

Skagit Trail Builders

April 25, 2026 Work Party Work Party Plan

Edited April 19, 2026 - Jenny Sandbo, Communications & Project Manager, STB



Background

Due to spring break and athletic meets for local schools, our last work party on April 11 was lightly attended with only 15 volunteers. Because of the low turn-out, our planned work did not proceed as quickly as we hoped.

Our goals for the work party included:

1. *Complete capping on section 1 to the dock trail. We finished capping up to the Memorial Bench site.*
2. *Build a rock retaining wall and fill the low spot on “Fisherman’s Trail” (marked green on the map), making it wide enough for power carrier and mower access. **Done!***

3. *Begin rock work on the main rock retaining wall. **We completed about 1/3 of the first layer of rock.***

Our plan for March 25 is to continue the work from April 11: rock sand capping and building the rock retaining wall.

Additional rock sand and 1-man rock are on order.

This is our last scheduled (open to the public) work party at Thompson Pond and it is unlikely that we will complete the work in just a single day. We will schedule a small team work party for the week of May 11 to apply finishing touches.

Jenny will increase promotion for the April 25 work party.

Schedule

8:00 am Most of our leadership team meets at the tool shed to bring the tools and power carriers to the trail head. Jenny, Amelia and Chloe meet at the trail head.

8:45 am Volunteers Sign-in at the material staging area on Thompson Rd. Volunteer Parking is located at “the Quad” on Thompson Rd. [Directions.](#)

9:00 am:

Jenny, JT & Paul will lead introductions, make announcements, and explain today’s work.

Safety Talk : Chloe & Amelia

T-shirts & Group Photo

930-noon: trail work

12-12:45 pm: lunch

1-3 pm: trail work

3 pm: clean up and organize tools

4:00 pm: Work Party Planning Meeting (by invitation for volunteers who work a full day 9am-3pm)

Materials Staging (Friday Prep)

- For rock retaining wall: 1-man rock + 4x8 + drain rock, staged in piles along the length of the wall.

Teams

Roving Crew Leader: Paul

Capping Leads: Chloe and Amelia

Number of volunteers: 7

Guide the rock sand delivery: 1

Rake and level: 4

Compact: 2

Rock Wall: Jenny, Jerry + Leslie

Number of volunteers: 9

We will split up into 3 teams with Jenny as the floating crew leader.

- Finish building up the low spot with drain rock and topping with sod discards.
- Starting in the center of the slope, two teams will work north and south building up the rock wall base. Work in collaboration so that the walls have a consistent appearance.

Restoration: Lynn

Clipping blackberries in trees above rock retaining wall. Prepping ferns or other native plants to naturalize the top of the retaining wall.

Power Carrier Drivers: Kip, Michael and Craig

Material staging and loading: JT

**Additional teams may be determined on Friday afternoon after the conditions and materials are evaluated.

Key Dates

- April 25: STB Final volunteer work party on Thompson Pond

- May 9: STB First work party on Norlum Trail. Guest Groups Skagit Alpine Club and SW Earth Club.
- Week of May 11: Potential for an extra session at Thompson Pond to complete rock sand capping.
- 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.
- July 25: Public History Day at SWIFT
- Aug 22: Music in the Park SWIFT (tentative)
- Sept 12: Music in the Park SWIFT (tentative)