

TRAIL CREW NOTES

5/6/23

Location: Lower Big Quil, ONF

Crew members:

Rebecca Wanagel
Martin Knowles
David Graves
Joanne Graves
Bill Mueller
LaVonne Mueller
Eric Nagle
Bernt Ericson
Randy Kraxberger
Dan Stranahan

Packers:

Matthew Tuller
Rachael Tuller

Hours: 74

Work accomplished:

1. David and Joanne worked from the lower trailhead, rechecking and reclearing the entire trail to the two downed trees that were the main project – making sure the packers could get through with no problem. David and Joanne have worked this trail and checked the road several times this spring. We could not have gotten stock to the project without their incredible extra effort!
2. Mike, Bill, LaVonne and Bernt worked from the upper trailhead doing brushing, tread, drainage as necessary.
3. Rebecca, Martin, Eric, Randy, and Dan went to the two project trees from the upper trailhead (2 miles down).
4. Rachael and Matthew Tuller, packers, went in from the lower trailhead (road too rough for the horse trailer once the road splits off from the Mt. Townsend turnoff), packing in our saw gear.
5. We cleared the two large logs using a chainsaw. I forgot to count the number of rounds, but due to the angle at which they crossed the trail, I suspect between the two trees we likely cut about 30 rounds. Trees were about 30" diameter. This project would have been long, difficult process with crosscut saws, so it was a great idea to save these for chainsaws.

This trip was a great opportunity to meet and work with packers I am just now getting to know. We really enjoyed meeting Rachael and Matthew, along with their animals Maize, Woody and Biscuit. Maize (mule) is so big and powerful I was awed in her presence. Woody just oozed experience, calmness and leadership (I found it fascinating he has a search and rescue background). And Biscuit was so pretty and well-behaved! In addition, the Tullers own Lost Peacock Creamery, a goatery. They brought us some of their delectable goat cheese!



OUR PROJECT. PICTURE TAKEN EARLIER THIS SPRING.



THE SHALLOW ANGLE ACROSS THE TRAIL + SIZE OF TREES = MANY ROUNDS NEED TO BE CUT.



THE TOP TREE'S WEIGHT IS RESTING ON THE BOTTOM TREE.



BOTTOM TREE WAS RESTING ON THE GROUND AT ITS BREAK-OFF POINT, BUT THE TOP TREE WAS SUSPENDED – NOT TOUCHING THE GROUND DUE TO THE FACT THAT IT ALSO BROKE BUT WAS ON TOP OF THE OTHER TREE. WE OPTED TO CUT OFF THE ENTIRE END OF THE TOP TREE FIRST, TO ELIMINATE THIS MESSY VARIABLE.



MAKING PROGRESS.



FORTUNATELY, THE 462 SAW JUST LOVES TREES LIKE THIS. LOTS OF TORQUE. IT WENT THROUGH THESE 30" LOGS LIKE A HOT KNIFE THROUGH BUTTER.



FINISHING TOUCHES – ANGLING THE LOGS TO THE LAY OF THE TRAIL.



MATTHEW TULLER, HOLDING MAIZE. RACHAEL TULLER, HOLDING WOODY. BISCUIT HIDING SHYLY IN THE BACKGROUND.



THE TULLERS, WITH BISCUIT, MAIZE AND WOODY, HEADING BACK TO THE RIG. WE ARE ALL THRILLED TO HAVE MADE THIS NEW PARTERSHIP!