

Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2018, 6:45 pm

Location: Happy Valley New Seasons in the "Cooking School" room

Notes: Summer

Welcome

- Absent: Brooke (traveling), Lamar (teeth), Hilary (Seattle), Bob (East Coast), Kim and Pam, Dana, Little Brown
- Welcome: Libby Brown

Past Events

Crews and events since last caretaker meeting:

1. Apr 12: GTRT: Herman Creek Trail brushing and tread work: Frank and Terry

Report – We did brushing and tread work on the Herman Creek Trail from 2.43 miles south of its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail to 3.29 miles south of its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail. Our original intent was to work on the Nick Eaton Way Trail, but a cold storm dropped snow up at that elevation last night. We corrected a drainage issue that had resulted in a small stream running down the trail; removed 11 logs from across the trail using hand saws and the Force; filled a number of very large stump holes; removed a number of vine maple tangles that were blocking the trail; removed rocks from the trail; and dug a 30 foot section of trail back down to original tread where a landslide had buried it. Not nearly as many rocks on the trail as on previous sections. Made it to the Casey Creek Trail junction, over Casey Creek, and beyond! Fantastic crew... horrible weather!

2. Apr 14: GTRT: Gorton Creek Logout: Roberta and Terry

Report – XC Logout, 7 logs removed. The first we worked on we trimmed the roots and realigned the trail less than 3 feet around the root wad. The rest were typical logout. Certified Sawyers: Ruth, Frank, Dawn, Dana, Rachel, Ashley, Frank, Roberta Also attended by Dawn and Ashley, USFS, and Dana, PCTA (Rachel attended as a volunteer) one person no-showed. More logs remain for a future date.

- *Roberta*: Spent all day on one log.

3. Apr 14: GTRT: Griz Round 3: Underbucker

- *Roberta*: They didn't finish it. On one of these "Griz" ate a Pulaski.

4. Apr 15: GTRT: Teakettle Springs logout: Frank and Terry

Report – Crosscut logout. Cleared 16 logs and prepped one log for future cutting on the Teakettle Springs section of the PCT (from the junction with the Herman Bridge Trail to 0.96 miles south of the junction). Sawyers: Leif Hovin, Robert Caldwell, Peter Hoffman, Frank Jahn. Approximately 16 logs remain to be cleared from this section up to the point it has been scouted. Another logout is scheduled for 4/28.

- *Terry* – Robert came up with ingenious ways to move big trees.

5. Apr 15: Scouting for Trail Skills College: Ruth

Report – Scouted Tamanous Trail for turnpike class. About one mile in from trailhead.

6. Apr 17: GTRT: Herman Creek Trail Brushing and Tread Work: Frank and Pace

Report – We did brushing and tread work on the Herman Creek Trail from 3.29 miles south of its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail to 4.23 miles south of its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail. Our original intent was to work on the Nick Eaton Way Trail, but the wind was too strong to risk working on an exposed ridge under dead trees. Very few rocks this time around. Instead, there was an endless array of small trees, branches, and vine maple tangles to be cut, pulled, pushed, and thrown from the trail. Also removed several small diameter logs from the trail using hand saws and arm and leg muscles, filled a number of stump holes, and rebenched a 40 foot section of trail that had virtually disappeared under slough. Found 11 more logs across this section of trail. That makes a total of 37 logs on the Herman Creek Trail between the Gorton Creek Trail junction and mile 4.23... 31 in the Hood River Ranger District and 6 in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

7. Apr 18: GTRT: Nick Eaton Way Brushing and Tread Work: Frank and Terry

Report – Whoop, whoop, whoop!!! The Nick Eaton Way Trail between the Ridge Cutoff Trail and the Herman Creek Trail is done! And it is probably in better shape than it has been in years and years. We did brushing and tread work on the Nick Eaton Way Trail from 0.4 miles west of its junction with the Ridge Cutoff Trail to 1.52 miles west of that junction, bringing us to the location where crews had stopped after working up from the Herman Creek Trail junction.

Removed countless rocks from the trail, especially from the switchbacks where they posed a hazard to hikers on lower switchbacks; did some minor brushing; removed 4 small-diameter logs from the trail; and filled three very large stump holes. One of the main activities of the day, however, was removing berm from one of the upper switchbacks where the trail was simply a gully filled with rocks. The berm was anywhere from 3 inches to 12 inches in height, forming a complete barrier to drainage. We removed the berm from a 360 foot section of trail, pushed the rock downhill (to the next switchback, argh!) did some rebenching, and left behind a trail that was completely unrecognizable from what it had been earlier. Not up to spec, but 200% better than it was before and much safer for hikers. Also did rebenching in other areas where slough had overtaken most of the trail. With respect to brushing and tread work, the Gorton Creek/Ridge Cutoff/Nick Eaton Way loop is now complete. One log remains to be removed from the Nick Eaton Way Trail, down near its junction with the Herman Creek Trail. The log is located adjacent to a hazard tree. Sent one crew member home due to inadequate footwear.

