

# Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Agenda

June 12, 2019, 6:45 pm

Location: Clackamas REI

Attended: Bob Arkes, Robert Caldwell, Thomas Calvery, Bill Canavan, Roberta Cobb, Kelley Davis, Ron Goodwin, Terry Hill, Peter Hoffman, Leif Hovin, Chris Keil, Diane Kelso, Kim Kovacs, Susan McDonnell, Sue Melone, Steve Plant, Rosemary Prescott, Steve Queen, Hilary Renshaw, David Roe, Tamara Sheets, Brooke Stevinson, Susan Tracy, Ruth Weston, Michele Wier, Becky Wolf, Dan Dahlke

Notes: Kim Kovacs

## Welcome

- **Absent:** Tim Lagasse (hay pickup)
- **Welcome:** None (Ron said that Robin Rose would show up to hand out awards from the annual celebration but she was a no show)
- **Announcements:** None

## Round the Room

- Leif Hovin
  - Scouted his section. It has four easy logs in 3 miles.
- Roberta Cobb
  - Had an Eagle Creek meeting with the Hood River and Gorge people. She met the crews scheduled for Eagle Creek.
  - She's moving a week from tomorrow, using "Leif and Friends" moving company. He'll drop the trailer at her place on Thursday and load up on Friday (assuming she closes).
  - She's scheduled to be on KGW on Thursday, on a segment by Pat Doris called "Those Who Serve" – a feel-good piece about volunteering. She was with them for an hour and a half.
- Tami Keller-Sheets
  - She & Little Brown are going to do a logout on her section. There's a slide at the three mile mark they'll work on in July. The logout will be in a week and a half.
- Susan McDonnell
  - Played in the Muddy Fork with Pace two times.
  - Worked Eagle Creek with Sue Malone co-leading. It looks better than it has in years, and it's done. Will be beginning projects in the middle section, starting from Wahtum Lake.
- Chris Keil
  - Scouting with Roberta, Omar and Mika (Friends of the Gorge) on Thursday.
  - He got to Timberline on Sunday and scouted half of Ruth's section. He met a thru hiker who said there are 7-8 logs down on the section from the Sandy River to Timberline. He said there is a lot of snow on the trail, and the Paradise Park section is downright dangerous.
- Kelley Davis
  - Ticks are extremely prevalent in the Gorge now. On her scout they saw 5-6, two of which were deeply embedded.
- Steve Plant
  - Scouted the lower southern half of his section. There are 37 logs down. He'll go with Little Brown on Sunday to take them out. He considers that a low number, especially since they're small, and he believes they should be able to get them all out.
- Sue Melone
  - Got two shots at being a crew leader with Susan at Eagle Creek. She had a few logs but her section is logged out. She will put together a team to do tread and drainage.
  - She contacted Dana about a fissure in her section with no clear way to go around. It dropped about 6" in the course of one week. It's halfway between roads 2000 and 2090. She's planning more scouting on the 30th.
- Bill Canavan
  - Logged out his section in the middle of May. Other than that, he's been working on other peoples' projects.

