

# Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Minutes

Wednesday June 10, 2015

Location: REI Clackamas

## Welcome

- Welcome: Marijke Riddering Weaver and Scott Weaver
- Marijke: Thru hiked with her husband in 2013. Just moved outside of Carson, WA. Taking Panther Creek section (Tom Linde's old section)
- Attended: Leif, Gentleman Bob, Jim, Ron, Ruth, Chris K, Pace, Steve P, Kim, Pam, Becky, Jerry, Freefall, Marijke, Dana, Tammy, Steve Q, Tyler, Liz, David, Jayme, Tami, Summer, Roberta (24 people)

## Past Events

- 2015 Status through May:
- Roberta: This chapter is awesome
  - 72 Trail Work parties, 14 events, 4 saw certs
  - 27 trail work parties in May alone
  - Excluding TSC: Over 4400 hours, 383 specialized hours, 99 miles of trail maintained, and 2740 feet rehab. (over ½ mile)
  - Over 900 logs cleared

Crews and Events since last caretaker meeting:

1. May 14-16: Territorial Riders BCHO Logout: Tim and Sara
2. May 15-17: OET Logout: Becky
  - Part of her logout. By the time they got her feeder trails going in they thing they had taken 400 logs out. It is clear now. So next year it will be easier. The trail going in, they hadn't really done for a long time but it is done now.
  - Tami: How is the water crossing up above Jude Lake? At stream
    - Becky: Didn't get up there but will be doing some repairs up at Triangle Lake. Has a list of all the rails they need and working with FS to get materials (at the campground). Will not take horses for this time. The race people may want to do a survey because there are 2 months between her log out and the race.
3. May 15-17: Westfir TSC
  - Pace was there.
    - Pace: It went good. Good weather. End of Saturday afternoon it started raining. Took log cribs and water crossing classes. Will be using water crossing next week on his crew. They had a cross cut competition.
      - Roberta: Maybe do a cross cut competition at our TSC?
4. May 16: Signage: Kim and Pam
  - Pam: Met with Tami. First did some cleanup in BOG cache. Then went up and worked on the signage on 2000, 2070, 2090 roads and the top by the trail to 3 Corner Rock
  - Kim: Took an inventory of tools we could use out of the cache. A lot of broken stuff/stuff needs sharpening. Tami left sign out sheets (50 copies of everything).
  - Pam: Took small chain saw to Bingen for service. Will pick up and bring back.
  - Roberta: Has Dana's medium size saw, had the chain sharpened by Underbucker. It is back now.
  - Pam: Wheeled her section. Came out to be ½ mile more.
    - Pam: Wheeling = 1 foot circumference wheel and ticks off every round.
5. May 16: Snag Creek scout and BOG Inventory: Kim, Pam, Tami
6. May 20: Spring Outdoor Expo: Dana
  - Only non- trail work event
  - Was in Skamania
7. May 20: Upper Muddy Fork slide and washout repair: Pace
  - Pace: Had 4 people. Big Sandy slide was about 8 feet across. They cut 5 feet down and widened it.
    - Roberta: Before and after pics were amazing
    - Pace: Got a couple of other little slides repaired too
8. May 12: Logout Indian Heaven South Wilderness: Kim and Pam

