

Skagit Trail Builders

Review of Feb 28, 2026 Work Party

Planning for the March 14, 2026 Work Party

Bull Pen Restaurant, Sedro-Woolley, WA

Feb 28, 2026 - Notes taken by Jenny Sandbo, Communications STB

11 volunteers in attendance (9 for the meal).

Leadership: Jim “JT” Taylor, Paul Klein, Jerry Granahan, Jenny Sandbo, Chloe Larsen, Amelia Johns.

Volunteers at Large: Leslie Mitchell, John Seehorn, Corina Opsal, Ellie and Robert Slabodnik.



Background

The Port of Skagit is contracting with the Washington Trails Association to develop the spur trail to the top of South Knoll. Pit run and rock were delivered to the base of the knoll by way of section 3, which has yet to be finished. (WTA.org March 20-22).

Because of the uncertainty of the timeline, the Port has decided that they will finish section 3, freeing us up to begin work on Norlum Trail on May 9.

Feb 28 was our last work party on Quarry Trail. We spent the day performing final pit run capping to section 1, completing restoration on sections 1 & 2, and refreshing the capping on Brickyard Creek Trail (smoothing out the power carrier tracks).

We begin work on the Thompson Pond Trail Loop at Olmsted Park (City of SW) in March. Our first volunteer work party will be March 14.

Notes from Feb 28 Work Party

21 volunteers total, 15 signed up in advance. 137.167 hours volunteered.

Did we reach our goals?

1. Install final pit run capping to section 1? **YES**
2. Perform trailside restoration on sections 1? & 2 **YES**
3. Rake out, and where necessary, recompact the tread on Brickyard Creek between the Fire Access Road and the Quarry Trail Connector? **YES**

Comments/Questions:

Paul: Excellent crew. Once they got going, it went like clockwork. Don't see any areas where we could have improved. Really hard-working team. Chloe and Amelia are good compactor operators.

JT: Joked that we could have worked slower, noting that we finished at 2pm.

Chloe and Amelia: Enjoy working with the compactor provided by the City of Sedro-Woolley. It still requires pulling with a strap to make the tight turns, but a much better machine than what they were using before.

Paul and JT discussed repairs needed to new compactor: bent fuel tank so cap is hard to get on and off, but it is very fuel efficient. JT will let Nathan from the City know we are happy to accept the donation.

Discussion of work at Thompson Pond:

JT and Paul will mark out the routing more thoroughly with paint and flags and test cut a section of sod before our first work party. JT will request paint and pin flags from Nathan.

Goal is to have the trail on the west side of the pond filled with ballast before the City's ribbon cutting on March 20.

When will the contractors work will be complete?

Jerry, Corinna and Leslie will lead work on rock retaining wall. Possible approaches were discussed, including how to divide the work into 2 or 3 teams while maintaining a consistent look to the rock fitting.

Chloe and Amelia would like to train as power carrier drivers. We will set them up with Kip on March 14.

Notes: Corinna not available March 14, Leslie not available March 28. Jenny needs to leave work party early on March 28.

Key Dates

- March 14: STB First work party at Thompson Pond. Guest Group SW Earth Club.
- March 28: STB work party at Thompson Pond. Guest Group Kids 'n K9s 4H Club.
- April 3: Ground Breaking ceremony at Hilt Creek Falls Park near Rockport
- April 11: STB Work Party at Thompson Pond
- April 25: STB Final work party on Thompson Pond
- March 17: Ribbon Cutting for Yudwasta Big Rock Park (County conference room)
- March 20: Ribbon Cutting at Olmsted Park
- March 20-22: WTA Work Party a South Knoll, Quarry Trail
- May 9: STB First work party on Norlum Trail. Guest Groups Skagit Alpine Club and SW Earth Club.
- May 23: Norlum Trail. Guest Group Mountaineers GoHike.
- June 13: Norlum Trail. Guest Group Mountaineers GoHike.
- June 27: Norlum Trail. Final work party before summer break.