

Update February 5, 2018 from Rick Trujillo

Hello Everyone

This is my second email of the season to inform that I have received your emails and to announce the work schedule for the 2018 Hardrock trail work volunteers. As most of you know, the Hardrock volunteer trail work is traditionally done over two consecutive days, usually the weekend before the Hardrock run proper. This year will be the 25th running of the Hardrock Hundred, with the start in Silverton at 6:00 am, Friday, July 20.

Therefore, the 2018 Hardrock trail work volunteers work schedule is for the two consecutive days of Saturday, July 14 and Sunday July 15. This is still more than five months away, hopefully enough time to allow most of you to make work/travel/lodging/camping arrangements to attend the work parties. As with previous years there will be two separate work groups, one focusing on the Hardrock route itself (overseen by me) with the second focusing on the Silverton Double Dirty 30 route (overseen by Megan Finnesy). It is a little early right now to state exactly where the work will be done for either work group, or to take tally as to who goes where, but pertinent information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the work dates.

I will be sending a general information email such as this soon after the beginning of each new month into early June. Then as we get into mid-June I will provide more information such as where and when to meet for each work day.

Today, February 5, dawned partly cloudy and relatively warm (32F) with no new snow. In fact there has been no new snow in more than two weeks, not since the storm of January 20-21 that dumped some 14 inches in the streets of Ouray. This was enough to finally open Ouray's small ski hill and the ice climbers rejoiced with a correspondingly significant drop in temperature. For about two days it seemed as if winter had finally arrived. However, the skies remained dry, night and daytime temperatures rose again, and the ski hill had to close after only eleven days when the snow melted to almost nothing. At present the ice park is still in operation but for how much longer is anyone's guess.

For those who might be interested I have attached some pictures of the (lack of) snow and the ice situation in and above Ouray as of this morning, February 5. These photos were taken at the same locations as those in my January 7 information email and illustrate that little has changed since then. With the consistent record warm temperatures we have so far had no winter. In fact it feels like spring with cottonwood trees beginning to bud down valley and song birds singing outside my window this morning. Punxsutawney Phil was wrong!

Rick Trujillo

HRH Trail Work Volunteers Coordinator