- Pam: We didn't log out the whole thing. We scouted the first few miles where you can use chainsaw and then wilderness from Indian Racetrack trail to wilderness area (just short cut). Apparently Dean did from there to Blue Lake. We don't know anything about what Dean did in the area. Went around Junction Lake and down to Blue Lake and cleared it. Then North to Coulton Creek Trail and widened (Dean had already cleared it) a couple of things.
  - Pam: Left 4 or 5 logs in the first mile/mile half.
  - Roberta: Dean is going with a friend this weekend to get those
9. May 22: Indian Springs Cutoff Maintenance: Busdriver John
  10. May 22: Scout/ Poison Oak Pull: Roberta
    - Roberta: Went solo. There was 12 feet of trail between Moody and Dry Creek where poison oak was coming onto the trail.
  11. May 23: Scout Indian Heaven North: Rick
    - Dean has cleared Indian Heaven north section. If you don't clear your section, Dean loves cutting, and will get in there and do it
  12. May 23: Trout Creek Logout: Jim
    - Tami, Kelley, Jim
    - Jim: A little surprise, the bridge they put in 7 years ago, it slipped. 2 logs rotten out. A guy on horse was going across, the pack horse broke the bridge and fell in, had to be unloaded before he could be lifted out.
    - Jim: If it takes as long as it did last time it can be 4-5 years before we get another bridge. The north side of the stream has a ton of concrete as a footing that was packed in by a crew 7 years ago.
    - Tami: We were able to wade across. The hardest part is getting around the bridge. Learned a lot about Jim's section.
  13. May 24: (Memorial Day Weekend) Finish logout of Timothy Lake section and Warm Springs section: Tim and Sara
  14. May 28: Thunder Island Spurge Laurel Removal: Jeff (to repay the port for TSC)
    - Had a good work party. It is all cleared. Only bad thing is that although Jeff told us about how the sap can irritate your skin, he didn't realize we were pulling it out from the middle of poison oak.
  15. May 29-31: Big Bend TSC and Saw Certs
    - Underbucker: Everything worked out fine.
  16. May 30: Lolo Pass North Logout: Leif
    - Leif: Picked up a professional Hot Shot on his day off. He was a last minute add. We couldn't get all of the logs.
  17. May 30: Upper Muddy Fork slide and washout repair: Pace
    - Pace: Went across the river. There were 3 washout locations in 1/10 mile. We need to go back and get another 2 feet off the trail. It took us longer to get in than he thought it would. Next time, will probably go in for an overnight trip. We got some good work done but limited by access. The river is coming up too.
  18. June 5--7: Allingham TSC
    - Dana: It was great. Really good food.
    - Pace: Went to all three TSC
      - Dana: Which one had the best food?
      - Pace: They all had good food.
  19. June 6: Indian Springs Logout: Leif
    - Leif: Had 2 saw crews. Covered 12 miles and 13 logs. From Lolo to Indian Springs should be done. Cancelling this weekend because Ken is doing it.
  20. June 6: Little Crater Lake Logout: Steve P.
    - Steve: Back in May, seemed all easy. Then Saturday from Frog Lake down 5 miles, 40 logs got 20 of them (all hemlocks about 20", 1 30" left). Long, long 8hour day.
  21. June 8: NSM #3: Timberline North: Worm and Ruth
    - Ruth: We got 3 logs (2 were big and icky, crosscut). We did a valley crossing that was washed out with a mudslide.
  22. June 9: Eagle Creek Bridge Repair: Lamar
    - He fixed Eagle Creek Bridge, the fourth one up (last one before Tunnel Falls), put more planks on top. It is a 2 foot step onto the bridge.
  23. June 10: Today's Caretaker Meeting

## Future Events

Next Month: Calendar Passed Around

1. Logout Teakettle sometime soon: Tim D and Tyler
2. June 11: NSM #4: Upper Muddy Fork: Pace
3. June 11: Only the Essential: Roberta and Ruth
4. June 13: Get Outdoors Day: Joanne Mikol organizing

5. June 13: Logout Crest Camp north to Indian Heaven Wilderness: Pig Pen
6. June 13: Lost Lake-Buck Peak Logout: Leif
7. June 14: Logout Timberline North: Ruth
8. June 15: Cascade Locks Two-fer: Roberta
9. June 17: Timberline South Logout and Treadwork: Ron
10. June 18: Upper Muddy Fork water crossings: Pace
11. June 20: Lost Lake Brushing: Leif
12. June 20: Mt Adams South Logout, Clearing, and Tread: Gentleman Bob and Sidekicks
13. June 21: Brushing Gillette Lake: Kelley
14. June 25: Upper Muddy Fork water crossings: Pace
15. June 28: Snag Creek Rock/Tread: Tami and Tyler
16. July 6: Steamboat Logout (?) Tyler and Liz
17. July 8: PCTA Staff Training at Teakettle Springs: Bill
18. July 8: Next Caretaker Meeting

Beyond:

1. July 11: Mt Hood 50 per website <https://gobeyondracing.com/races/mt-hood-50>
2. September 26-27: Mountain Lakes 100 per website: <https://gobeyondracing.com/races/mountain-lakes-100>

