

Skagit Trail Builders

Sept 13, 2025 Work Party Plan

Edited 09/03/2025 Jenny

September 13 is our final work party on property managed by Skagit County Parks and Recreation.

Guest Group: Mountaineers Go Hike Course, approx. 25 participants

8:00 am Early Team meet at tool shed

8:45 am Sign-in at parking lot: TBD – likely Bret Turner

9:15 am: Meet at the Pump House Trail Head

Jenny Announcements

JT & Paul lead introductions, explain today's work

Jenny explain jobs and set-up teams

Safety Talk : Bret

T-shirts & Group Photo

Announcements

This is our final work party on property managed by Skagit County Parks and Recreation. At our next work party on Sept 27, we break ground on a new trail on the west side of the SWIFT Campus (the historic hospital grounds).

Today we are going to concentrate our efforts on stewardship activities and finalizing some detail work to get the trail and bridges ready for the multi-agency ribbon cutting on Sept 19 at Song Sparrow Bridge.

Today we welcome the Mountaineers Go Hike team, most of whom have come from the Seattle area to join us for a day of stewardship. (Pam or Liz explain what the program is).

Because we have such a large turn-out this is likely to be a shorter day. We might be finishing before lunch.

Normally, we would be leading an advisory committee meeting during lunch. Because we are in transition between projects, we are going to hold off on that meeting until October when there will be more to share and discuss.

The other thing we normally do after our work party is to host a planning meeting dinner for the next work party. But, because we are finishing early today (re: transition between projects) we are going to skip the meal and planning meeting today.

One more thing! Last year's Youth Leaders, Sativia, Shylee, and Alex, have moved on to college and other adventures. We are excited to have two new students joining us for the 2025-2026 build year, Amelia and Chloe. However, due to some prior commitments, they won't be joining us until October. When they do, they'll be in charge of sign-in, the safety talk, leading work party teams, and helping us involve more students in our projects.

Teams & Objectives:

Loading & Driving a Power Carriers : JT and Kip

Description: Load gravel and rock into power carriers and deliver to the bench site.

Rock work at the new bench site on Hansen Creek

We are going to add a set of rock steps and lined pathway to the new bench site on Hansen Creek. (You'll see where trail users have been short cutting).

Lead: Jerry

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Decommissioning social trails near the North Knoll

There are 2-3 places where trail users have created unsanctioned trails. We have installed the parks dept "sensitive area" signs. Now we need to make those pathways disappear with fern plantings, logs, and branches.

Lead: Lynn

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Vegetation clean-up on the trails

We are going to do a final pass on Pumphouse Trail, North Knoll Trail, and the West Meadow Loop, trimming briars, clearing fallen trees, wood chips and other organic material off the trail.

There will be 2 teams, each team will split into 2 tasks: trimming and pickup. Following behind a distance (for noise management) will be a volunteer operating the blower.

1) Pumphouse and North Knoll Trails: Start just north of the Lupine meadow and working past the North Knoll, until they connect with the West Meadow Loop.

2) Start at the first bench at the top of the hill, turning left onto West Meadow Loop, cutting the briars on the corner back at least 6 feet

Leads: Paul (chainsaw operator) and _____

Bridge Clean-up

There is a lot of organic material that has built up on all three bridges (Dovetail, Pumphouse, and Song Sparrow). We want to get those looking spiffy before the Ribbon Cutting on Sept 19. Involves scrapping away the material that has hardened under the railings and sweeping all the surfaces.

Lead: _____

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Photo & Video: Jenny