- He participated in Get Outdoors Day; this is his 5th year and it's expanding.
  - He needs to fix a spring on his section, middle of July.
- Bob Arkes
  - Logout on Saturday on his section. Dean says the snow is patchy.
- Peter Hoffman
  - Scouted first half of his section at Lolo Pass, but hit snow. There are no logs in the first half, and it's in very good condition. It just needs a little brushing and tread work.
- Dan Dahlke
  - Logged out Timothy Lake sections and other sections around the lake including the bike trail. He was stopped by snow north of the Pinheads.
  - Tim Lagasse pushed down last week to Limiti, and also logged out Eagle Creek Trail 501 (the other Eagle Creek, near Estacada).
  - Dan took a stock animal to Get Outdoors Day. The kids were very excited. It was a good time and the horse handled it well.
- Terry Hill
  - Working on the PDX tool cache move. (Roberta said he's doing a nice job laying it out.)
- Susan Tracy
  - Worked with Susan at Eagle Creek on Sunday. She scouted from Wahtum to Camp Smokey; there's lots of bark down.
  - She's now an ACL and is going out with Susan on the 30th.
- Ron Goodwin
  - The SNOTEL at Timberline, on the south slope, is showing 0" snow.
  - His wife got a tick at Leach botanical gardens in Portland – ticks are showing up places they've never been before; this is getting weird.
  - Tom Wiemann is taking over his section. They'll scout together next week. He thinks Tom will do well – he's a smart, logical person.
- Becky Wolf
  - Moved her logout that was scheduled for 6/22 to the week after the 4th due to snowpack. The road finally got plowed.
  - Tim said Little Crater Lake to one mile south of Lemiti was a light logout year.
- Pace
  - Had one crew at Ramona Falls, and took out one log across two trails (Ramona and Timberline).
  - He cleared six logs on Muddy Fork with another crew.
  - He's had seven crews on the Upper Muddy Fork; seven logs and active slides there. He cleared those out, rebenched, cleared brush. Susan was on two of his crews.
  - He had an incident with a volunteer with a potential injury, who was taking a photo and slipped, hurting his shoulder. Susan hiked him out. He had a lump on his shoulder but the doctor said it was just bruised.
  - Last Friday on the Muddy Fork they had rain, snow and hail; yesterday, record heat.
  - He was on the Timothy crew with Bill and Roberta, and Trail 400 with the Forest Service.
  - Last week he was out with David at Lower Twin Lake for the workshop.
- Brooke Stevinson
  - Is working on organizing the Potato Patch trips. She's struggling with finding a camp tender. She needs someone from Thursday evening, 7/25, to Sunday morning, 7/28. She needs to get the kitchen equipment. Michelle said that at Get Outdoors Day at least three people expressed interest in being a camp tender.
- Hilary Renshaw
  - Will be working on Benson Plateau on Sunday accessing from Wahtum Lake. She's looking for a shuttle from Herman Creek, if anyone's available.
  - She's got two overnight trips planned for this summer.
- Thomas
  - On June 10 he removed 16 logs on Birkenfeld section. There are two bad areas where the trail vanishes and a third that's not as bad but still needs work. There's one spot in the middle where it crosses the road that would make a good campsite. The road has been improved with gravel – which is 4"-6" rock. He'll probably plan an overnight, there's a good 7 days of work.
  - Indian Heaven South – a logout is planned 7/6-7/7.
- David
  - On May 18 went in with Tami and logged out the south section of Twin Lakes. There was some snow but not enough to stop them.

- On June 4, he, Robert, Dana and Beth Boyce from Sacramento were at the Twin Lakes workshop held by folks from Virginia Tech. David really hadn't expected that kind of affair, but it got a lot of interest, primarily because the methods they're proposing are controversial on the West Coast. They're talking about "side hill camping" – creating sites where none exist. It's been tested successfully on the Appalachian Trail with several hundred sites. The technique is now well-established, but they're still working on the political side. Twin Lakes is good for a pilot – it's not on the PCT and not in Wilderness. Purists "hated it until they loved it." The idea is to increase impact on less sensitive areas to decrease impact on the more sensitive areas. The folks presenting the idea had PhD's in Recreational Ecology. Nothing will happen this year for sure, but when it does, it'll be at Lower Twin Lake; Upper Twin will serve as a control.
- On July 22 David plans to hold a logout in the wilderness section of Twin Lakes. The snow's melting. He'll want two crosscut teams and one tread crew. He wants to do it all in one project – get in, get out. Sue and Tami will help.
- Tom Lagasse (via email)
  - TRBCHO section from Rd 42 to Little Crater Lake has logout complete. As part of the mid May work party we also logged out the Miller Trail, North Lake Trail, South Lake Trail, Head Waters Trail, and the PCT Bicycle Bypass Trail on the east side of the Lake. Log count on all trails around the lake was 54 logs (pretty light year), although one fell between when we went through the previous day and when the PCTA crew arrived between North Arm CG and North Arm creek..
  - We completed logout on the Rd 42 to Warm Springs River section in mid May. Log count roughly 120
  - We logged out from the Warm Springs River to the north side of the North Pinhead in mid May, and we were stopped by excessive snow in the trail. Log count roughly 50
  - June 9th, a small group of us went up and logged out from where we left off in May on the north side of the North Pinhead to south of the Lemiti pine and up into the fir a little ways. Log count 54 with 50 of those in Lemiti area.
  - So, PCT is logged out from Little Crater Lake on the north end to about 1/2 mile south of Lemiti.

