



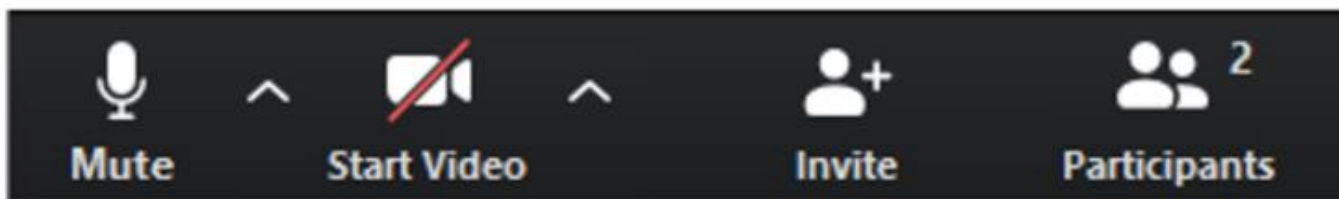
Pacific Crest Trail Association

Intro to Trail Scouting

Welcome!

We'll begin shortly after 5:00 PM





Zoom Technology Tips



Why are we here tonight?





Tonight's training

- Safety requirements
- Developing “trail eyes”
- Know what good trail looks like
- Concept of trail triage
- Accurately survey a trail
- Reporting procedures
- Plus a break, Q&A sessions, and giveaways!





Safety






While Scouting


- Check-in, Check-out
- Being Prepared
- The Ten Essentials
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

[Read our Current COVID-19 Statement >](#)


 [Discover the Trail](#) [Our Work](#) [About Us](#) [Community](#) [Blog](#) [Volunteer](#) [Donate](#)

[Incident Report Form](#). PCTA would also like to be informed, so please contact us as well.


Safety advice for the Pacific Crest Trail




Emergency beacons, lost hikers, trip plans, and search and rescue
For support people at home, but also critical reading for people planning a trip on the trail.




Stream crossing safety while hiking and backpacking
Critical safety information for one of the most dangerous things you might do on a hike.




How to react to wildfires
You're on your own out there. Be prepared. There are tens of thousands of wildfires every year.



Avalanche danger
Thousands of avalanche paths cross the Pacific Crest Trail.




Burn area safety
Everything is looser than you think.



Sexual harassment and similar crimes
It can happen anywhere.

[Weather forecasts](#)
[When to hike the PCT](#)
[Winter recreation and snow information](#)
[Day and section hiking](#)
[Equestrian center](#)
[Guidance for Visiting the PCT During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
[John Muir Trail](#)
[Maps](#)
[Photo gallery](#)
[The regions](#)
[Thru-hiking and long-distance hiking](#)
[Trail closures](#)
[Trail conditions](#)
[PCT FAQ](#)
[Books](#)
[Permits](#)







Preparing to Scout or Adopt

Report trail conditions

Trees fall, tread washes out, and each spring, brush covers the trail. Your reports help those behind you – both volunteers and trail users. If this is an emergency, please call 911. If it's a significant issue that needs our attention right away, please call the PCTA office at 916-285-1846. Thanks.

Your post will appear after it has been reviewed. Please try to keep it focused on trail conditions as opposed to writing a trip report.

Title:

Content:

Region:

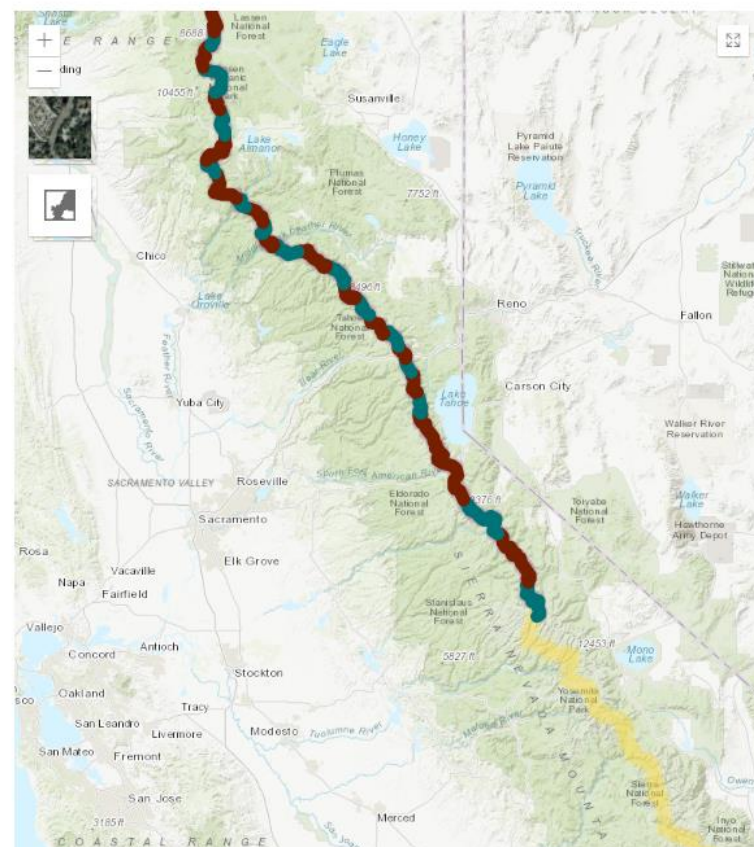
Section:

