance they are doing there). Our goal is to clear from Elkhorn to Low Divide (approximately 80 trees). That is 36 miles from where we will park our cars. I have an amazingly strong crew of folks from the Graywolf Crew – coming and going at different times but at our peak for a few days we will have 7 of us there). We are getting packed out by volunteer BCH packers Rachael and Matthew Tuller, who you met in my Lower Big Quil crew summary.

The crew going in to the Elwha is: Me, Martin Knowles, Bernt Ericson, Randy Kraxberger, Paul Kamps, Miguel Reabold and David Graves. This is an unstoppable crew.

Recently the Tullers went in with their two kids and their 6 animals to spend the weekend as a family at Humes Ranch on the Elwha. Either Rachael or Matthew took this incredible picture which I am sharing with you here because ... well ...

