

GRAY WOLF / BCH-PENINSULA TRAIL CREW NOTES

3/22/25

Location: Lower Dungeness Trail, ONF

Crew members:

Rebecca Wanagel
Martin Knowles
David Graves
Bill Mueller
LaVonne Mueller
Patrick Sullivan
Miguel Reabold
Lisa Turnberg
Neil Turnberg
Jonathan Hamlin
Julie Metzger
Mark Subbotin

Estimated On-Trail Volunteer Hours: 81

Report written by Rebecca.

Objectives met:

- Continue work started last fall to build ramps on either side of a WTA-built puncheon (1/2 mile from trailhead). This requires a massive search for rocks and transporting them to the job site.
- Logout 3 miles of trail where trees had come down in recent winds.
- Put a tread through the perpetual slide area (1.5 miles from trailhead).
- Address drainage all along the first 1.5 miles.

Future work:

- Finish ramp on the WTA-built puncheon
- Finish the entire demolition and conversion of more puncheon to either new puncheon or, wherever possible, turnpike.
- Remove overhanging rootball (1.25 miles from the bottom of the trail) that I mentioned in my last report. We ended up not addressing that on this crew because of the trees down and the condition of the slide area.



This tree landed squarely on the brand-new puncheon just built last August (teamwork between GWTC and WTA). Fortunately, the new bullrails are larger than normal, fresh and new, so they protected the puncheon. No damage!



Martin and Rebecca cut this 28" doug fir that also came down next to the puncheon – but we cut the piece more than 5' long so that we can use this for decking for another puncheon we'll be building right in that same area. Thank you, Nature, we needed that! For more decking, we can always cut the remaining fir that is overhead – we didn't cut that one now because there is enough clearance.



This slide area is 1.5 miles from the trailhead and it slumps every single year. This is the spot that is supposed to be bypassed by bridges, but that solution looks like it's a long way out – if ever. So we keep putting tread back through the muck knowing we'll have to do it again next season, or later this season with the rain we're having.



This project was not complex for us, but fun anyway. Four trees had all come down together.



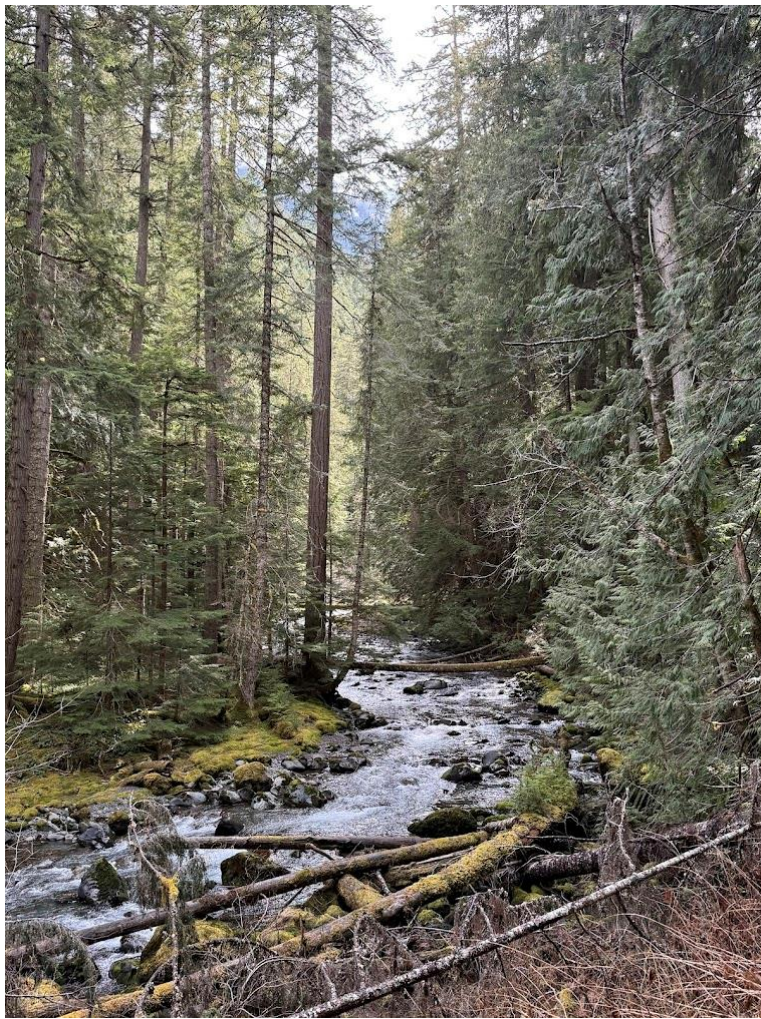
This picture inadvertently shows some safety measures that we always take. Notice I have wedges in my pouch for easy access, to help us avoid getting the saw stuck. I also have a radio harness on my body so I can keep the radio with me and on all the time. That helps with communication between crew members who are sometimes miles apart. In the background you can see that we always pull out what we call our "trauma kit" (red kit in plastic bag) which is a quick-grab first aid kit with blood stopping supplies. That is in case of serious saw injury that needs to be tended quickly. We keep our other, less urgent, first aid supplies in our pack. You can also see the cut-resistant boots, proper stance standing more to the side of the saw, gloves, safety glasses and hard hat – all required by saw certifications.



Cleared trail! Though I did actually cut one more of those pieces back another couple of feet on our way out.



Progress happening on the rock ramp for the upstream side of the puncheon built last August. By the end of the day this was a lot higher! We have exhausted our supply of rock at the job site so the team is having to search elsewhere and transport the rock. Super time consuming.



This is the scenery we had all day.



Lower Dungeness is a lush and exquisite trail, especially in the upper half.