

# Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 9, 2014  
Location: REI Clackamas

## Welcome

- Welcome: **Summer Pruitt-Feist, new note-taker, Barbara Niece to cover for Tammy in July Yeah!!!**
- Absent: Ruth, Tim D
- Attended: **Roberta Cobb, Steve Queen, Summer Pruitt-Feist, Justin Popov, Karla Hawley, Ron Goodwin, Bill Hawley, Dennis Beard, David Roe, Tammy Turner, Barbara Niece, Becky Wolf, Jeff Booth, Chris Sanderson, Jerry Bentz, Tim Lagasse, Steve Plant, Jim Webb, Robert Caldwell, Rick Schmidt, Liz Marriott, Tyler Marriott, Geoff O'Neil, Leif Hoven, Dana Hendricks**
- **THANK YOU KARLA for your past work as note-taker. Roberta**

## Past Events

- 2014 Stats - **13 trail work parties 23 logs cleared**
- March 13, Eagle Creek Slides/Logs: Dennis (combined report with March 21)
- March 21, Eagle Creek Logout: **Dennis and Leif logged out six logs, more logs were found past the wilderness boundary. Need to repair 4 Mile Bridge.**
- March 22, 400 Trail: Leif – **was honored with the Certificate of Trail Esthetician: He blow dried (blew leaves) the trail and groomed it to a spotless condition! Leif did suggest that trail runners should help to clear trail.**
- March 22 Snag Creek: Busdriver and Tyler – **A Studentless work party (Warner Pacific College cancelled) Bus Driver and Tyler worked anyway. Cleared root wad and cleared down logs about 4 hours of work.**
- March 22, OSU Tree School: Underbucker – **Per David Roe there were lots of sign ups and saws donated.**
- March 28, VSI Recert: Leif, Jerry, Underbucker – **Wettest day on record for VSI recertification, but they got –r-dun!**
- March 29-30 Gorge Waterfalls Run – **Runners say trail was great! Thank you!!**
- April 2 Logout Trout Creek: Jim – **Logged out as far as could: lots of water 2 feet deep over trail. Started at Trout Creek and worked approx. 3 miles. Got 10 logs. Will attempt to return with bigger crew due to lots of trail slough.**
- April 4 Scouting: Karla – No Access sign – **Before getting to Gillette lake there is a gate and signage stating “No access to PCT beyond the gate. If park will be towed at owners expense.” This part of the PCT is under new land ownership and requests that work parties be M-F 7:00am – 5:00pm. Must call in advance to indicate usage. Chris Sanderson reported logs at switch backs needing cleared. Dana will check access to trail at Greenleaf creek.**
- April 5, Mt Hood South Saw Certifications: Underbucker
  - 15 volunteers certified – At Estacada Ranger Station – **issued 20 certs. Well organized very successful.**
  - **McKenzie felt the PCT/MHC training was more comprehensive than Forest Service. YEAH! The Blood Borne Pathogen training was given by Ruth.**
- April 7 Snag Creek Scout: Tyler – **Small patches of snow. Trail all clear only one log down: 90' tree resting at upper edge of trail about 1.5 miles in. Lots of slough on trail. Above the switch backs clear of snow. Will scout Steamboat ~April 30<sup>th</sup>. Leif and Bill will plan to take out log on Snag Creek before 04/29.**
- April 8 Wahtum Lake area scout: Justin and Busdriver John – **Tried to get to trailhead; snow at 3,000 feet. Cleared logs and rocks from road.**
- March 15-16 Chris Sanderson – **scouted section – found snow. Planning May 10<sup>th</sup> over-nighter at south Berkenfield – for brushing work.**
- April 7 Robert Caldwell's **new section some snow on section but found 6 logs total, few up Yokum ridge and 2 at Ramona falls.**
- See Calendar.