- *Frank* – Cutoff trail was not in bad shape.

8. Apr 20: GTRT: Griz Round 4: Underbucker

- *Underbucker* – This was the easy one.
- *Terry* – I was with Frank and went past the “Griz” and it looked like a beaver went by and went to town on it and just left lots of chips. To commemorate, Underbucker vs the Griz round 4 Terry read a poem and presented Underbucker with a plaque.

9. Apr 20-22: Columbia Cascades Trail Skills College: Tammy

10. Apr 23: Scouting Carpenters Lake North: Noelle

Report – Within first mile there are 2 > 9” trees across the trail Just past Heartbreak Ridge trail head 9” log over trail, rebenching needed. Further 2 6” logs over trail, they’re soft and can be broken up and tossed down Past West Ridge signage: 9” log over trail, rock slide area over trail, 7” tree leaning overhead, about 50’ of trail overrun by rock slide Along old, overgrown logging road going uphill: 2 9” logs to be moved off trail, 1 log augmenting trail causing 9-12” step down (or up depending on which direction you’re going) Past sweet campsite about 3000’ : 2’ diameter log over trail, old (about 72” circumference); rebenching needed beyond log 8-12” of snow covered trail at approximately 3400’. We turned around here. More detailed scouting notes will be emailed to Chris separately. Total mileage from car about 14 miles round trip. Note: Although we followed the agreed upon process for parking on Shelley Lane, a different land owner phoned PCTA Sacramento to complain about the car parked here. Recommend we discontinue use of this trailhead. The old path from there to the PCT is bad as well.

- *Roberta* – Scouting was fine. This is Chris Sanderson’s section but he won’t be back until late June so it would be good if someone wants to lead a log out there.
- *Kelley* – I can do it.
- *Roberta* – Noelle parked where she was supposed to and some other land owner saw the car and threatened to tow it. They contacted Sacramento, who contacted me. It is really sketchy parking there plus the trail up from the parking lot is deteriorating badly. We got permission and did everything we were supposed to do. Shelley Lane isn’t marked so you must know where it is. The trail is bad and we can’t improve it.
- *Kelley* – We could access coming from the north via Ashes Lake.
- *Steve Q* – Should we pull the TCP at Shelley Lane?
- *Roberta* – I would recommend yes but we need to figure out the new way in so more than one or two people know it.

11. Apr 24: GTRT: Herman Creek Trail Brushing and Tread Work: Frank and Pace

Report – Whoop, whoop, whoop!!! The Herman Creek Trail is done up to where it enters unburned forest! We did brushing and tread work on the Herman Creek Trail from 4.23 miles south of its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail to 4.66 miles south of its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail. Our original intent was to work on the Nick Eaton Way Trail, but the wind was too strong. We hiked to where the previous crew had finished their work and, having a strong crew, continued on in search of Cedar Swamp or the edge of the burned area, whichever came first. The edge of the burned area came first, approximately 1.5 miles north of Cedar Swamp. The edge is located 5.66 miles from the Herman Creek trailhead and 0.14 miles north of Whiskey Creek. We continued walking for another 20 minutes, coming to within about 1 mile of Cedar Swamp, and encountered nothing but forest primeval. There’s probably a slight possibility that the fire circled around and encroached on the trail further up than we hiked, but we didn’t have time to do additional scouting. We then turned around and walked back to the burned area where we started working. (Robert stayed in the unburned area with one volunteer and worked for 45 minutes or so to swamp out a large shattered tree so that hikers won’t have to create a user path around it.) Our primary work was brushing and swamping out large trees that had fallen across the trail, but we also removed some rocks from the trail and filled several stump holes. 14 additional logs were found across the trail (counting the one in the unburned area), making a total of 45 logs across the trail in the Hood River Ranger District section of the Herman Creek Trail. We can say with a fair degree of

certainty that the Herman Creek Trail is now passable from the trailhead all the way to Whatum Lake from the standpoint of brushing and tread work, minus any annual maintenance that needs to take place in the unburned area.

- *Frank* – We finished the work within 1 min of what I told myself was the turnaround time. We had a reporter/photographer with a Gorge magazine that is doing an article. We were very adamant about wearing sturdy boots and this was the longest hike of his life. 10-15 minutes in on the hike back the sole of his boot came off. We managed to tape and tie it back on. He was limping when we got back to the car. He said he was going to write the article in first person to highlight how hard the crews are.

12. Apr 24: Volunteer Fair: Tammy

13. Apr 25: GTRT: PCT slide and washout repair: Roberta and Terry

Report – Removed rocks from the rock slide near Pacific Crest Falls that we abandoned in January due to it being too active. It was still loose, but far easier to manage this time. We also did tread maintenance in the area totaling about 390 feet around Pacific Crest Falls. After lunch we walked to the washout site, which was very narrow, about 1 boot-width wide in spots. Widened it to full 3' width and made a good ford for horses and stepping stones upstream for people. We rehabed about 145 feet in this area. Plenty of tread work remains between these two sites but it's quite passable now.

