

September 2019 Trail Maintenance Report from the Fernie Trails Alliance

The Fernie Trails Alliance is pleased to provide this update on trail maintenance so far this season and what is hoped to be completed before the snow flies.

To date the following has been completed:

- 48 Hours - Lower section revamp (machine time, lumber and volunteer hours);
- Dopamine - Gully revamp (lumber and volunteers hours);
- Contra - Spring clean-up and finish phase 1 (volunteer hours and trail crew);
- 3 Kings – Re-route and trail open after logging (volunteer hours);
- Red Sonya - Maintenance (volunteer hours);
- Swine Flu – New Climb and brushing (volunteer hours);
- Trans Canada Trail (TCT) - Loose Change - Finish 2km and clean up after logging (volunteer hours and trail crew paid for with a TCT Capital Improvement Grant);
- TCT - Spring clean-up/annual maintenance (volunteer hours and trail crew paid for with a TCT Spring Clean-up Grant). Also, re-route around the Morrissey area to avoid high speed trail crossing. New signage installed;
- S-Bomb – Brushing and general maintenance (paid trail crew). Memorial bench for Robert DeGrace (online fundraising campaign, volunteer hours, helicopter, lumber and plaque);
- Inclusive trail – Final work on the trail completed. This is an incredibly valuable addition to our trail network! (Volunteer hours, Columbia Basin Trust Grant, private donors, funds from Parastone and use of Parastone equipment);
- Kiddy Down – New trail developed in partnership with the City of Fernie to allow trail use near the Ridgemont closure (volunteer hours);
- Lazy Lizard - Trail maintenance on the upper half of Lazy Lizard. Repaired drainage issues and installed another section of trail armor and buffed the trail tread. The crew also gave Purple Monkey Dishwasher a quick buff on the way back home (volunteer hours);
- Today's Special – Tree and stumps cleaned up as well as some light brushing, pruning and tuning (volunteer hours);
- Lower uprooted - New berms and improved drainage (volunteer hours);
- Porky blue - Brushing and clearing to re-open (volunteer hours and TransRockies funded helicopter time);
- General Maintenance of many trails, including brushing, rebuilding corners, draining wet areas, clearing deadfall and logging debris;
- Big Money – Re-route to address logging damage (volunteer hours);
- Smooth Salamander clean up after major logging effects (volunteer hours);
- Signage for Snoop Lion, Smooth Salamander, Branch H and Cokato Connector;
- Installation of trailhead interpretive kiosk at Hosmer Ruins;
- Installation of Contra trailhead kiosk;

Projects in progress:

- Watering Hole – Plans to address logging damage;
- Heiko's – Already completed: brushed out from Windy Pass to near the top of Tamarack. Picnic table and outhouse installed (helicopter time, volunteer hours, donations from the Crown, CBT Grant). To be completed: signage, trail widening and infrastructure, as well as investing in Heiko's famous 2km ladder section to replace old wood with new, improving accessibility (paid for with a Columbia Basin Trust Grant). An outhouse has been installed which was donated by the Crown;
- Coal Creek Heritage Trail re-route. Re-routes of 3 sections - clean up after logging, and removing steep/technical areas to make the trail more consistently green rated (Machine time, paid trail crew and volunteer hours, including 3 Thursday nights). There is more buffing and signage to be done, plus installing a cattle guard and building a new bridge. Use caution, but please go check it out and help pack the trail in!
- Space Unicorns – There will be a new up track installed in the coming weeks (volunteer hours);
- Fairy Creek Bridge (phase 2) to Chamber info Bike BC grant, City of Fernie partnership (planned for fall);
- Fernie Valley Pathway 2020 – The FTA is working in conjunction with the City of Fernie to build a pathway to offer safe non-motorized travel from town to the Ski Hill. This will be a multi-use, human-powered, paved trail and the finished result will be a 7 km paved pathway to accommodate many different users. For more information, visit <http://www.fernietrailsalliance.com/sites/default/files/general/images/FerniePathway-Brochure-sm.pdf>

To view the detailed budgetary expenses for the season, be sure to attend the FTA's Annual General Meeting (TBA).