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### Future Events

- April 9 REI Downtown, Iguana presents about her PCT Thru-hike
- April 10 PCT Presentation at Stevenson Library
- April 11 Zig Zag Wilderness Trails Meeting – **Several MHC attending.**
- April 15 Hawthorne New Seasons Markets at Pacific Crest Falls: Roberta/Pace –
- April 22 PCT by Horse Presentation at Stevenson Library -
- April 25-27 **Trail Skills College**
- April 28 *Wild* discussion at Stevenson Library: **Skamania County feels the story is important as it helps with awareness to protect trails. PCT is an asset!!!**
- April 29 Hawthorne New Seasons Markets: Busdriver John – Snag Creek
- April 30 Tool Cache Day at Trout Lake: Gentleman Bob and Brice
- May 2-4 Wind River Saw Certification
- May 3 Friends of Mt Adams Wilderness Conference
- May 14 Next Caretaker meeting
- Mt Hood 50 on July 14 per website [www.mthood50.com](http://www.mthood50.com)
- Mountain Lakes 100 on September 27-28 per website: [www.mountainlakes100.com](http://www.mountainlakes100.com)

#### Named Crews

- **New Seasons Markets Crews:** Hawthorne NSM wants one per month thru November.
  - Hawthorne Dates
    - April 15: Roberta and Tyler – Pacific Crest Falls tread work
    - April 29: Busdriver John at Snag Creek?
    - May 20: Jeff and Roberta, Invasives maybe at Pacific Crest Falls
    - June 24: Leif – Lolo Pass North
    - August 19: Pace and Roberta – probably at Top Spur
    - Requested dates in September, October and possibly November (Tuesdays)  
**Possibly a second Top Spur project.**
  - 7 Corners Dates
    - May 29: Invasives, location TBD
    - 6/24 Karla's Section (80 ft section or Greenleaf Creek)
  - Urban Youth Crew: July 11-12: Dana – **Bill & Dennis B. will help – Dana is leading**
  - Packwood Glacier Crew: Bill/Dana – **Bill leading but will not be a MHC event.**
  - WTA to work at Muddy Meadows on Mt Adams in September -
  - National Guard: Tyler – **VFW post would like to do trail work July /August at Steamboat; VFW need dates and location to plan event. Possible collaboration with Bill and Rick's section. Could be multi-day project (weekend camping trip) and maybe share expenses for food.**
- Potluck Sept 27
- Wilderness First Aid – November targeted. LeeAnn is on vacation.
- See Calendar for more

### Reports

- Budget. Kim - NA
- Tools. Leif
  - **New hard hats will continue to be held aside as give-aways**
  - **Southern cache brusher in for repair; Dave R. is sharpening saws; Wind River cache has dull chainsaw. Portland cache in good shape.**
- Trail Skills College Fri, April 25 – Sun, April 27: Jeff - **Move-in 2 weeks from tomorrow – all is on target. Possible Herman Creek camp ground open for instructors – will need to check with Jonathan Brooks (always copy Edan). Would like to distribute awards at registration. Dennis will help distribute awards. Jeff is feeling “Zen like”. Om.**
- Saw Certification:
  - **Kim in charge of Trail Skills College Saw Cert.**

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- Caretaker/Crewleader Roles and Responsibility: Kim NA
- Training and Safety: Open
- Dana – Work Party for PCT days – **Jason the organizer would like it on a Friday Sept 5<sup>th</sup>. PCT Days will operate under Jason's business name: Outdoor Viewfinder. Dana needs co-leaders and projects. PCT Days has sponsorship of Backpacker magazine! Whoo Hoo! Vendors will set up Friday for 3 day event.**

Land acquisition projects: **A long process, i.e., land close to the Bonneville parking lot would provide opportunity for the trail to be under the canopy and away from clear-cut. Timothy lake PGE doing clean-up of dispersed sites would like to collaborate to protect PCT from road that parallels trail.**

**Friends of Gorge offered funds to support the feasibility study of BOG walkway. PGE is working on dispersing sites at Timothy Lake. Contact Mckenzie for more info.**