- *Terry* – We did one slide but left the little debris field. Went over by the Pinnacles and cleared a hairpin turn that had fallen in. Made a beautiful turn in the trail. It was a beautiful day, there were a lot of flowers.

14. Apr 26: GTRT: Nick Eaton Way Brushing and Tread Work: Frank and Noelle

Report – We did brushing and tread work on the Nick Eaton Way Trail from its junction with the Ridge Cutoff Trail to its junction with the Deadwood Trail. In addition, we continued working up the Nick Eaton Trail beyond its junction with the Deadwood Trail for approximately 0.1 miles and down the Deadwood Trail for approximately 0.1 miles. The area we worked in today was very severely burned, with absolutely no hint of low growing vegetation ever having existed... the ground was completely bare with only small rocks and charred soil showing. The biggest project of the day was rebuilding a 0.25 mile section of trail that had disappeared. With no vegetation to hold things in place, a steep slope of small rocks (a bit bigger than pebbles) and soil migrated downhill, completely consuming the trail. A little further on, in a flatter area, the needle-cast was so thick we had to use a GPS to determine where the trail went. We dug this section of trail down to mineral soil so that it can now be followed. Approximately 0.1 miles above its junction with the Deadwood Trail, the Nick Eaton Trail disappeared... we couldn't determine where it was supposed to go, and since I had left my GPS in my pack down below we abandoned our effort to push higher. The Deadwood Trail is in horrible shape, more from neglect than from the fire. We worked downhill on it for about 0.1 miles and will work up from its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail on Sunday. Cleared 5 logs off the Nick Eaton Trail using hand saws. Two logs remain on the trail... 1 down near its junction with the Herman Creek Trail and one approximately 0.2 miles from its junction with the Deadwood Trail.

15. Apr 26: How to Lightweight Backpack: Tammy

16. Apr 27-29: Wind River Saw Certification

- *Leif* – It went great. 24 recerts and certs.
- *Steve Q* – With four groups (crosscut cert and recert and chainsaw cert and recert) I thought it was a logistical nightmare. It was a juggling act and you did an awesome job of it.

17. Apr 27: Scouting Sedum Ridge South: Tami

Report – I scouted Sedum Ridge South. This includes the section of trail between RD 2000 and RD 2070 and from RD 2070 to the Ridge. I hiked a total of 13.62-miles (6.81-miles out and back). I removed twelve logs by hand from across the trail. There are two logs remaining between 2000 and Snag Creek. There are no logs across the trail between 2070 and Sedum Ridge. I will remove the two remaining lower logs next weekend. The tread around the culvert that was put in two years ago by the Forest Service blasting crew has partially blown out. I will repair this tread when I remove the two logs. The last remaining culvert north of the Rock Creek Bridge has been completely clogged, once again, and is now completely exposed. This culvert needs to be removed/replaced. I will attempt to make this happen later in the season. I may need some technical advice on replacement options. There is a rockslide at the 1.5-mile mark between RD 2070 and Sedum Ridge, but it is passable for equestrians. While the rockslide is passable it should be addressed. This is an issue I will need more technical help to address. There is, once again, a clogged culvert on the switchbacks, at the 2-mile mark. I will attempt to unclog this drain later in the season. There is one area of concern at the 0.5-mile mark, a slowly washing out gully. The gully is navigable for equestrians, but barely. This is an issue I will need more technical help to address. The two trail signs north and south of Snag Creek have completely rotted off their posts. I believe a restoration effort should be made to preserve them, and soon before the end up "missing". This is out of my range of experience.

18. Apr 28: GTRT: Teakettle Springs (PCT) logout #2: Frank and Pace

Report – Crosscut logout. Cleared 12 logs on the Teakettle Springs section of the PCT (from 0.96 miles south of its junction with the Herman Bridge Trail to 1.81 miles south of its junction with the Herman Bridge Trail). Sawyers: Robert Caldwell, Roberta Cobb, Frank Jahn, Bri Leahy, Ben Mayberry. Six logs remain to be cleared on the PCT from 1.81 miles from its junction with the Herman Bridge Trail to approximately 2 miles from its junction with the Herman Bridge Trail. No other logouts are scheduled at this time.

- *Frank* – Roberta had some difficult logs; at least 2. That left 6 more up to the point of the PCT had been scouted.

19. Apr 28: Scouting Sedum Ridge North: Tami

Report – Today Pam, and I scouted Sedum Ridge North. We hiked a total of 8.5-miles (4.25-miles out and back). We cleared six logs from the 2-mile mark to Sedum Ridge. There are twelve remaining logs between the trailhead and the 2-mile mark that will need to be removed via chainsaw. There are also many logs left over from last years log out that need to be addressed/cleaned up that are beginning to intrude on the trail corridor. There is also one area that is questionably passable to equestrians at the 1-mile mark. During cleanup/logout efforts, I'll try to make this passable, for now. A longterm solution needs to be put in place, however. I will attempt to get the first of the needed logouts/cleanup started on the 13th of May. The ford at the .25-mile mark was somewhat more navigable, but it also needs to have a long-term solution put in place. My biggest concern with this section of Sedum Ridge is that it will probably see an increase in visitor traffic with so many of the trails in the Gorge being closed. Since it has paved access at the trailhead I believe it will be an appealing alternative for visitors. I have seen it suggested, online, as an alternative hiking option because of the closures. It is my plan to have my first post-logout work crew in this area. It is my hope to work on brushing and tread maintenance beginning at the bridge and working south.