## Reports

Volunteer Coordinator. Tammy

- Tammy: So busy, that I don't remember. Lots going on. Peeps are sending emails for work crews. I think I've been filling them. There has been too many. Gets to go out on a crew on Monday (first one in about 2 years), we have Get Outdoors Day on Saturday.
  - Pace: Compared to last year? Are we busier?
    - Tammy: If you wanted to slow down a little and save some stuff for July? Has 1 more person for Robert on the 18th. Ron's is full.
  - Roberta: How far ahead for overnights?
    - Tammy: They need an extra week.
  - Pace: Has some signs to put up on his trail, has to carry posts and posthole driller. Have we ever sent out a request where volunteers suggest a date?
    - Roberta: What if you get the first 5 people and then Pace works on which day to go out with them?
      - Pace: Will send Tammy something.

Dana:

- Need a crew leader for PCT Days work party Friday Aug 18
  - Jason and PCTA would like to continue with the tradition. Cannot be there (PCT days) that weekend. Aug 28<sup>th</sup> (Friday). We haven't been getting more than 5 or 8 people in recent years. It isn't a big challenge; just need something easy by the trail head.
    - Leif: That one slide area on 400 would probably have to be fixed before that (just east of the Scenic HWY)
  - Dana: We don't have to decide what the work is just need someone to lead it.
    - Has been really busy
    - PCTA/Columbia Gorge Map: The final proof went back to the printer, may have final copy next week. PDF copy to live on the website
    - Working on campsite decommission worksheet with Tami
    - Lots of trail skills collage, planning going on.
    - Timber harvest is in progress on Chris Sanderson's section (Bergenfield parcel). They have flaggers that stop hikers if there is a hazard on the trail
      - Chris: Going to head up this weekend to see
      - Dana: Our new land acquisition person has been in contact with the landowners, after they are done logging, they are willing to sell their land.
      - Underbucker: The current owner has to replant within 2-3 years of logging
      - Steve Q: That section of trail on the optimum location?
        - Dana: Yes

Dana: Kim, Pam, and Tami hung no bike signage. Kim has been helping by fabricating the panels we put the decals on. He will make some more panels and I've ordered more decals. Who else needs some? Has problem with bikes? Send her an email with an estimation of junctions.

- Jerry: Thinks there are 4 junctions in Tim's area
- Steve Q: Has 2 junctions

Bill: no updates

### Budget. Kim

- We are on track
- Roberta: Told the loppers can be charged against supplies
- Kim: Anyone else been to Roy Boys?

### Tools. Leif

- Thanks to Leif for new gloves
  - Roberta: Lots of gloves, thank you Leif.
- Also have safety glasses that also need to be labeled
- New blue-handled loppers inside Roberta's cache. Now have 3 or 4.
  - 2 also added to wind river
- Thanks to Underbucker for sharpening the chain saw out of Dana's cache
- Thanks to Kim, the other saws went to Bingen
  - Kim: DJ's has a big backlog. Working with Sacramento to get a corporate account with them
  - Roberta: We can get the chains to Underbucker for sharpening
- White gas stoves from Can Do Crew
- Radios and reprogramming
- How many hard hats should we order? We've got newer ones in service in PDX. Moved some up to wind river because they were getting moldy (looked to be date stamped 2002)
  - Roberta: Bill said something about them being old-old ones and should be trashed out
  - Leif: We need to make sure that when they are used they are washed and dried.
- Roberta: If people use the cloth gloves with a dip. Please rinse and hang to dry.
  - Leif: Those gloves can go through the wash but not dryer
- Tyler: Radio – last time he tried to use a radio (out of Trout Lake) couldn't get anything. Thinks the frequency is off.
  - Roberta: One out of Dana's cache that would send but not received (Kim has it)
  - Kim: We need to make sure we don't have more like this
  - Kim: There were a handful of repeaters that they changed the frequencies on but didn't let us know. Brought the programming equipment to reprogram radios (at Roberta's) have to keep them separate (that was Monday) as the equipment has been damaged (Steve P is looking at – looks like it crashed). You can still use radios if you know what repeaters you are using:
    - Mt Hood Defiance doesn't work (does on GP and Gorge Defiance). Clear Lake and Indian Mt East doesn't work. Does work on Whalehead. Hickman & Timberline don't work. If you need to use those repeaters, get one from Roberta's cache.
    - Roberta: The radios she takes back, She will flag them as "these are the ones they work on"
    - Kim: They work great across the river (WA)
    - Leif: Surprisingly, we use the Gorge Defiance on Lolo Pass. There may be pockets that do work.
- Roberta: Getting all 4 white stoves from Can Do Crew. Thanks to Gentleman Bob for saying that we wanted them.
  - Leif: Just need to make sure we aren't mixing fuels