- Volunteer Coordinator. Tammy
  - Trip to Kilimanjaro in July. **Barbara Niece to cover. – Thank you Barbara!**
  - REI event on 3/25 by Ashley Lowe presentations – incorporating volunteering on trails in presentations. Get Outdoor Day in June, Greg Mickel will facilitate, Busdriver John had offered to help last month; tabling opportunities involving BOG events. Janet Schmidt will find days in May and June (Clackamas Town center and Downtown REI) for promotional event - need volunteers for tabling events. Barbara will be covering for Tammy; Making clear requests will be helpful for Barbara!!! Tammy says she will be home July 28<sup>th</sup>.**

## Announcements/Reminders

- Leif taking the Huckleberry Trail #617, which goes from Lost Lake up to the PCT. He's also taking the short spur Buck Peak Trail #615 that goes to the top of Buck Peak.
- Dean up in the Mt Adams RD says the snow is melting fast; he was up to 3500 feet in Trapper Creek wilderness before he ran into snow. So, please start thinking about logout dates, if you haven't already. If you have even tentative dates please let me know. Those of you on Zig Zag RD, if the trail is snow-free they want it logged out before Memorial Day weekend. Those of you on Mt Adams, Dean just wants it cleared as soon as possible after snow melt. I will need to start giving our agency partners updates on our schedule.
- Columbia Dispatch is still on winter hours. If you have a weekend work party, you can ask Tammy or me or a good friend to be your dispatcher.
  - Also if you have a weekend work party, do NOT send the TCP to Columbia Dispatch, it just confuses them. Always send your TCP to your agency contact one business day before your work party (send on Friday for a Sunday project).
  - We received this email from Amy at Columbia Dispatch: It will be either late May/earlier June before we go to 7 day coverage. Until then, we are on winter hours 0730-1630 M-F. Thank you, Amy Davis, Asst Center Manager.
- Gina asks that if you send in admin hours, please send to her and copy me. That way I can double-check that the hours got properly entered. She especially notes that the VSI hours seem to be missing (hint – VSIs are you submitting your hours?)
- Just FYI there's now public transit to the PCT in the Gorge on the Washington side:  
<http://www.pcta.org/2014/new-weekend-bus-service-pct-columbia-gorge-18032/>

## Discussion Items

- **HUGE** news from Tom Linde: I met today with the FS and they have agreed to put in a stewardship project for the PCT. The project would be funded for 2015 season if it is selected. It would provide \$40,000. to the Forest Youth Success program for work on the PCT. Getting the project selected looks good and I have the County Commissioners and other officials of the county writing letters of support as well as Congresswomen Herara and State reps and senators. Skamania County. Youth and crew leaders under 4-H so they can do campouts. Funding covers paid crew leaders and pays the youth a stipend. **For overnight camping must be 16 years old, must be in Washington and must be close in – 1 hour drive away.**

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### Tom Linde Huge News continued

- I'm waiting for word on another source of funds for the Forest Youth Success program I have been working on. If it comes through it will mean \$120,000 to the program for this year **2014**. If we get the funding the FYS program will be looking for projects for the crews. So stay tuned if there is a call for projects it will be on short notice.
  - I have worked with these crews extensively in the past. We have done complete tread conditioning, brushing, drainage, bridge construction, new trail construction, retaining structures, turn pikes. The only thing they can't do is operate power equipment. With the 2015 project funding it has to be in Washington and benefit the National Forest. If we get the 2014 funding it still would have to be FS work but we could expand the area of consideration. We would need to be careful since this is a local youth employment program and politically it would be hard for some folks to accept doing work in Oregon or outside the County. However I'm working with the extension agent hoping to expand the program into Klickitat county and making it a joint school district program where we could have crews working out of Trout Lake and White Salmon.
- Pig Pen needs coverage for this year's logout on his section. **Bill will do northern part logging and brushing. Leif will support John also – southern section. John will run his trail to scout it, with Bill's vehicle support.**
- Muddy Fork Bridge Update: Geoff – **Forest Service did environmental study for bridge to be built across muddy fork. Hope project can start 2014.**

### Round the Room

- Chris "Freefall": Kickoff in 2 weeks!
- Dennis: Eagle Creek will be trying a 'pack it out' program for human solid waste. We discussed using social media to share the news.