

Memorial Day Chainsaw Extravaganza!!

May 24 - 27, 2024



Overview

Every year, this is our first work party of the summer season to start clearing the Black Pine area trails up to the wilderness boundary.

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 first project done every season and the goal is to clear the trails out of camp up to the wilderness boundary.

We will be doing two to three days of clearing trails directly from the camp until cleared to the wilderness boundary where crosscut saws are required. Although listed as a chainsaw project, crosscut saws are certainly welcome to hone your experience. Some brushing work and tread repair may be needed as well, if time permits.

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

Trails to be cleared will be:

1. Jack Pine Trail #1597 out of camp to Jack Creek trailhead.
2. Jack Creek Trail #1558 to wilderness boundary.
3. Icicle Creek Trail #1551 from camp to the wilderness boundary. At the wilderness boundary we will then use crosscut saws to clear logs as far as the French Creek bridge. Bridge is still out. Access will require driving across Black Pine creek which has water flowing.
4. If time permits, we can work on clearing Trail #1597.1 from camp.

This is not intended to be a stock supported project.

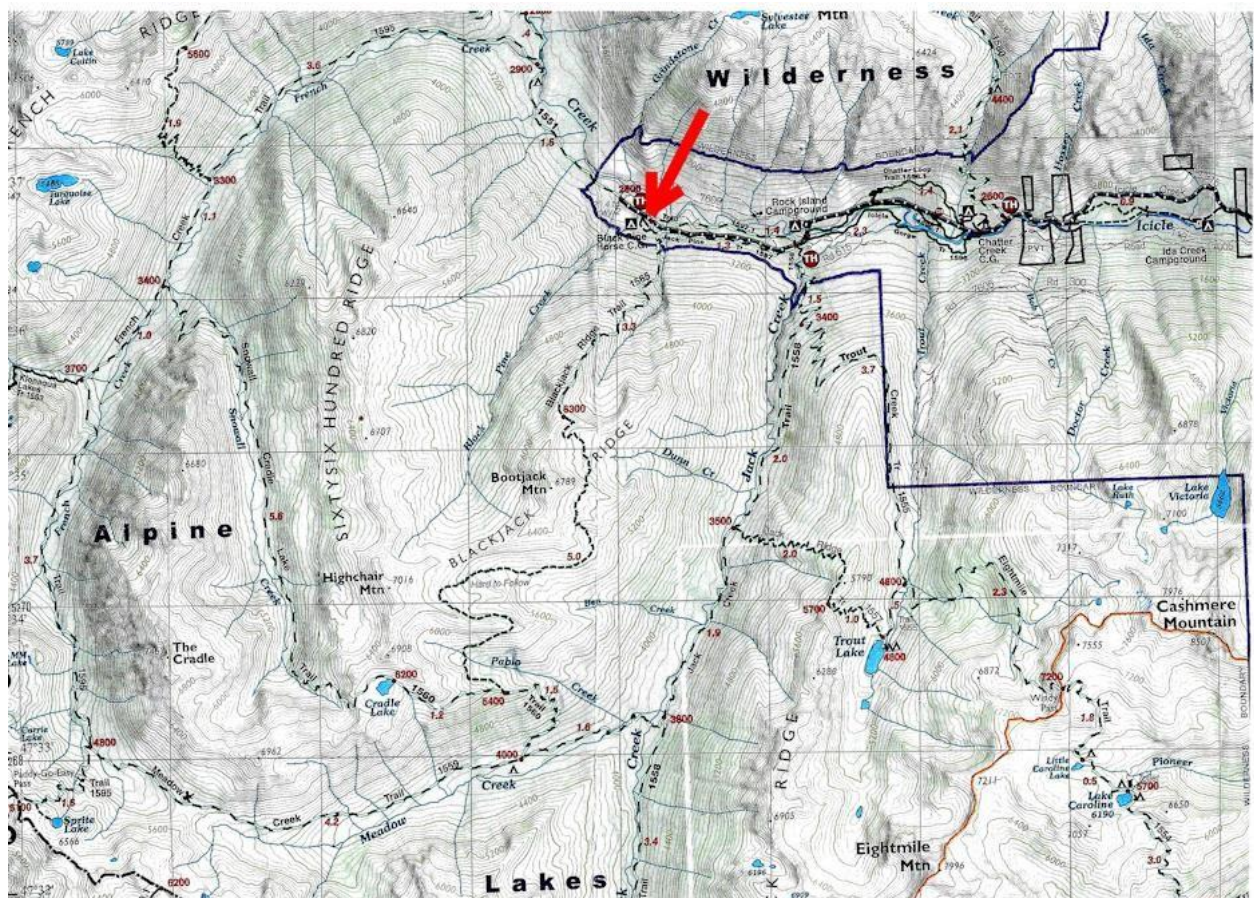
Driving directions

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 24 – 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 May 25 – Breakfast at 5:30. After breakfast, teams start out on trails. Lunch on trail, plan to be back at camp by 5:00 pm.
- Sunday May 26 – Breakfast at 5:30. After breakfast, teams start out on trails. Lunch on trail, plan to be back at camp by 5:00 pm. If all work is done, can go home.
- Monday May 27 – Go home.

What it takes to do this work party

Forest Service certified sawyers and experience with chain saw work bucking logs. Although this will be our primary need for this event, we also need people willing to do swamping and brushing, tread, and drainage (BTD). Gas powered trimmers may also be needed. No stock experience needed as none will be used for this event. Tread repair may require bent shovels and/or pick mattocks.

What to wear

Full PPE for all chainsaw users. No Exceptions!

- Boots, chaps (for chain saw users), gloves, long-sleeved shirt, eye protection, hearing protection, hard hat.
- Rain gear
- Warm clothing - dress in layers, spring temperatures can vary considerably.

What to bring

Chainsaw with freshly sharpened chain, spare chain(s), gas, oil, and tools to replace chain, wedges, axe. Pry bars and nylon straps are useful tools also. Fully charged batteries if using battery powered tools. Crosscut saws welcome as well.

Any other trail tools, i.e. bent shovels, pick mattock, loppers, pruning tools. Backpack to carry tools, lunch, water, 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; cold weather gear, rain gear, sleeping bag, personal water supply.