## Reports

### Columbia Cascades Regional Rep (Dana via email)

- If you've been to our agency coordination meetings in the fall, you've seen the "Future Projects List" I've been maintaining for years. It's a list of deferred maintenance and reconstruction projects. In other words, work needed to bring the trail fully up to standard, beyond the typical annual maintenance you guys so fabulously perform. We go over this list each fall in order to strategize on priorities and how to tackle them. Sometimes we decide to assign a Skyline crew or a youth crew to an area, when those resources are available. Sometimes we decide certain projects make good possibilities for partnership crews. In the past, I've emailed this list to folks after updating it during the fall coordination meeting. From now on, I'll be keeping it on the cloud so you can access it any time (<https://pcta.box.com/s/ee6w3qxasezxbwj55weqmxz0kfyhcg>). Please take a look, and send me updates or questions. Together I'm hoping we can strategize on how to cross more items off of this list.
- We've got campsite evaluation volunteers doing long sections of the trail this summer and covering almost the whole PCT. They are focused primarily on sites listed in Halfmile and Guthook, and finding out which ones are particularly bad in terms of LNT. Please let me know if you have concerns about particular campsites in your area, especially if they are listed in the apps.
- Allingham was great. Big turnout.
- The campsite sustainability workshop with Jeff Marion was great. Pace and Underbucker were both there, so they will likely provide updates.
- Summer is here; you guys are rockin it out there. Thanks for all the great work. Stay safe.

### North Cascades Regional Rep (Michael)

- No report. Michael is getting married.

### Chair (Leif)

- Leif is working through some challenges related to the tool cache. He needs to get clarification/ground rules from Jean. The lock box has been moved from Roberta's. He's also working out issues with fuel storage, and currently has all the fuel. If you need fuel in the next week or two, inform Leif. Call him if you need the kitchen gear as

well. Sounds like Thomas will need it 7/6-7/7, Brooke the end of July and Hilary 7/17-7/18. Susan won't need it as she's supported by BCH.

### **Partnership Crews (Leif)**

- Justin has replaced Liz at New Seasons as the Community Coordinator. He'd like to do four crews this year; something like drainage is a good choice. Definitely nothing in the burn area. Maybe Timberline. Chris thinks maybe something in September. Weekends should be fine.

### **Leadership Committee Meeting (Steve)**

- PDX tool cache update
  - Tools have been moved from Roberta's garage to Jean's garage west of Rocky Butte.
  - Sacramento wants to move away from storing tools at private residences.
- Terry taking over Gorge Trail 400 for Carol.
- When scouting, the size of the log should be the diameter, not circumference. A 24" log is 24" in diameter.

### **Gorge Trails Recovery Team (Roberta)**

- The Forest Service agreed to let us work on Herman Creek Trail. They've got two seasonal crew leads: green and black, who are responsible for non-burn and burn areas, respectively. The north side of Mt. Hood has LOTS of logs down, and the green guy was happy to be able to focus on that instead.

### **Volunteer Coordinator (Rosemary)**

- Seven events are on Eventbrite with seven more to post. She'll be out of town starting Friday for 10 days. Not sure who her backup is. Roberta said she'd back her up, just needs to be sure she has the right password. Steve said he'd help as well.

### **Trail Skills College (Tammy)**

- Leif: A wrap-up meeting is being scheduled. TKO had their tread school at Hunchback, Green Canyon Way and Pioneer Bridle Trail

### **Outreach and Events (Michele, Tammy)**

- 10 people helped with Get Outdoors Day. They had lots of visitors: 140-150 people.
- PCT Days are coming up August 16-17. She needs 10 people for every shift – membership, crosscut demo, trail info, sell raffle tickets, etc. She sent an email out to those who participated last year to give them "first right of refusal" and then will contact others.
- She'll be hiking, and therefore out of reach for 10 days. She hopes to have saw teams 9 – 6 on Saturday, but she'll see who signs up. There are no staffing needs on Sunday.

### **Tools (Terry)**

- Started sharpening tools on 5/16; they made a big dent but aren't done. All are welcome to come to Trout Lake on 6/4 to continue the process.
- Leif said we need to do an inventory on chaps; they're missing long chaps. It was suggested he look in the cooler at Walking Man, but someone else said those are short ones only. They've been missing the large and XL chaps since Wind River. They're also missing the aux handles at Walking Man.

