

Crosscut Extravaganza!!

May 31 - June 3, 2024



Overview

Every year, this is our second work party of the summer season and starts where the first chainsaw project ended at the wilderness boundary in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

About the area

The work will be centered around the Black Pine Horse Camp, 19 miles west of Leavenworth, WA in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.

What to Expect

Gravel road leading to camp may be a bit rough but usually navigable for passenger cars. Prepare to camp in a Forest Service campground with limited services. Potable water source at camp is not dependable. Bring your own water supply. You can camp in a tent, RV, or trailer for this event. We will be returning to Black Pine Horse camp every night. Pit toilets are available as well as garbage dumpster.

Trails are usually snow-free up to this level by this time. The weather is usually mild but chilly at night. Mountain weather can be unpredictable, however.

Project Description

This is the second project of the season in this area and will involve clearing trails of logs and debris using only hand tools, as far as time and snow conditions allow. We will begin at the wilderness boundary where the previous work project ended. We will concentrate on three specific trails; Jack Creek, Trout Trail and Icicle Creek Trail, if time allows.

All teams will return to camp at the end of the day.

Trails to be cleared will be:

1. Jack Creek Trail #1558 from the wilderness boundary to as far as snow pack and time allow.
2. Trout Trail #1555 from the Jack Creek trail intersection as far as possible.
3. Icicle Creek Trail #1551 from the wilderness boundary to the French Creek crossing. Water is usually too high to safely cross creek at this time. The bridge is still out. Access will require driving across Black Pine creek which has water flowing.

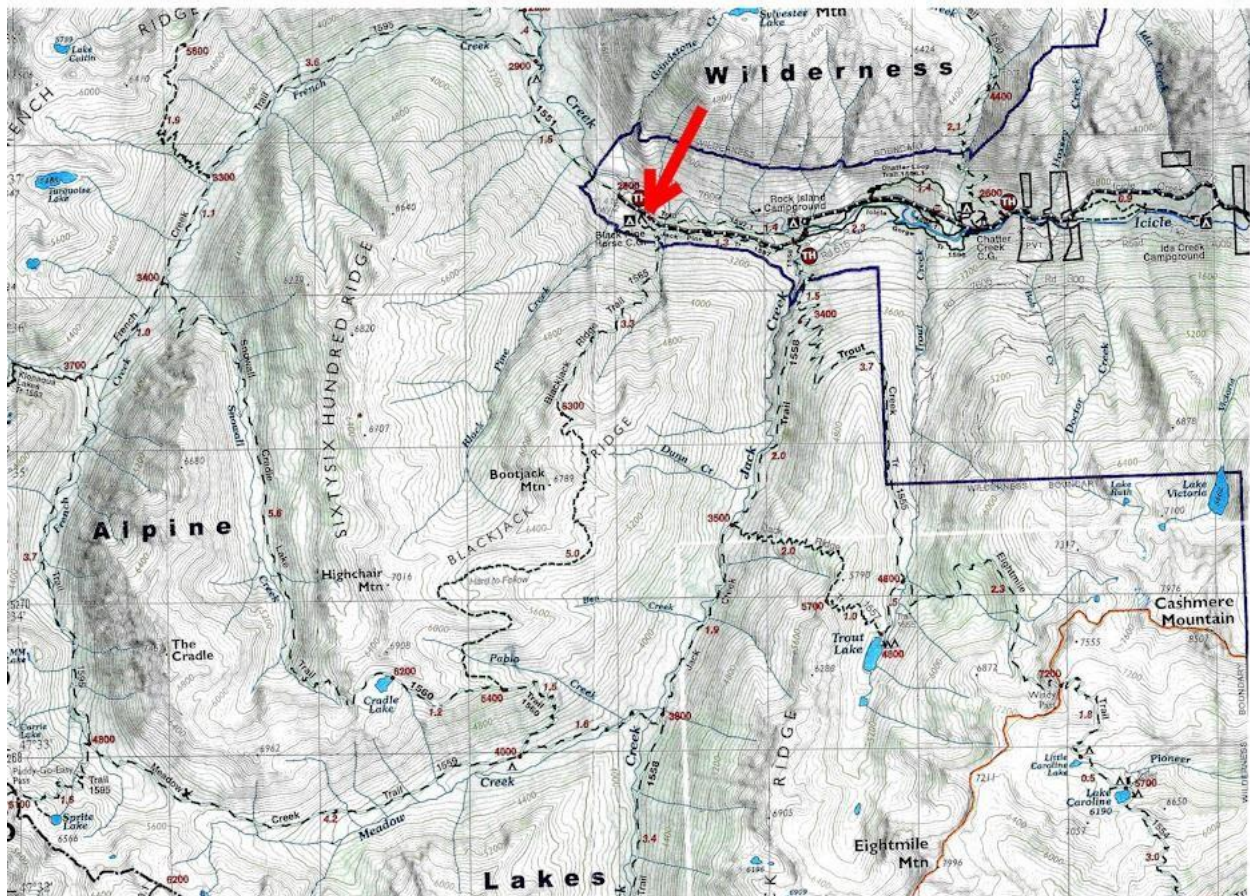
This is not intended to be a stock supported project.

