

Update 6/21/16 from Rick Trujillo:

Hello Everyone--

Well, here we are well into the second half of June, 2016. After a dry winter and then a cool and wet spring, summer finally arrived on June 2 with its first shirt sleeve day since early October. The snows of the vanquished winter are now mostly reduced to isolated patches above tree line, and though the peak runoff has already passed the rivers and creeks are still running high, Temperatures have recently climbed to record levels, with 91 F in Ouray just yesterday. So far it is shaping up to be a normal, if warm, early summer.

As announced in my previous information emails, trail work this year under my direction will be done on the two consecutive days of Saturday July 9, and Sunday July 10. However, beginning this year there is also a second official Hardrock trail work program, this one being under the direction of Megan Finnesy and scheduled for the same Saturday July 9, and Sunday July 10. Both my and Megan's trail work programs are posted on the Hardrock web site (<http://hardrock100.com/hardrock-trails.php>), but now seems to be the proper time to clarify what and where. Trail work under my direction will be primarily on specific portions of the Hardrock course and maybe on one or more specific other trails near Ouray under the auspices of the Ouray Trails Group. Trail work under the direction of Megan Finnesy will be on specific portions of the trails system of the Silverton Double Dirty 30, a new 60 mile mountain run south of Silverton, the first running of which will be on this coming September 24 (<http://dirty30.org/silverton/> see attached map).

Work under my direction for day one will be focused primarily on the Bear Creek Trail south of Ouray. This will entail replacing the cribbing at the "washout" about 2.8 miles up trail (it was mostly destroyed by the spring thaw) and raking loose rocks from certain places along the first 1.25 miles of the trail. On this day there will probably also be a second work party dispatched to the Horse Thief Trail north of Ouray. Work on day two will be near the summit of Oscar's Pass, accessed from the Ophir valley, and on the Liberty Bell basin side of Mendota Saddle, accessed from the Tomboy Road.

Work under Megan's direction for both days one and two will be on the Rico-Silverton Trail (which we have been working on for the past two years), as well as on the Engineer Mountain Trail. Both of these trails are part of the Silverton Double Dirty 30 course. It is a two to five mile hike up to the various work areas, all of which are above tree line at approx 12,000 ft. elevation. Megan is looking for 24 to 32

volunteers to help with her work areas on both days. She will have three or four trail bosses and each trail boss will be working with up to eight volunteers.

Megan's work is very important to improving relations with the Columbine Ranger District which oversees the presently and officially "non-system" Hardrock trails system through Putnam Basin and Bear Creek Silverton. It is hoped that when it is clear that we are committed to taking care of the trails along the Hardrock and Dirty 30 courses, the Columbine Ranger District will eventually turn this "non-system" Putnam-Bear Creek trails segment into a "system" trail. We will then be able to do much needed trail work on them.

Because the two above said official Hardrock trail work programs will work in completely different areas, and because most volunteers will be camping or otherwise lodging in the Silverton area it seems most efficient that we meet there to organize in the mornings of both days. This will be somewhat awkward for the Ouray area work on day one, but since there is no way to know for sure just who will actually show up for work on each day it is the only way we can effectively allocate the volunteers. Therefore, for both Saturday July 9, and Sunday July 10, all volunteers will meet at 8:00 am at the Silverton school gym (see attached map).

On day one (July 9) after registering and allocating all the volunteer workers that show up at the Silverton School Gym, Megan's workers will depart for her work areas southwest of Silverton and my workers will travel north over Red Mountain pass to the Bear Creek trail head at the tunnel on US550, 2.5 miles above Ouray. There may be some volunteers staying in the Ouray area who want to work Bear Creek Ouray and elect to wait at the Bear Creek trail head rather than travel to Silverton just to return. This is OK, but please do not start up the trail until we have arrived with tools and I can register you. I expect that we will arrive at the Bear Creek Ouray trail head by ~9:15 am.

On day two (July 10) after the 8:00 am registration and allocation, Megan's workers will again depart for her work areas southwest of Silverton and my workers will travel over Ophir pass to access the trails to Oscar's Pass and Mendota Saddle. I will need several volunteer 4x4 vehicles to carry my workers over the relatively mild but still rough Ophir pass to get to these work areas, exactly how many vehicles will not be known until we know the number of workers.

It is important that every work volunteer be at the said meeting places at the said time to be registered so that you will get credit for trail work, either for the HRH lottery (two days of work required) or other

trail races (usually only one day of work required). Some names on this mailing list have contacted me after their initial contact and stated that they will not be able to attend either work day. I have kept these names on the mailing list anyway just in case circumstances change and they find they will be able to attend after all. Whatever the case, the final registration of names and work will be done on the mornings of each of the scheduled work days. For those who will be able to attend and work on one or both days, great; for those who for whatever the reason(s) will not be able to do so, then "asi es la vida" (that's life).

I will send a final brief Hardrock volunteer trail workers' email with up to date information circa July 6. Until then enjoy the summer!

Rick
HRH Trail Work Volunteers Coordinator

Trujillo