### **Training and Safety (Dana)**

- No report.

### **Saw Program (Leif)**

- On the 17th we hiked in to Panther creek, removed 9 logs and recertified two people. They left a root wad on the trail they couldn't clear.
- He also helped out the North 360 Blades
- Went south to work with the Rockers certification program there as well.
- The saw program is gaining momentum, and they're getting more agency folks involved.

## Budget (Little Brown)

- We have \$1923 remaining in our budget for the calendar year. We spent \$687, mostly on the advanced skills training.

## Crew Leader Development (Pace and Little Brown)

- Process is being set up so when people come on-board the transition is smoother.
- Susan Tracy is new ACL.

## Stats (Pace)

- Compared to 2017, we had one more crew and slightly more on-trail hours, but less total hours. We are missing the report for the Tim's TRBCHO Warm Springs logout crew 5/17-22. That would add hours and logs cleared.

	May 2019	May 2018	May 2017	YTD May 2019	YTD May 2018	YTD May 2017
Total Volunteer Hours	1,570	2430	1,785	7,046	13,474	7,762
Specialized hours	322	348	501	1,425	2,270	979
Number of Trail Crews	17	23	16	33	68	32
Miles Logged out	38	42	20	53	56	41
Logs cleared, crosscut	64			85		
Logs cleared, chainsaw	87			106		
Miles Maintained	6	175	3	24	50	27
Feet of Rehab/Recon	1,720	3702	590	7,592	29,054	2,567
Volunteer hours by Category						
Trail Maint - crews & scouting	1,334	2060	1,310	2,811	6,542	2,722
Trail Maint - support	236	324	318	1,188	1,649	1,562
Trail Skills Training	0	17	158	3,003	5,129	3,381
Outreach Events	0	29	0	44	155	97
	<u>1,570</u>	<u>2,430</u>	<u>1,785</u>	<u>7,046</u>	<u>13,474</u>	<u>7,762</u>

## Wrap Up

- Ron reported there are three new rangers at Multnomah Falls. They're energetic, like people, and they're getting out. He also spoke about observing a high census of shad at Bonneville and are on track for a record year. The chinook aren't doing as well, just 2/3 of the numbers they had last year, which was a low year. Their numbers are one million short of what they were four years ago. There's a good return of steelhead up the Willamette.
- Ron also said they ran into a woman who'd just gotten back from hiking the PCT. She said there is a lot of snow in the High Sierras and the rivers are raging. It's still snowing down there. This person has friends who decided to stop hiking north through California and went to Canada to hike it south. There are a lot of people doing it that way this year.
- Roberta has two radios that need to be reprogrammed. They're still on GP Work. Bob will see Kim Owen and will give them to him.
- Roberta has two Northwest Forest Passes she's leaving in the tool cache. They're expired, but she's been writing "PCT Work Party" on them and using them for volunteers anyway, and hasn't had a problem.
- Pace had a crew scheduled for Friday but had to cancel. Let him know if anyone wants to go out for a short day on Friday.

## Past Events

This is a brief accounting of projects that occurred since the previous caretaker meeting. For a full(er) accounting of projects, visit <http://mthood.longtrails.com/projectreports/project-reports-2019.pdf>.