- Tags
- ☐ Equestrian issue
 - ☐ Extreme hazard
 - ☐ Water conditions
 - ☐ Trail maintenance issue
 - ☐ Snow conditions

My name is:

Adopted Trail Map

This map shows which volunteer groups have adopted sections of trail up and down the Pacific Crest Trail. The trail is color coded and is overlaid by a thinner line which shows the adopted segments. The adopted segments (alternating colors of Turquoise and Red-Brown) can be clicked on, and a pop-up will appear with up-to-date volunteer and segment information.



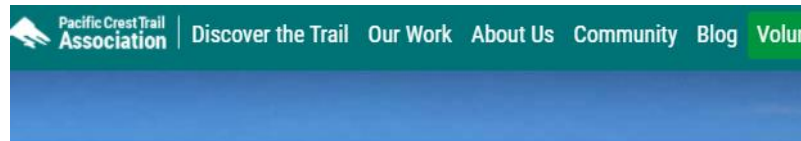


Formal Scouting

- TCP and JHA
- COVID Reengagement
- Project Reporting

Job Hazard Analysis (JHA)
(References-FSH 6709.11 and -12)

1. WORK PROJECT/ACTIVITY Trail Condition Survey	2. LOCATION Pacific Crest NST and side trails	3. UNIT Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
4. NAME OF ANALYST Beth Boyst (PCT Program Manager), PCTA	5. JOB TITLE	6. DATE PREPARED July 31, 2018
7. TASKS/PROCEDURES	8. HAZARDS	9. ABATEMENT ACTIONS Engineering Controls * Substitution * Administrative Controls * PPE
Create an Inclusive and Respectful Work Environment	Bullying, harassment, disrespectful communication	Strive to create a safe crew environment where all members are respected, valued and different perspectives are heard. If you are subjected to or witness harassment or disrespectful communication in the workplace you are encouraged to inform the individual directly that the conduct is unwelcome and must stop or report the behaviour to your PCTA or Forest Service contact.
Communication	Devices	Utilize cellular phones, satellite phones and/or InReach devices. Be aware that cell phones do not work along many sections of the PCT. Know the location of the nearest working landline and, if possible, the nearest location for cell phone service.
	Radios	Have agency compatible radio. Ensure radio has properly programmed frequencies, in working order, and have an extra set of batteries before leaving on the trip. Know of local repeaters and best locations to use radios during emergency. Know who is available to hear you call on the radio, as agency staffing may be few or none after regular work hours and on weekends.
	Check-in/Check-out	Check-in before project and check-out after project with designated tracker, which may be PCTA Regional Representative or federal agency staff.
Emergency Response	Trailhead Communication Plan (TCP) Emergency Action Plan (EAP)	Ensure plans are in place prior to beginning of project. Share TCP with PCTA Regional Rep, agency staff, and tracker. If EAP is activated due to incident, contact PCTA and agency staff immediately.
Personal Protective Equipment		Eye protection and sunscreen. Appropriate footwear. High-visibility vest (on public roadways and during hunting season). First aid kit. Personal communication device. Map and compass. Matches/fire starter (waterproof container). Water or water purifier. Supply of food for 1-3 days. Flashlight (extra batteries and bulb). Lightweight shelter and appropriate clothing for rapidly changing climatic conditions. Space blanket.



Crew leader center



A one-stop-spot for all things paperwork! Find all the forms you need for before, during, and after your trail crew project including JHA's, Sign In Sheets, youth forms, and financial documents. Looking for tools and supplies? Scroll to the bottom of this page.

Guidebooks and resources for new volunteers, trail maintenance, and volunteer safety can be found here and in the [volunteer learning center](#). Information about PCTA's Saw Program can be found under [saw training and certification](#).

COVID-19 Trail Maintenance Protocols

[Read the Protocols >](#)

Crew Leader Database

Post a new project or submit a report

[Post or Report Online *](#)
>

[Recent Changes Video](#)
>

[Fill & Mail Printed Report](#)
>

* You will need a sign in and password from PCTA.





