

Pack Stock and Hiker Team Logout

June 14 - June 18, 2024



Overview

During this project we will be assisted by pack stock and volunteer packers to carry our tools and supplies. It will involve clearing the major Black Pine trails to the high camps which will be used later for base camps on following projects. As with the previous projects, we will be planning to return to Black Pine camp at the end of each day.

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

The objective of this project is to clear the trails all the way to the high camps which will then be used as base camps for the following projects. We will be doing three to four days of clearing trails within the wilderness areas where crosscut saws are required.

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

Trails to be cleared will be:

1. Jack Creek Trail #1558 to Meadow Creek crossing and then on Meadow Creek Trail #1559 to the hunter camp on Meadow Creek trail.
2. Trout Trail #1555 from the Jack Creek trail intersection to Trout Lake.
3. Icicle Creek Trail #1551 from the wilderness boundary to the French Creek crossing. Although bridge is out, lower water flow

should enable us to cross French Creek and continue to clear logs from French Creek trail #1595 up to Snowall Cradle junction if possible.

4. Continue clearing Icicle Creek Trail #1551 from the French Creek intersection to the Frosty Wild Horse Trail #1592 junction.

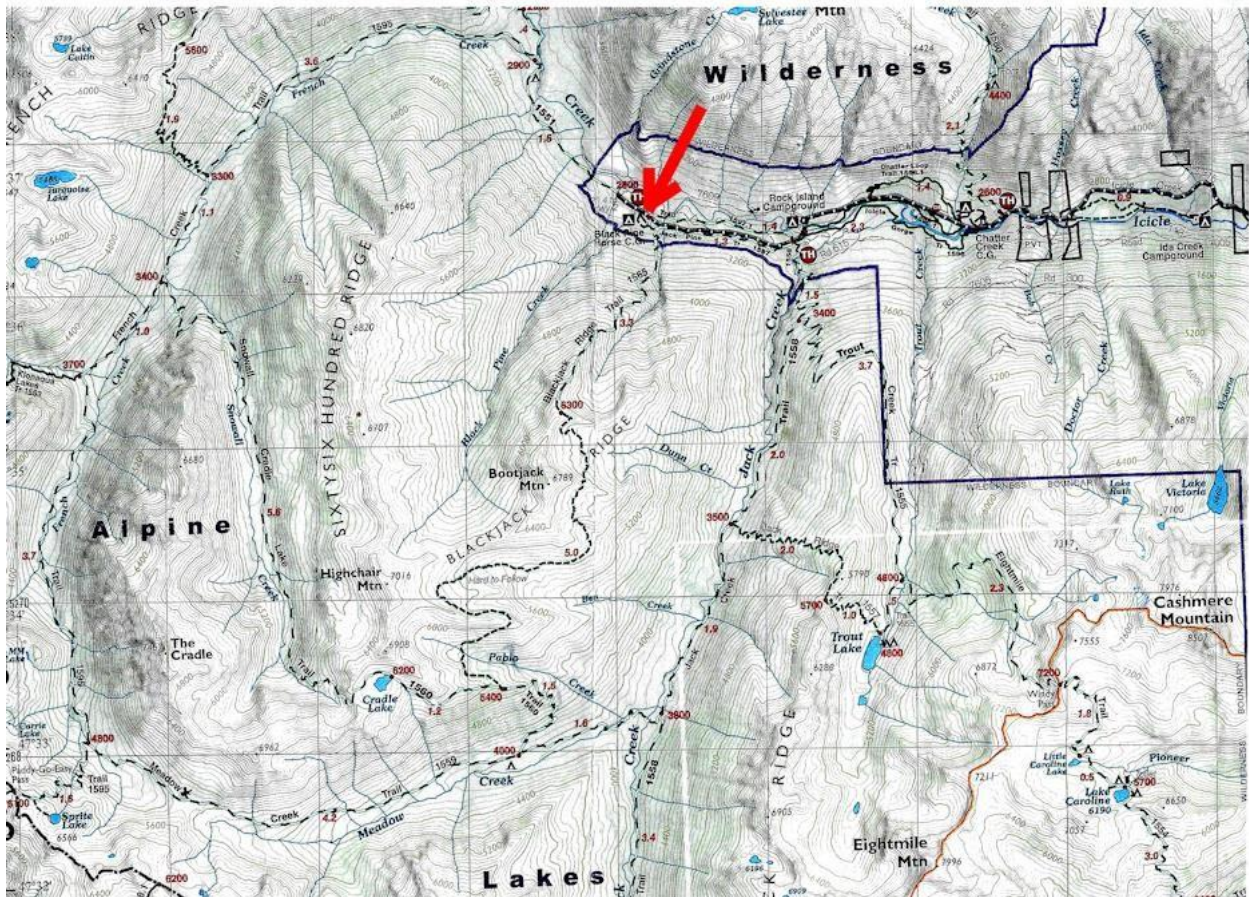
Some brushing work and tread repair may be needed as well.

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 June 14 – 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 p.m. Decide teams and work plan. Pack lunch for next day.
- Saturday June 15 – Breakfast at 5:30. After breakfast, teams start out on trails. All crews work on Jack Creek trail, and Trout trail. Lunch on trail, plan to be back at camp by 5:00 pm.

- Sunday June 16 – Breakfast at 5:30. After breakfast, teams start out on trails. Finish any remaining work on Jack Creek and Trout trail. If Jack and Trout are finished, start on French and Icicle trails. Lunch on trail, plan to be back at camp by 5:00 pm.
- Monday June 17 – Breakfast at 5:30. After breakfast, teams start out on trails. All teams will start work on French Creek and Icicle Creek trail to junction.
- Tuesday June 18 - Go home.

What it takes to do this work party

Forest Service certified sawyers and experience with crosscut saw work 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 required although some exposure to stock should be expected. We will cover stock safety at the safety briefing meeting.

What to wear

Full PPE for all. 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.

If you are bringing stock to this project:

1. Please contact Barb Talbot (253-312-3626 or btalbot1276@gmail.com) for planning stock teams and logistics.
2. Highline poles are available at each campsite but you need your own highline.
3. Water is very limited at campground. Bring your own stock water.