20. Apr 29: GTRT: Deadwood Trail/Gorton Creek Trail Brushing and Tread Work: Frank and Terry

Report – Segment 1: Did brushing and tread work on the Deadwood Trail from its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail to 0.46 miles south of its junction with the Gorton Creek Trail (the point where the crew working in the opposite direction on Thursday stopped). The trail was in horrible shape, more from neglect than from the fire. Reconstructed approximately 300 feet of trail, did lots of brushing, cleared the tread of debris and needle-cast, and removed several logs from across the trail. It's entire length is now recognizable as a trail and is in better shape than it probably has been in decades. The Gorton Creek/Deadwood/Nick Eaton loop is now an outstanding option for hikers! One step-over log remains on the Deadwood Trail. Segment 2: Did a lot of brushing and a little tread work on the Gorton Creek Trail from Deadwood Camp to 0.40 miles west of Deadwood Camp. Cleared lots of branches and vine maple tangles from the trail and swamped out large trees that had fallen across the trail. Removed 4 logs from the trail using hand saws and leg and back muscles. Three logs remain across the trail in this section. There appears to be a lot more brushing to do further on.

- *Frank* – Now there are 2 loops in that area that are open. Finished up on Gorton beyond Deadwood to about 2600-2700 in elevation.
- *Terry* – Everything at Deadwood Camp is dead, there is water but the camp is very primitive.
- *Roberta* – I'm looking at it for a spike camp for an overnighiter.
- *Underbucker* – Ken Kollas is doing a survey of the roads this week. He'll let us know the conditions.

21. May 1: GTRT: Rock Crib near Moody: Roberta and Pace

Report – Built a sturdy 22 foot rock crib where a stump hole had left the trail about one foot wide. Also did full tread reconstruction on a 20 foot stretch of trail nearby (just to give volunteers something to do while waiting for other tasks). Also in attendance: Lily Palmer, Public Affairs Specialist, U.S. Forest Service Kirk Johnson, National Correspondent/Seattle Bureau Chief, The New York Times Ruth Fremson, Staff Photographer/ Seattle, Washington, The New York Times

22. May 4: Sandy River Trail drainage & tread: Pace

Report – We created two new drain dips and rehabbed the sections of trail just below the new drains by digging out rocks and filling in rutted areas with sand. We rebuilt a section of trail so that a sharp bend in the tread was eliminated. We also cleaned four drain dips, cleared one small log and improved the approach to the river crossing. This was a small crew new to trail work, but they learned quickly, worked hard and did great work.

- *Tim L* – How is the approach into the gully?
- *Pace* – We cleaned it up and it is accessible.

23. May 4-6: West Cascades Trail Skills College

24. May 5: Scouting Gillette Lake: Frank

Report – Scouted the entire length of the Gillette Lake section of the PCT - from the Bridge of the Gods trailhead to the top of the section at mile 2151.66 on Halfmile's app, primarily to get an idea of where brushing needs to occur. Not a lot of brushing needs to occur at this time, although grasses, ferns, and blackberries are coming back strong between Bridge of the Gods and Fort Rains. Further up the trail, primarily beyond Greenleaf Creek and again beyond

the Carpenter Lake junction, brushing will need to take place later this summer once the spring growth spurt ends and it becomes evident where most of the work will be need to be done. Brushing from Bridge of the Gods to Fort Rains will take place May 12th. Removed three small diameter logs from across the trail using hand saws... the entire section is now log-free. Assurance markers needed southbound at mile 2148.55 and northbound at mile 2148.04 according to Halfmile's app. Tread generally in good shape for the entire length of the section.

- *Frank* – I wanted to scout this before I left for the summer.
- *Kelley* – There is a section needs a lot of brushing.

25. May 5: CG2000 to Rock Creek and Sedum Ridge: Tami

Report – Cleared 10 "logs" total. 10 logs less than 10". Also cleaned duff and debris from 3 drains/culverts. Repaired tread appx 15ft because of a small slide and covered portion of an exposed culvert. Cleaned surface of Rock Creek Bridge. Improved water crossing at a small ford. Evaluated/scouted rock slide for a future project.

- *Tami* – I was out on the 4, 5, and 6 with Kim and Pam. We camped on the 2090 road. It is now a rock quarry. Kim and Pam logged out most of Three Corner Rock before I got there. On Saturday we got the rest of Three Corner Rock all logged out so it is cleared. We did a lot of drain and berm work on our way out. Then we did my work, the wash out from the dynamite is repaired. Rock Creek Bridge is scraped and clean. I have a drain that is clogged again. I'm going to rip out the culvert and make it an open drain. I actually found the Old Trail to the ridge. On Sunday we went to Sedum Ridge and hiked up and we sat and talked about the rock slide. It will be a lot of work below to move rocks so that the new rocks can be moved. My clogged drain, Kim and Pam jumped in the water and they got it open. We were done by noon. About 6 miles worth of trail work done.

