

Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Agenda

Wednesday September 10, 2014

Location: REI Clackamas

Welcome

- Welcome: Kelley Davis, new caretaker for Carpenters Lake-Bridge of the Gods
- Attended: Liz, Tyler, Tim D, Rick, Kelley, Kim, Pam, Bill, Bob A, Ruth, Ron, Tim L., Tami, Summer, David, Justin, John, Becky, Jim, Steve Q, Steve P, Tammy, Leif, Roberta (24 people)

Past Events

- 2014 Stats: Trail is officially logged out, about 1050 logs cleared
 - The data from Sacramento is still being updated.
- Crews and Events:
 1. August 15-17 Scouts at 3-Corner Rock: Kim
 - a. Went great. Had 18 people (8 adults + 8 scouts + Kim & Pam)
 - b. Have to understand what limitation of the scouts/kids then it goes really great
 - c. Road was closed/ bridge out (DNR land – they don't talk to the Forest Service)
 - i. the supplies were there for repairs, no word if it is fixed
 2. August 15: Panther Creek Logout: Tom
 - a. A few logs down from storm are out
 3. August 18: Zig Zag Canyon Tread Work: Ruth
 - a. Nice treadwork
 - b. some people crossed the creek and some didn't
 4. August 19: Hawthorne New Seasons Markets, Top Spur Round 2: Pace and Roberta
 - a. Bottom half of trail worked on
 - b. Brushing, filling in holes
 - c. Needs a lot more work and was more than they could do without supplies
 - i. Needs fill and steps
 - ii. Jayme (from New Seasons) will be a crew leader to help coordinate the New Seasons crew
 1. If New Seasons approves, they will adopt the trail
 5. August 19: Pinhead Buttes Fire Survey: Underbucker
 - a. Hiked to north pinhead butte
 - b. Assessed all damage that has occurred
 - c. Already planning for reclamation clearing that will start in October
 - d. May have persuaded them from closing the trail, instead they will flag a temporary route around where they are felling
 6. August 21-24: Packwood Glacier Clean Up: Trail Boss
 - a. Great crew, good weather, enough rain to make them appreciate a tent, no work in rain
 - i. Everyone was very experienced so they needed no training and the safety talks were quick
 - b. Some significant landslides, able to clear them effectively
 - c. Had full time cook, Nancy, it was great
 - d. As per Dana – hours for can be attributed to the Mt Hood chapter
 - i. Roberta will specify adding this crew to the Mt Hood hours for the year-end counts
 - e. Cleaned up the rest of the section
 - f. All work from last year held up – even where they had the nasty rock fall
 - g. Kim & Pam did repair and clearing on the alternate route, the rest worked on the tiny/narrow section on the north – not stock standard but now walkable
 - i. Kim – they did a great job, safe passage,
 - ii. Trail boss – it is currently too steep, too loose, too narrow, no hope of it staying for next year
 7. August 22-24 Horseshoe Meadow to Riley Creek: Gentleman Bob/Greg
 - a. Got a lot done, great crew
 - b. Another example of where a trail shouldn't be
 - i. Very prone to trenching
 - c. Last year, reunion crew, did half – widen, grub out lupine
 - d. Always stuff to be done
 - e. 3 downed logs to Riley Junction

