



PROJECT STATUS REPORT October 2015

Trail Maintenance and Improvements

Trail maintenance was carried out in mid-June on Conservancy trails. Tree limbs and debris were cleared away on the Big Grizzly Creek trail and weeds and small pine trees were removed on all other trails. New wood chips were applied to mark the trail along the creek. Maintenance was also carried out on the Sally Peak trail due to the large amount of surface debris that covered sections of the trail. The budget for trail maintenance was exceeded due to this additional activity that was not budgeted.

Trail Map Revised

The trail map was revised to include new trails and to add specific information on the length and difficulty of each trail. The new brochure is printed on lighter weight paper and folds up to fit easily in a pocket. Improved graphics make the map easier to read.

Trailhead Markers

A vendor to fabricate new trailhead markers was identified. Due to the expense of the existing markers, several alternatives are being considered and prototypes will be shared with the Board for review in the spring. We need 5 new markers so reducing cost is important in light of the limited remaining budget.

Fire Pit Management

A process to safely use the fire pit located at Beckwourth Crossing has been developed. To use the fire pit, the owner will go to the Sales Office during regular business hours to check out the propane key and the igniter. They will fill out a form that includes their name, address and phone number and the date and time of key pick-up. The attendant will give them a copy of the Fire Pit Rules, which describes how to properly use the fire pit, safety measures, required clean-up, and directions for return of the key and igniter to the Sales Office. A drop box will be installed at the Sales Office to facilitate key drop-off after business hours. The Executive Director will be informed when the key is checked out and will insure that the site is cleaned up properly after use.

Web Site

Work has begun on the web site to make it more user friendly. The current architecture is cumbersome and information is hard to find according to feedback from users. Donna will work with Rebecca and Sharon to make the recommended changes.

FireWise Community

Grizzly Ranch has recently qualified as a FireWise Community. An assessment of the community was completed which evaluated and rated each parcel for fire risk. The hazard severity for the Conservancy parcel at Beckwourth Crossing was very low so no additional fuels reduction is required at this time.

Community Outreach

Dave Valle, the science teacher from Portola High School, plans to monitor the water quality on Big Grizzly Creek this spring. He was not able to schedule a visit to Grizzly Ranch last year but plans to visit the site with his high school science class in 2016.