26. May 5-6: Logout 3 Corner Rock North: Kim and Pam

Report – Cleared 30 "logs" total. 9 logs from trail 10-12" dia. 21 less than 6" dia. Also cleaned duff and debris from 35 small drain dips. Removed appx 30 ft of berm to facilitate drainage.

27. May 6: GTRT: Teakettle Springs brushing and tread work: Frank and Kelley

Report – Did brushing and tread work on the Teakettle Springs section of the PCT from 2.07 miles south of its junction with the Herman Bridge Trail to 4.24 miles south of its junction with the Herman Bridge Trail (just 0.16 miles shy of the Benson Way Trail junction). Would have worked up to the top of the section but the hour was late and the crew had been working very hard all day. Filled numerous stump holes, removed vine maple tangles and limbs from across the trail, removed needle-cast to define the trail in areas where it was hard to distinguish, and removed many small diameter logs from across the trail using hand saws. Except for the last quarter mile or so, the trail was generally in very good shape with only minimal work needed. No additional large diameter logs were found across the trail, so the only ones that need to be removed during a future logout are the 6 that were left after the last logout. Numerous small diameter logs remain across the trail in the last 0.16 miles before its junction with the Benson Way Trail, but all of these can be removed with hand saws or by rolling/pushing/pulling. As we neared the Benson Way Trail junction, the trail was more highly impacted by the fire than we had anticipated... lots of small logs across the trail and lots of needle-cast disguising the tread. Superhuman crew today... fast hikers and hard workers!

- *Frank* – It was the day of superhuman crew. 4000 feet elevation, 12 miles. We worked 2.17 miles of trail. If we had pushed harder we would have finished the entire section to Benson Way Junction. One more log out and the PCT will be logged out until the Benson Way Junction. We had the idea that the fire came to the edge of the top, but it was burned so I had the crew dig down at the turn to black dirt so the turn is evident.

28. May 6: Scouting Paradise Park Trail 778: Chris K

Report – Scouted the lower portion of Paradise Park Trail (from the TH to the 2017 blowdown section). There is a large tree down across the trail and part of the parking area near the TH. I trimmed it but it needs to be removed. Snow conditions were much better than I expected. Snow began at 3700' and was very spotty. Even at 4500' the snow wasn't solid and 3-4' deep at most. I cleared 9 logs < 5" and left 12 logs including 4 from last season (past the first bridge). All remaining logs are 6-10". There is an area 0.5 mi in that really needs to be brushed. My new drain dips above the view point held up well over the winter but need to be cleaned. I will schedule a crew for late May to clear the remaining logs and do brushing.

- *Chris K* – I got in 2 months earlier than last year. It was a very good day but the logs didn't disappear. It averages 40-60 logs down, this year there are 17 new logs. Some areas have small vine maples so that is easy work. One of the drain dips that was done 2 years ago and rebuilt last year is washed out. There are hardly any branches down. 3800 feet is where I saw the first snow. I made it to the pile and there were 4 more logs down.

29. May 7: GTRT: Gorton Creek Logout: Roberta and Pace

Report – We cleared 6 large logs off of Gorton Creek Trail. Left one hanging over the trail at a creek that we rigged but was unable to move it fully off the trail. Left one with one cut, needs a second cut. These two are close together. The first log past Ridge Cutoff was cleared, leaving two between Ridge Cutoff and Deadwood. One of those is broken so you can slip by, the other is an easy crawl-under. Lots of rigging work done. Rigging led by Robert Caldwell. Volunteer sawyers: Roberta and Robert. We worked with Dawn Stender and 6 of her trail crew.

30. May 8: Wahclella Falls Tread Work and Rock Removal

Report – Removed rock and did tread work on approximately 0.2 miles of the Wahclella Falls Trail. Cleared several rock slides from the trail, rebenched the trail where necessary, and rolled one very large log off the trail using the back and leg muscles of many of the crew members. The biggest project of the day was clearing a 30 foot long rock and mudslide from across the trail. The debris was up to 4 feet deep in places and much of it was saturated with water from a seep in the hillside above the trail. While some work remains to be done in this particular area (which will be done on Thursday), we cleared portions of the trail down to its original tread and removed most of the rock and mud from the other portions. Two embedded root wads in this area will need to be addressed before this section will be complete. Also constructed a temporary rock "stairway" at the beginning of the west branch of the loop trail which will help trail workers move back and forth, but that section needs more expertise than I have as the trail is completely blown out there. Probably the hardest work we've done in the burn area up to this point, but the crew was stellar and did outstanding work.