- f. pulled 1000 seedlings growing in the trail – “treeocide”
- g. Plug to John – he got everyone sent out from trout lake and saw everyone off
 - i. If a thru hiker can get from Mexico to Horseshoe Meadows on the side of Mt Adams, they can't be all dumb and yet there was a thru hiker staring at a sign that said Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCNST) and they couldn't figure which way to go.
- h. All the signage held up from last year
 - i. 6 miles up probably not a lot of souvenir hunters
- 8. August 30: Logout BOG to Power lines: Roberta and Dennis
 - a. Tim scouted Roberta's section and found 3 logs down
 - b. Roberta found 2 of the 3 logs
- 9. September 1: Mountain Music Festival at Timberline Lodge - Tammy
 - a. 8 or 9 names for new volunteers
 - b. Pretty good turnout considering the shooting on 122nd and I84 (traffic)
 - c. Will do it again
 - d. Lots of thru hikers
- 10. September 5-7: PCT Days including BOG Bridge Walk event
 - a. Tammy: it worked out ok,
 - i. Had 33 names to add to the list but there are more that signed up for PCTA not just the chapter
 - b. Inventory sent back to Sacramento today (everything they didn't sell)
 - c. Saw demo was well attended and people were talking about it on Sunday
 - d. Forest Service person said our booth seemed to be the most popular
 - e. The Forest Service like the saw demo
 - f. Tyler: near the end of the day the Forest Service made teams and started cutting for speed. Most of the day it took 10min/cookie, the Forest Service had it down to 4min/cookie, and then 2 Fire/EMTs came up, they were beefy dudes, and the whole time they are cutting Leif is saying “we can take them”. The Fire/EMT guys did it in 2min10sec (12 7/8 log). So Leif and I took a turn and did it in 1min5sec.
 - i. Tyler made a plaque (and put it on the cookie) to commemorate the event. Lots of room to make it an annual event.
 - ii. Underbucker's award – a saw that can be used not necessarily hung up
 - iii. Bridge walk tally – about \$1300 collected at the bridge plus what was collected below the bridge (total of about \$1400). With the donation match the total was almost \$2900
- 11. September 5 PCT Days Work Party on Trail 400: Leif
 - a. Went fine: no one got hurt, work got down
- 12. September 9 Hawthorne New Seasons Markets at Timberline Round 1: Ruth
 - a. Collected seeds around the Timberline Lodge
 - b. 4 plants they could collect from and give to the forest service, they will dry them all winter and plant in the spring

Future Events – calendar passed around

Planned Crews and Events Next Month

1. September 14: PSU Sociology Club: Busdriver John with Doc
 2. September 20-21: Bell Creek Trail Rehab: Kim and Pam with TKO and Mazamas
 3. September 27: MHC Potluck
 - a. See below in Discussion Items
 4. October 4-5 Forest of Arts Festival at Hopkins Demonstration Forest: Underbucker
 5. October 7: Hawthorne New Seasons Markets at Timberline Round 2: Ruth
 6. October 8: Next Caretaker Meeting
- Mountain Lakes 100 on September 27-28 per website: www.mountainlakes100.com
 - Named Crews
 - New Seasons Crews:
 - Hawthorne Dates
 - September 9: Ruth – Timberline – 14 people
 - September 24: Leif – Lolo Pass (combined with 7 Corners, 10 people)
 - October 7: Ruth – Timberline – 11 people
 - October 15: Dennis - Eagle Creek - 8 people
 - See Calendar for more

Reports

- Budget. Kim

- Just got some receipts from crew leaders, we are good
- Tools. Leif
 - Leif I have a new Katana Boy for Southern Cache that I hope to get back to the cache or someone else to give to David.
 - I still have tools to repair at home (I was able to get one of the small folding corona saws repaired with a salvaged screw someone had). I have 2 Reinhart handles to repair (PDX and Trout Lake). I have more nuts & clamping plates and large blades for the brushers, to get them back into service. I did want to change one of the PDX brushers to use the saw blades and one the brushing blades, and will take care of that over the fall.
 - One tool to return to gentleman bob – for Mt Adams
- Trail Skills College 2015: Position Open
 - Still need a leader
- Saw Certification:
- Caretaker/Crewleader Roles and Responsibility: Kim (no action)
- Scout/Surveyor roles: Tom (wait until fall)
- Training and Safety:
 - Crew Leader Training: October 17 – 19 @Wind River
 - 17 people signed up for this
 - Volunteers will not pay for their rooms
 - Will include a David Roe session (1 day)
 - Will send a request for what topics you would like to those that have signed up so Roberta can make an agenda
 - The bunk house sleeps 12, there is a spot for tents with a fire ring so tents and car sleeping are options
 - Wilderness First Aid Training Nov 8-9
 - Yes: Becky, Gentleman Bob A, Steve P, Chris S., Tammy (but does not need), Sara and Tim Lagasse, Jerry, Liz and Tyler, Pam and Kim, Tami K-S, Rick, Kelley
 - No:
 - Estacada Library is reserved for us
- Dana
 - Is hiking her section that she hasn't seen for 5 years,
 - Thanks everyone for great PCT days and the bridge walk
 - Action alert: let your voice be heard
 - Management area vs linear trail (harder to deal with fighting pipelines/electrical lines crossing)
 - Roberta will resend the email to the whole caretaker list
- Volunteer Coordinator. Tammy
 - email problems are fixed
 - We will talk more about Trail Dirt Live next month
 - PCT days
 - Quite a few people came up and asked "Why are we doing this?"
 - Thinking it is just something for the vendors to come and sell stuff to the hikers
 - Roberta – not as obvious this year as in the past that this was a fundraiser for the PCTA
 - Tammy – took time to look through the website, had to go through 3 pages to find out that the money was going to the PCTA
 - Tim – the vendors did draw in a lot of the hikers, Saturday was a huge success
 - Biggest problem: if people came on Friday or Sunday, there was so little going on
 - People who come to the Skills College have come to rely on a full schedule of events
- Extra Projects: Tim D. working on making an electronic version of my caretaker info mash-up with the PCTA map
 - When Roberta took over being chair, she put together a true cut and paste (from cutouts) of this chapter's area. Tim is making a digital copy so it can be hung up and looked at.
 - Tim adding landmarks, elevation, mileage (half mile marks)
 - What do you think it is important to know?
 - Tami K May be able to help with the printing (can print up to 24 inches)

