

## **Skagit Trail Builders**

### **Review of May 9, 2026 Work Party**

### **Planning for the May 23, 2026 Work Party**

Bull Pen Restaurant, Sedro-Woolley, WA

May 9, 2026 - Notes taken by Jenny Sandbo, Communications STB

9 volunteers in attendance (8 for the meal).

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

**Volunteers at Large:** John Seehorn, Bret Turner

### **Background**

This was our first work party on Norlum Trail, the latest phase in expanding the Northern State Trail System on the SWIFT Center Campus, a property managed by the Port of Skagit.

Guest Group: Skagit Alpine Club (SAC)

**28 volunteers total, approximately 170 hours volunteered**

#### **Our goals for the work party included:**

1. Manage native plants encroaching on the trail corridor, including trimming and transplanting where needed.
2. Grade, outslope and level soils. Shape notch drains.
3. Spot treat low areas with ballast.

### **Discussion:**

The team agreed that it was a really positive and well-attended work party. The SAC team worked hard and fast and helped us accomplish more than we expected.

JT will wheel off the trail to measure for additional materials. The section we worked on is ready for pit run capping.

Jenny marked ferns for transplanting with pink ribbon. More barbed wire was found and tied with pink ribbon for the Port to remove.

Our guest group for the next work party is the Mountaineers GoHike course participants. Between that team and our regular volunteers, we expect about 40 volunteers at our May 23 work party. It will be important to have enough meaningful work to keep everyone

engaged. Like previous years, we will split the GoHike crew into 2 groups: one group will explore the trails while the other works. After lunch, they switch.

### **Our goals for May 23 party on Norlum Trail:**

1. Pit run cap from the materials staging area to our stopping point mid-loop (fence post tied with pink ribbon).
2. Naturalize trail side.

### **Questions for the Port team (Jenny will send):**

1. Water tank for pit run?
2. Progress on blackberry management – can we start on the next segment of trail?

### **Discussion of May 16 work party at Thompson Pond**

We are holding a special (by-invitation-only) work party at Olmsted Park to finish the rock wall and remove remaining rock back to the materials staging area.

Planning to attend: Chloe, Amelia, Corina, Michael, Paul, Craig, Karin, JT and Jenny. We expect to work about 4 hours, 9am – 1 pm with a short lunch break. Jenny will email the plan.

### **Key Dates**

- May 16: Thompson Pond special session.
- 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.