- *Frank* – Through the winter and spring I've had some amazing people on the crews, many of which had never done trail work before. They have turned into trail warriors. Some have been on 6 or 7 of my crews. The Forest Service has already done a lot of work up there. There was another rock slide by the falls itself. The trail is in good shape, except the junction. We had lunch at the falls. It was hot and we worked until 3. It is not charred in there. I was surprised, you can look up to the cliffs above the canyon and there are burned trees but sitting at the falls, you can't tell there has been a fire. They are trying to decide what to do with the upper loop, the bridge is gone. The lower section, they will be able to open that soon.

Future Events

Next meeting: June 13, 6:45, Clackamas REI

Allingham Trail Skills College: May 31 - Jun 3

Big Bend Trail Skills College: Jun 8-10

Reports

Columbia Cascades Regional Rep (Dana)

- No report.

North Cascades Regional Rep (Michael)

- No report.

Chair (Roberta)

- North Bonneville trailhead problems.
 - *Kelley* – We should connect with the Bonneville Trail group, they want to build a trail from town to connect with the trails around town.
- Need to better figure out and document (TCP, name?) the new locked road access.

Gorge Trails Recovery Team (Roberta)

- Awesome work! Other than logout, we've done all we can for getting the trails ready to open in day hikes and have covered all the trails assigned to us (32 miles)
- Requested we continue work on Herman Creek Trail in Mt Hood NF.
- Meeting with Dawn on Tuesday for further scheduling
- We'll help FOG lead crews for pulling invasives
- Job posting for paid Trail Crew Leader for mid-May through mid-August
- Volunteer Celebration at Thunder Island on Thursday May 10 starting at 5pm. Informal, no-host
 - *Roberta* – We basically finished everything we were assigned to do. That's why we are having a celebration. Our goal was to get it openable, there are still log outs to do. They are asking us to continue up Herman Creek and then we will start working on Wahtum Lake. Friends of the Gorge asked if we could lead some invasives removal. They don't have the crew leadership skills and they want us to help. In the past I've been the only one doing this. This will be the first half mile from trailheads. There is a job posting to take my place.
 - *Steve Q* – Do we know how TKO is doing?
 - *Roberta* – They are trucking along. They are going slower but they have a different philosophy.

Partnership Crews (Roberta)

- New Seasons Markets – Liz Potter
 - May: Tues May 15 with Frank Jahn and Susan and Roberta, Washington side of the Gorge (Bonneville TH). Brushing and tread, moderate hike. Maybe up to 6 mile hiking estimated.
 - June: University Park, June 28, with Hilary and assistant. Looking at something on the Washington side of the Gorge, location not confirmed yet.
 - June: Progress Ridge, June 14, with Busdriver John and Peter Hoffman. Location at Lolo Pass working southbound. Moderate hike, estimate ~ 6 miles round trip hiking. May be cross cut logout or tread work depending on what they find when scouting.
 - July: Tues July 17 with Robert Caldwell with assistant, Top Spur or Bald Mountain area. Tread work. Moderate hike, probably up to 7 miles round trip, spectacular views but with steep drop-offs.
 - Aug: Mon Aug 6 with Peter Hoffman and Roberta Cobb, Lolo Pass South, tread work. Moderate hike, perhaps up to 4 miles round trip. May start at Top Spur or Lolo Pass depending on what work needs to be done.
 - Sep: Sat Sep 15 or Sun Sep 16 with Ruth Weston and assistant TBD near Timberline. Liz/New Seasons choice on Saturday or Sunday; please let us know before mid-May. Tread work, moderate hiking, probably up to 4 miles. Good views. More details once we can see the ground.
 - Oct: Mon Oct 1 with Roberta and assistant TBD, location to be decided by end of June.
- PDX Metro Pack Walks - George Purvis george@georgenpurvis.com
 - May 6 with Frank – they cancelled and want to reschedule for easier work day
- Danner Boots – Marina Baker <mbaker@lacrossefootwear.com>
 - Tues May 29 with Kelley Davis and Bill Canavan
 - Sat June 9, with Robert Caldwell and Chris Keil
- Duluth Trading Company, Bill Coddington
 - 4/17/18 – sent two people along with regular GTRT crew, Frank led
 - 4/25/18 – they cancelled. We converted it to a regular volunteer crew

Volunteer Coordinator (Rosemary)

- *Rosemary* – I'm getting ready to send out next email for the May crews. Just waiting on info.
- *Chris K* – I need to schedule something in May.
- *Rosemary* – Roberta, Pace, and I met before the meeting tonight and talked about what the process looks like going forward and what info I need. I will send out an email that includes that. I am hoping as we are getting towards the summer to send out emails the 1st and the 15th of the month.
- *Frank* – I found out something interesting from the crews, They've learned how to work the system. When you send something into Eventbrite, it gets posted on the site before the email gets out.
- *Roberta* – We will write up a template and get that out to everyone to make it easier. The sawyer list you will have to recruit them yourself before you send the request to Rosemary. There will be two email: cross cut and chainsaw. You recruit the sawyers you need, then pre-register them for Rosemary and she will recruit for the rest of the crew.
- *Steve Q* – Is anyone getting duplicate emails? I'm talking about the exact same email sent twice. (Many hands raised.) I'm going to look into that.

