

Update June 5, 2018 from Rick Trujillo

Hello Everyone

This is my sixth 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 now only a little more than five weeks away meaning that if you expect to attend the work parties your work/travel/lodging/camping arrangements should be made soon. 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 Ultra Marathon (formerly the Silverton Double Dirty 30) route (overseen by Megan Finnesy).

We are now in early June and the snow has virtually disappeared, even in the high mountains. I will be making reconnaissance examinations of certain sectors of the Hardrock route in the next several days to determine what needs to be done on them and where. Right now I can only say that in regard to the Hardrock course our focus will be on the Bear Creek Trail at Ouray, the Bear Creek Trail at Silverton, and probably also on the long stretch between Sherman and Maggie Gulch. I will be able to give more pertinent information, namely where and when to meet for each work day, in my next information email, after I have done the field examinations.

Today, June 5, dawned clear, calm and warm (58F) in Ouray, yesterday's high was 82F. Snow is now non-existent in the valleys and nearly so in the high country. The streams in the Ouray-Silverton region peaked two weeks ago. Although we received some rain two days ago today, the valleys are presently dry and there is no moisture in the forecast for the next week. The drought here in the western San Juans (and in the general Four Corners region) continues. There is a forest fire near US550 between Silverton and Durango which has periodically closed the road. Smoke from this fire has been considerable here in Ouray today, and there is a No Fires order all through the region. In 2002 the Hardrock Hundred was cancelled due to extreme fire danger. The Summer monsoon rains normally begin in late June or early July, hopefully they will arrive on schedule.

Attached are two photos of Ouray showing the present dry situation around town.

Rick Trujillo

HRH Trail Work Volunteers Coordinator