Announcements/Reminders

- Kelley Davis to take the Carpenter Lake-BOG section, Karla moving to Potato Hill.
- Jayme Smith with New Seasons to become a crew leader, possibly adopting Top Spur Trail for New Seasons
 - Has put in 12 work parties this year
 - Will probably need a co-leader to sign the papers so the New Seasons crew get paid for their volunteer time
- Jim Webb will be retiring soon.
 - No specific date
- Remaining Vacancies: Mt. Adams-North, 400 Trail. Leif is just fostering the 400 trail.
 - 400 trail: Carole Dearholt interested in becoming a caretaker, possibly of the 400 trail. Lives in Mosier
 - She will be on the work crew for the 20th
 - Roberta will forward Carole's info to Kim
 - John Harris also interested in becoming a caretaker, lives in Vancouver
- Columbia Dispatch office hours will be 0730-1800 starting MONDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH.
- From McKenzie: Most of you know that I am pregnant and creeping up on my due date of September 10th. I wanted to let folks know that while I am on maternity you can contact Bruce Thomson (Trail Crew Foreman) if you have trail concerns. bthomsom@Forest Service.fed.us or 503-622-2027 If you have a bigger issue or concern you can contact my supervisor Kathleen Walker at kwalker02@Forest Service.fed.us or 503-622-2024.
- David received a nice award from the Carhart Training Center (Missoula MT), USFOREST SERVICE, and PCTA.
 - "For his devotion to bringing vintage saws back into appreciative hands and inspiring a new generation of wilderness trail stewards. September 3, 2014" Logos of the training center, the Wilderness 50, PCT, and USFOREST SERVICE
- Did Tim Lagasse earn his black belt?
 - yes

Discussion Items

Potluck

- September 27: MHC Potluck, noon – whenever everyone goes home
 - Expecting 40 – 50 people: there may be a lot of the New Seasons crew coming
 - Tammy will get veggies burgers and brats again, noon – whenever everyone goes home
 - Has announcement ready and will send out in the next week
 - Will bring tables and pictures to display
 - Do we have newer pictures? The ones we are using are from 2008
 - Roberta: Frank has pictures and had directed him to Tammy
 - Tammy will get there early (11:15) to make sure there isn't a wedding/event going on (like last year)
 - Leif will bring 2 grills (has complete set up)
 - Also bring a burner to boil water plus whatever is needed for coffee, tea and maybe apple cider (hot and cold)
 - Roberta will bring silverware, plates, cups (some disposable, some to be washed), and a 3 bucket clean up system
 - Hopefully people will bring their own plates/silverware
 - Tami K will bring the drinks (sodas) and ice as she gets her Fred Mayer discount
 - They will be Fred Mayer brand
 - Will need someone to bring coolers
 - Roberta can bring 2 coolers
 - Ron has a 40 cup coffee pot and Gentleman Bob has one too. They will coordinate with Leif
 - There is electricity that can be used
 - Geo cache event: Steve is double booked that day, he is enlisting the help of his geocaching "cronies" so the event will be even better than if he was leading it
 - Sue Gary will be leading the Geo Cache

Round the Room

- Robert (away on a work project for ONDA at the Steens Mts): Status report on my section: Monday 8/18 I hiked in from Ramona Falls TH up to the Muddy Fork crossing to check on damage from the 8/12 flash flood that took out the seasonal bridge. The large log 0.4 mile upstream that we used to cross the river earlier this spring is still good to use. There were four areas within about a mile south of the crossing where rocks and boulders covered the trail. The area

that the Skyline Crew worked on in July held up and was not damaged. The other existing large slides in that area were not made any worse.