Trail Skills College (Tammy)

- *Tammy* – TSC went well. We did really well on the raffle. If we raised \$121 more, we would have paid for all the food and incidentals so that worked out really well.

Outreach and Events (Tammy)

- *Tammy* – The 24th was a volunteer recruitment at some software company and then there was a fundraiser, I don't know how it did. They ran a little fundraiser for us and Noelle was our person there. This Saturday is part of Danner Boots going out on crews, they want to do a big day at all their stores, having a big volunteer recruitment. If people that can prove they went out on trails, they will give them a discount on a pair of boots. Terry and Heyman are doing the Airport Way store, Annette and John will be at Tanasbourne, Mike and I are doing downtown. When I did it a couple of years ago at Christmas we got a lot of people. They will have a beverage and food vendor as well. Get Outdoors Day is June 9. Something that should be on the calendar.
- *Frank* – Do you know the date for the picnic at the end of the season?
- *Tammy* – No.
- *Ron* – Need any people for Get Outdoors Day? Katie will be there.
- *Terry* – I will go if Ron goes.

- *Tammy* – Little Brown went last year as our lead person; the Forest Service is very excited and have figured out how to get us 3 logs. I also have an extra calendar if someone wants it.

Training and Safety (Dana)

- No report.

Saw Program (Leif)

- *Leif* – The saw program is now winding down for the season. A couple of people are going to Big Bend. I'm going to North Bend. After those 2 events, that's it until next year.
- *Leif* – May 19th, 8am to noon is tool sharpening at Roberta's. We are not going to do the full paint jobs. We have a lot of tools that have been used hard. We are going to do the PDX cache and then move on to Stevenson.
- *Tami* – What's the status of Wind River cache?
- *Leif* – It is now in Stevenson.
- *Tami* – I have the Katana, loppers and a McLeod from Wind River.
- *Steve Q* – All the tools will be mixed in together and will have different colored handles.

Tools (Leif)

- Radio change, most should be updated now. Terry assisting Kim
 - *Leif* – Kim was programming them. I tried it during TSC.
 - *Chris K* – He needs to check mine too.
 - *Roberta* – Did you meet with Kim to learn about programming?
 - *Terry* – Yes, but i think he still wants to do it.

Budget (Little Brown)

- No report.

Crew Leader Development (Pace and Little Brown)

- *Pace* – Putting together a paperwork section.

Stats (Pace)

Mount Hood Chapter Stats - April 2018						
	April 2018	April 2017	April 2016	YTD April 2018	YTD April 2017	YTD April 2016
Total Volunteer Hours	1,901	1,389	1,673	7,024	3,229	4,623
Specialized hours	359	245	426	1,120	478	957
Number of Trail Crews	14	5	14	42	16	35
Miles Logged out	4	7	31	11	21	60
Miles Maintained	7	3	4	28	19	14
Feet of Rehab/Recon	7,635	150	2,770	21,667	1,000	4,900
Volunteer hours by Category						
Trail Maint - crews & scouting	1,675	534	753	4,337	1,413	2,194
Trail Maint - support	222	416	421	1,147	1,244	1,637
Trail Skills Training	5	439	500	1,430	475	766
Outreach Events	0	0	0	110	97	27
	1,901	1,389	1,673	7,024	3,229	4,623
Included: 12 projects for April, reported but not processed by Sacramento						
Not included (not processed by Sacramento):						
4/20-22 Trail Skills College						
4/27-29 Wind River Saw Certs						
Missing Reports:						
3/9 400 Trail logout, David						
3/10 Intro to Trail Logout, David						
4/14 Gorton Log out Rnd 3, David						
4/20 Gorton Logout Rnd 4, David						
4/24 Outreach, Vernier						
4/26 Outreach, Next Adventure						

Discussion Items

Announcements/Reminders

- If you are logging onto the PCTA website to enter a Project Report for your activities on GTRT projects, select the "[Report on or view existing Projects](#)" before you pick "Create a new project". Scroll down the listing by date to find if your project is already listed, then select [submit report](#) under [Choose Action](#).
- **7 Vacancies:** 1) Three Corner Rock North (fostered by Tami); 2) Table Mountain (will be vacant end of field season); 3) Pinhead Buttes; 4) Lower Eagle Creek; 5) Middle Eagle Creek; 6) Upper Eagle Creek; 7) Indian Springs Trail 435
- **2 Reservations:** 1) Steamboat Lake (reserved for Lamar Fontaine); 2) Indian Heaven South (reserved for Thomas Calvary)
- **Columbia Dispatch:** Dispatch 7 days a week, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm. Remember to submit a TCP to your agency partner, your dispatcher or alternate dispatcher, Dana, and Roberta.

Round the Room

- *Becky (email read by SteveQ)* – In Grants Pass for RTP training and field trip. Nothing new to report, except I may be asking for a bigger budget for food for the PCT trail clearing in July at Triangle. Oregon Timber Trail will be there working on their trails in the area and may have enough extra folks to help us with the PCT. I would like to feed them if

they help. They are not bringing their bikes on the PCT!!! I think it would be a good partnership. Will know more in June.