### Trail Work and Scouting

1. **May 10:** Ramona Falls Trail logout and drainage: Robert Caldwell  
*Ramona Falls Trail at junction with Timberline Trail to Ramona Falls Trail at junction with PCT*
2. **May 11:** Birkenfeld Mountain - Scouting: Thomas Calvery  
*Road CG2020, 9.8 miles north of the Columbia River, N 45° 42' 5.53" W 121° 59' 57.29" to Three Corner Rock Trail, 14.7 miles north of the Columbia River, N 45° 44' 10.58" W 122° 2' 35.26"*
3. **May 11:** Wind River logout completion: Kim Owen  
*Trout Creek TH to Panther Creek CG*
4. **May 14:** Upper Muddy Fork brushing & drainage: Robert Caldwell  
*Timberline Trail at Ramona Falls to Timberline Trail at junction with Yocum Ridge Trail*
5. **May 15:** Lower Eagle Creek treadwork: Susan McDonnell & Sue Melone  
*Fern Creek bridge to High Bridge*
6. **May 16:** Logout Big Huckleberry: William Canavan  
*Logout from Crest Horse Camp to Trail south to Rd 68*
7. **May 17:** Upper Muddy Fork logout & treadwork: Robert Caldwell  
*Timberline Trail at jct. with PCT near Top Spur to Timberline Trail near Muddy Fork River crossing*
8. **May 17:** Panther Creek Crosscut Logout: Leif Hovin  
*PCT TR2000 FS68 to PCT TR2000 FS65*
9. **May 18:** Twin Lake Chainsaw Logout: David Roe  
*Frog Lake TH to On PCT: intersection of PCT and Lower Twin Lakes Trail (wilderness boundary) On Twin Lakes Trail (PCT alternate): to wilderness boundary north of Upper Twin Lake*
10. **May 19-21:** Timothy Lake PGE Crew: William Canavan/Roberta Cobb  
*Timothy Lake North Arm Campground Trail Head to mile trail south on PCT from Timothy Lake trail / PCT junction*
11. **May 24:** Upper Muddy Fork tread & drainage: Robert Caldwell  
*Timberline Trail 0.4 miles south of Muddy Fork River crossing to Timberline trail 1.4 miles south of MF River crossing*
12. **May 28:** Upper Muddy Fork rigging & treadwork: Robert Caldwell  
*Timberline Trail 600, 1.2 miles south of jct. with PCT near Top Spur to Timberline Trail 1.3 miles south of jct.*
13. **May 28:** Grand Meadow Logout: Emily Owen  
*PCT from Rd 23 SB to GPNF Rd 88 and PCT*
14. **May 31:** Muddy Fork logout: Robert Caldwell  
*PCT, Muddy Fork section at Top Spur Trail to PCT 1.1 mile south of Top Spur Trail*
15. **June 3:** Upper Muddy Fork brushing & logout: Robert Caldwell & Susan McDonnell  
*Timberline Trail 600, 2.5 miles south of jct. with PCT near Top Spur to Timberline Trail, 2.8 miles south of jct.*
16. **June 4:** Wahclella Scouting: Susan McDonnell  
*Wahclella trail, entire loop*
17. **June 7:** Upper Muddy Fork tread & drainage: Robert Caldwell  
*Timberline Trail 600, 0.6 miles south of jct. with PCT near Top Spur to Timberline Trail 1.5 miles south of jct*
18. **June 9:** Lower Eagle Creek Trail: Clearing Rock & Improving Tread: Susan McDonnell & Sue Melone  
*Fern Creek to High Bridge*
19. **June 10:** Birkenfeld Mountain - Logout: Thomas Calvery  
*Three Corner Rock Trail, N 45° 44' 10.58" W 122° 2' 35.26" to Road CG2020, N 45° 42' 5.53" W 121° 59' 57.29"*

### Other Events

1. **May 16:** Trout Lake Tool Day: Terry
2. **June 8:** National Get Outdoors Day: Michele

### Future Events

1. **July 10:** Caretaker Meeting at REI
2. **July 5-11:** Skyline Volunteer Vacation – Summit Butte
3. **July 19-25:** Skyline Volunteer Vacation – Mt Washington

4. **August 2-8:** Skyline Volunteer Vacation – Jeff Park 1
5. **August 8-15:** Skyline Volunteer Vacation – Jeff Park 1.5
6. **August 16-22:** Skyline Volunteer Vacation – Jeff Park 2
7. **August 30-September 4:** Sasquatch Volunteer Vacation – Hidden Spring in Goat Rocks Wilderness
8. **September 13-19:** Sasquatch Volunteer Vacation – Goat Rocks Fire Restoration

## Notes

- **9 Vacancies:** 1) Potato Hill; 2) Grand Meadows; 3) Steamboat Lake; 4) Twin Buttes; 5) Birkenfeld Mountain; 6) Table Mountain; 7) Lower Eagle Creek; 8) Upper Eagle Creek; 9) Indian Springs Trail 435
- **2 Reservations:** 1) Three Corner Rock North (Sue Malone); 2) Middle Eagle Creek (Susan McDonnell)
- **Columbia Dispatch:** Dispatch 7:30 am to 6:00 pm, seven days a week, beginning May 25, 2019, [waccc@firenet.gov](mailto:waccc@firenet.gov), 360-891-5140. Remember to submit a TCP to your agency partner, your dispatcher or alternate dispatcher, Dana, and Leif.