- Tuesday 8/26 I hiked in from Top Spur TH to check on damage from 8/12 between Bald Mountain and the Muddy Fork crossing. There are two areas where mud and debris have covered the trail and diverted water onto the trail, it is passable by hikers but will need to be cleaned up to prevent further erosion. The two large slides we worked on in May were eroded some but not severely.
- I continued south of the Muddy Fork and cleaned out a water crossing just before the campsite and then cleared brush on a heavily overgrown area about 1/2 mile south of the crossing campsite.
- Thursday 8/28 I hiked in from Top Spur TH and cleared the rock and boulders blocking the trail in the 4 areas I found on 8/18
- After I get back from the Steens, I will try to set up a work crew later this month to clear the debris in the two areas I found on 8/26.
- Steve – Hiked Williams Mine Trail Head to Midway with Dana in 2 days. Saw Bob's work party.
 - They were both playing with technology for scouting. Steve bought GutHooks app (\$6/section if you buy them separately or \$5/section if you buy them all – there are 5 sections). Dana was able to take pictures, mark where they were and annotate with voice to make notes. It is a different way of doing trail recon.
- Jim – The guy that got him involved with the PCTA, he met up with on the bridge walk (Bryce is 84 and still going strong). It is time for younger people to be stepping in. He would like to take the wheel (Dana said she has a wheel in her cache) and make an accurate measurement of his section. Will probably be done the middle of next month.
- David Roe – May be 1 more work party in Warm Springs if they have to reroute the trail around the salvage work being done (Tyler is excited about this)
 - Log demo at PCT Days: there were very few kids so they went through a lot fewer logs versus other events with kids
- Leif – Work party on the 20th, the invite went out.
 - September 24th for New Seasons
- Summer: was in Calgary and met three PCT hikers there.
- Tami K – Just got back from Canada on the 4th. Went from Victoria to Calgary and did part of the Cowboy Trail
 - Going to the first work party in her section on Sunday
- Tim L – Access the PCT via the Sandy River: horses take the hiker trail (the stairs going down are really great) and hikers take the log next to the new horse crossing as it is the best way to not get wet.
 - The river is 8 feet lower than it was
 - The river has moved around a lot but is still in its gorge.
 - Talked to the Forest Service about fixing the ford: it will be put off until they hear from the police before making any changes as they are expecting a law suit (from the dead hiker's family)
 - Roberta – 4/10 of a mile up from the old bridge, there is a big honking log that is solid and can be used for a hiker crossing
- Ron – whole bunch of Forest Service guys made it to PCT Days
 - New Law Enforcement Officer, Ken, patrols Troutdale to The Dalles, both sides of the Gorge.
 - He likes people and wants to get out and hike the trails
- Pam & Kim – Overnight trail crew on the 20th on Bell Creek Trail with Mazamas and TKO (Jonathan will be there)
 - Brushing, treadwork, cleaning up bad log out work
 - Totally unsupported
 - Details are few and coming in late
 - Meet in at Larch Mountain parking lot, going down the east (rough) side of Bell Creek Trail
- Tim – has time to do some hiking: if you have a scouting to do in the next month, let him know and he can go scout it with/for you. Planning on hiking every other day (depending on difficulty).
 - Will pass around the maps he is working on to have it updated by the caretakers
- Busdriver John – Groups of people from PSU are going up to Snag Creek for work on Sunday. It is also unsupported.
- Liz – Thought the PCT Days was awesome. To walk across the bridge was phenomenal. Getting to meet the thru hikers and hear their stories was great. Was able to talk to a deaf hiker who finished his thru hike in August, she knows American Sign Language. He lives in Colorado but wants to move to the area to help with the trail and encourage more deaf people to participate and be involved with the trail.
- Steve – ¼ mile trail relocation along Mutton Creek on Mt Adams: Dana and Steve are not happy about it. It goes right along the fall line (the section of trail used to be along the creek and was disappearing). There was blasting done. It could have been engineered better.