- *Frank* – I have 2 more crews: one tomorrow and a New Seasons Market crew next Tuesday. Next Saturday I leave for Glacier for the summer.
- *Tami* – Things are going good. Dave and I are doing a log out on Sunday. I have some ideas for 2-4 crews this summer. It's nice to be back out there, it's kind of like being home.
- *Rosemary* – I was playing in Zion for 4 days. Hiked over 40 miles, ran a marathon. We had just moved into our first house and there was a small fire on our deck. The fireman cut a big hole on our deck.
- *Thomas* – I had a great time at TSC and a great time at sew certification.
- *Tammy* – I moved a friend from Maine to North Carolina. She does not drive on freeways so we drove every back road from Maine to North Carolina. It was a 2 and a half day trip. She drove her car and I drove the U-Haul. 9 hours every day and we had fun with walkie talkies. I went to a really cool Women's conference in DC and I got there early. I spent all day on Wednesday, from when they opened until they closed, in the African American Museum of Culture and I didn't see it all. I spent Friday and Saturday with women talking about how to make the world better for women and girls.
- *Tim L* – Looking forward to a 6 day trip in Timothy Lake. We have the Columbia Gorge BCHO packing gravel. It will be a big group effort with the Backcountry Horsemen.
- *Busdriver John* – My son-in-law just bought an RV. It was kind of cool not camping on the ground. I had a great time. I hope to scout the next couple of weeks
- *Peter Hoffman* – I'm trying to get up and scout. I have a NSM crew coming up.
- *Diana Kelso* – Looking forward to getting on the trails.
- *Terry* – I worked at the Multnomah Falls Visitor Center. Based on a conversation with a USFS employee, Tish Creek Bridge is perfect. It didn't show any heat damage. There is another bridge identical to the Tish Creek Bridge, all of the wood is burnt off but the metal may be okay. They won't know until they test it. 6 of 36 bridges were demolished by the fire.
- *Steve P* – Do we know there is no snow at Timothy Lake?
 - *Tim L* – I don't know. The roads are open
 - *Steve P* – I'm going to try and scout soon. We still do the TCP even if we don't go.
 - *Roberta* – Yeah. You file it but you don't have to use Columbia Dispatch.
- *Leif* – There are new wedges at the PDX cache. The old crosscut wedges were hammered. We'll keep the pristine ones for crosscut and when they get hammered down we'll use them for chainsaw. We are still dispersing everything from TSC.
- *Ron* – The restitution for the kid is the middle of this month. It will be interesting to see what they do. The pika training is on June 16. They are putting a lot of people out to see if we can hear or see the pika. If you see or hear one, let people know. The Forest Service is coming up with a policy about drones, you can't take off from certain sites. One thing at Multnomah Falls, people are throwing coins in the creek. One of our new seasonal rangers like to go out in his wetsuit and has seen some eel spawning; we've got someone that is willing to go out and go in the water. Right now people want to go hiking so I send people to Beacon Rock. There are about 5000 chinooks per day right now.
- *Chris K* – Wilderness Steward training is sat and our season starts on the 15th. We get to go out and yell at people about trash. Rachel and Mark told me that they are getting two seasonal ranger interns. That's exciting. I found out I might get to work in Phoenix for two weeks at the end of the month.
- *Underbucker* – Thanks for the chunk of wood guys. Is Roberta naming all of big trees now?
 - *Roberta* – I named the one hanging over Gorton Creek Trail as the Stubborn Donkey
 - *Underbucker* – I'm scouting Frog Lake so we can get in and get that done before Memorial Day. I want to get into Wahtum Lake to survey. I also want to finish Herman Creek north. It will be short notice, but I will let Roberta and Dana know as soon as we can get in there.
 - *Underbucker* – A CalFire accident report was distributed by the PCTA. It is a good reminder that before you crosscut in the burn area, identify and address dangerous spring poles; we often have untrained people doing limbing. The spring pole in the report was cut during the limbing process. Make sure you clear the area of potential spring poles before you turn people loose. The reason we establish alternate leaders and communication is because in this case it was the crew leader that was unconscious. Make sure they know how to use the radios.
- *Pace* – After my crew last week, I drove to Lolo Pass. It is snow free. I got within a mile of the Top Spur turn off. I'm going to try to drive up on Friday.
- *Kelley* – I'll be on Orcas Island this weekend for a half marathon. I was on the PCT yesterday and I saw a pika run across the trail. I called to them and there were about 20 of them so i had a conversation with them.
- *Roberta* – I'm going to Ashland to see some plays, I'll be gone this weekend.
- *Steve Q* – I got a call from my daughter while I was driving, she's moving to San Jose. This is the big move away so I was a little sad. I am now a certified sawyer again.

- *Tammy* – We were over donated bread for TSC. If you have a crew and want to make them toast or offer them bread, please talk to Roberta or me. Our freezers are filled.