Driving directions

If you are driving to Leavenworth from the east side on US Hwy 2, there is a bypass to avoid downtown Leavenworth traffic. After the light at Safeway, just before the Wenatchee river bridge, you can turn left on E. Leavenworth Rd. This road will go to the Icicle Rd. Turn left.

If you are driving to Leavenworth from the west on US Hwy 2 (Stevens Pass), turn right on Icicle Rd. just before entering the town of Leavenworth.

Follow the Icicle road which shows as FS 7600 (or 76) on maps. The road is paved for about 13 miles and then turns to gravel. At about 15 miles, the road will turn left to cross a bridge over the Icicle Creek. This is now Icicle Forest Service Road 7600-915. Follow this road for a few miles and look for the sign to turn left at Black Pine Horse Camp.



Project Schedule

- Friday May 31 – Drive to Black Pine Horse Camp. Check in with project leader and report mileage. Set up camp and have dinner. Safety meeting will be at 6:30. Decide teams and work plan. Pack lunch for next day.
- Saturday June 01 – Breakfast at 5:30. After breakfast, all teams drive to Jack Creek trailhead, about 1 mile from horse camp. Lunch on trail, plan to be back at camp by 5:00 pm. After dinner, hold group meeting to develop plan for remainder of project.
- Sunday June 02 – Breakfast at 5:30. After breakfast, all teams drive to Jack Creek trailhead, about 1 mile from horse camp. Continue work where we stopped the previous day. Lunch on trail, plan to be back at camp by 5:00 pm. If all work is done, can go home.
- Monday June 3 – Go home.

What it takes to do this work party

Forest Service certified sawyers and experience with crosscut saw bucking logs. Although this will be our primary need for this event, we also need people willing to do swamping and brush clearing. Some tread repair may be needed using bent shovels and/or pick mattocks.

No stock experience needed as none will be expected for this event.

What to wear

PPE for all volunteers. No Exceptions!

- Boots, gloves, long-sleeved shirt, eye protection, hard hat.
- Rain gear
- Warm clothing - dress in layers, spring temperatures can vary considerably.

What to bring

Crosscut saw (recently sharpened), wedges, axe. Spare handles for saw are a worthwhile accessory.

Any other trail tools, i.e. bent shovels, pick mattock, loppers, pruning saws, pry bars, nylon straps. Backpack to carry tools, lunch, water, electrolytes, first-aid kit, any other supplies.

Group meals may be arranged by leader but plan on having enough food for your own needs unless group meals are announced.

Shelter, tent or RV, rain gear, sleeping bag.