### Trail Skills College 2015:

#### Saw Certification:

- Pressurized saw fuel incidents – David
  - Because how you open the chainsaw fuel cap (especially if it is a ¼ turn). Not all gas has been switched to summer grade. The winter grade has more pressure. Already had 4 people sprayed when they took the cap off; 2 ignited when it hit the exhaust. Open it slowly, put a rag over the cap while opening. Use common sense. Same problem can occur if you carry the chainsaw in your car.

#### Training and Safety: Open

## **Discussion Items**

- Kelley needs a sawyer; this weekend preferred.
  - A few logs down on the north end of her section. Anyone available. Her section is just on the Washington side of BOG. Don't remember how many or how big.
  - Chris: About 40min hike in.
  - Leif: Will check

- CPR training this November? Want to have a crew leader training around that? LeeAnn is available but I need to let her know dates.
  - Kim: Likes the concept of doing something in November for training.
  - Tami: Could help out (doesn't need CPR)
- Oct 24 and Oct 25: Renee Seker, Todd Janssen, and Trevor Hostetler want volunteer work parties on the PCT. They are organizers of the Mt. Hood 50 and Mountain Lakes 100. Run as two separate work parties so people can come to either one or both.
  - Roberta: Work part for their runners. They would like 2 -1 day work parties. Anyone interested in doing a crew? Would prefer PCT or feeder trail
  - Steve Q: Possibility
  - Tami: Possibility
  - Gentleman: Thinks we can put something together
  - Leif: Has tread work to be done if you can get in there
- Jackie Arnel with Outdoor Project wants a special work party for their staff and contributors. She wants an overnight weekend trip or a day trip for the Outdoor Project members to get out on the trail to do some restoration work with help from the PCTA. Looking for the end of July or August sometime
  - Roberta: Overnight weekend or day trip outdoorproject.com
  - Tyler: Thinking of putting together an overnight with 1 work day for bad drainage on steamboat.
  - Chris: Will do it.
    - Roberta: Will send contact info
- Novice Crews: The intent is to engage new volunteers. We probably will have one each Spring and one each Fall. If you post that 'no experience required' what's your plan for training of the newbies? Assign a buddy?
- Posting projects on PCTA.org
  - Roberta: Tammy, Steve, Dana, Ellen talked about it. If you want to try, let Tammy and Roberta know before you do it. If you want Tammy to look for recruits, have her in the contact in the bottom. We were considering having a pre-meeting session to see what that entails before July meeting
  - Leif: Used it last year for PCT days, I can see it being a big hassle. It isn't quite the same as using Tammy.
  - Roberta: We will still send out the announcement through Tammy. The problem is there are a lot of confusion. People will contact HQ because they don't see that anything is being done in our area
  - Tammy: There is an interactive map that shows all the work parties but we aren't using so it looks empty
  - Leif: It isn't very helpful to just pull everything in your area up.
  - Chris: Posted one last year and had a very good turnout and there was a lot of interest. But the point of people coming from further away and wasn't as reliable as going through Tammy.
  - Ron: Can you put a link from our calendar to the PCTA website?
  - Roberta: Not really. But we are putting something up that says to go to LongTrails .com
  - Steve Q: We have the infrastructure and inertia, this day is coming where we will be going to online project request, it isn't going to be tomorrow, but it is where it is going to go.
  - Leif: It doesn't meet our needs right now
  - Tammy: We are working on it.
  - Roberta: Next month, if you are interested, we will set up 6pm to put up a screen and go over it.
- Rock creek park pavilion available in October (Stevenson) 3 or 10. For the October picnic. Kelley has prices
  - Tammy: We get the arboretum for free
  - Roberta: But parking is terrible and we don't have a great turn out
  - Dana: Is it the fair ground?
  - Becky: It a park beside the fairground
  - Ron: Guy Talbot (Latourell Falls) we get that free through state parks
    - Roberta: Do we like Guy Talbot?
    - Steve: Is there parking?
    - Ron: There is no sign that says Guy Talbot.
    - Tyler: Eagle Fern out in Estacada as well. He will look into the reservation/price.
    - Roberta: Underbucker had also suggested Wildwood that we could get free
      - Underbucker: Suggested Wildwood for alternative for TSC

## Announcements/Reminders

- Panther Creek section claimed by Marijke Riddering Weaver and Scott Weaver. Thru hikers 2013, moved to 2 miles from Panther Creek Campground, have led outings with Outward Bound and NOLS.
- Vacancies: Mt. Adams-North; Big Huckleberry; Trout Creek transition for Jim Webb (Tami/Kelley)
- **Columbia Dispatch** is open 0730-1800, 7 days a week.
- Shonda Feather has offered to photograph your work party
- From Jeff Lawton, TKO. Re: Timberline Trail: As Curtis said in an earlier e-mail to this group, Claire Pitner, East Side Recreation Program Manager for the Mount Hood National Forest, is working on a lower re-route of the Timberline Trail to provide a safe crossing of Elliot Creek below the glacier. The planning

is taking place this year with construction in 2016-17. Claire anticipate having an engineer on site to examine the propose route this August.

- Freefall's section has been clear cut.

## Round the Room

- Leif: Needs to do a brushing crew (small).
- Gentleman Bob: We have a work party a week from Sat (20<sup>th</sup>). Had scouters up last week and there is still snow in patches.
- Jim: Retiring
- Ron: This is an unusual year, 1<sup>st</sup> in 16 that upper section of sandy hasn't been gullied out. Everything is different, like it has never rained. Has 37 logs to get out next week. Has almost nothing to do this year.
- Ruth: Have 2 wild ideas: make a sign – NSM & PCTA to put up. Love the starlight parade so much would like us to march next year.
- Chris: Paradise Trail #778 -- Taking the whole trail (Roberta made me. Joking.). Cleared all of it but the last mile. Ruth and him are going to talk about it later, may need another saw crew to finish it up
  - Roberta: I'm so thrilled!
- Pace: Did his loop yesterday, 10 miles. 1 comment on the calendar. There is a film tomorrow night at Hollywood, there is one at Laurelhurst the next night. Note from Bill C. (on the PCT now) 10 days of rain and 5 days of snow, probably passed through sierras now.
- Steve P: Anyone interested in sawyer or swampers? Need to take out 20 logs. 3 miles round trip. Relatively easy. Let him know if you are interested.
- Jerry: Has a report coming to Roberta
- Chris S: Good to have Marijka here
- Marijka: Trail name is Luna. Husband Scott's trail name is Werewolf. Their dog, trail name Sup Dog, did 1600 miles of the trail with them. They have 15 acres and are trying to groom it to invite hikers to stay this year
- Tammy: Send her emails and she finds volunteers to help.
- Steve Q: "Ruth, only way to get me to a parade is if she manages to get us into the starlight!" Pace, the posts are heavy, you will have to figure out a sling. Just had lasik last Thursday. It is hell. If anyone wants to know more about the procedure, he can talk to you. Going skydiving on Sunday.
- Tyler: Has bad drainages to fix after September trip they have planned. No longer need the July Steamboat log out on the calendar.
- Liz: I haven't been able to do much of anything as she has been busy with real estate
- Jayme: Thinking of having a New Seasons crew (not organized through New Seasons). Giving Ruth her scheduled New Seasons crew). Thinking of trying to lead her own crew with 4 people that are experienced
- Tami: Have a crew going out in a couple weeks. Tyler going. Going to move some rock.
- Summer: halfway to being a yoga trainer.
- Roberta: Asking for some help, some admin help, a little data nerd. Going to ask through PCTA volunteer list first. It's mostly to answer questions/audit/not a lot of entry. Jayme just gave her a new grease pen that isn't supposed to stick so much to the hard hat.
- Liz: Sometime it would be fun to line everyone up as to where their sections are.

- Roberta: Let's do that at our October picnic
- Roberta: Would like a reprint of the map from Tami, it needs to be updated too.