Desktop Resources and Technology

Google Earth Pro

File Edit View Tools Add Help

▼ Search

Goat Rocks Wilderness, Randle, WA

Get Directions History

Goat Rocks Wilderness

Hiking destination with mountain views
Randle, WA 98377
(360) 891-5000 · fs.usdo.gov
24 reviews

▼ Places

Snow Stuff

Agency Boundaries

Forest Service

Ranger District Boundaries, Feat...

BLM

BLM Boundaries

BLM Fracking Leases

Sky River

Sky River Project Boundary

BLM Easement Deed for PCT

Turbines

Road Intersection

PCTA Draft Reroutes

Mitigation Reroute

Proposed Reroutes 6/12/2020

Other Linear Features

NPS

California_Wildernesses

CA State Parks

California Counties

Sierra/Sequoia Planning

Tejon

Land Protection

Pins

Temporary Places

GPS device

Created Tue Nov 17 12:15:44 2020

GPS device

Created Tue Nov 17 12:15:50 2020

Layers

36.0641, -118.1734
11S 09N4327E 39N1694N
7287 ft WGS84

Map Layers

Base Layers

Scanned Topos

Forest Service @ 100 %

FSTopo 2013 (white)

Normal @ 25 %

Stack Base Layer

Map Sheets

Stack Map Sheet

Map Overlays

Contours

MapBuilder Overlay

Slope Angle Shading Fixed

Public Lands

Parcel Data (pro only)

Motor Vehicle MVUM

Fire History

Fire Activity

GOES 17 Live Fire Detection

Sun Exposure

Forecasts

Weather Shading

Weather Grid

Avalanche

Shared Data

Shared CalTopo Maps

Shared Map Sheets

MapBuilder Features

Realtime Data

SnoTel Sites

Water Gauges

Weather Stations

USFS, National Land Survey of Iceland, AW030 data courtesy of the JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) N° MN 12° E

FirstBank PCT Water ADP COVID-19 Dashboa Moodle: Log in to t... Other

Other favorites

30°-31° 32°-34° 35°-45° 46°-50° 51°-59° 60°+

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Base Layers

Scanned Topos

Forest Service @ 100 %

FSTopo 2013 (white)

Normal @ 25 %

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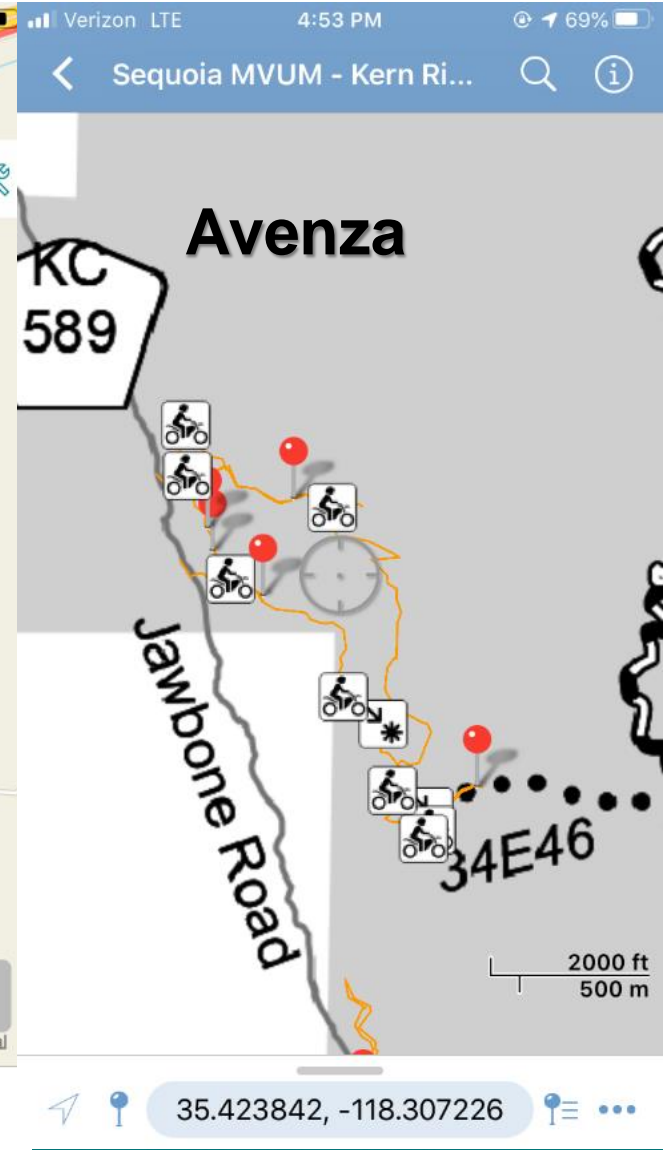
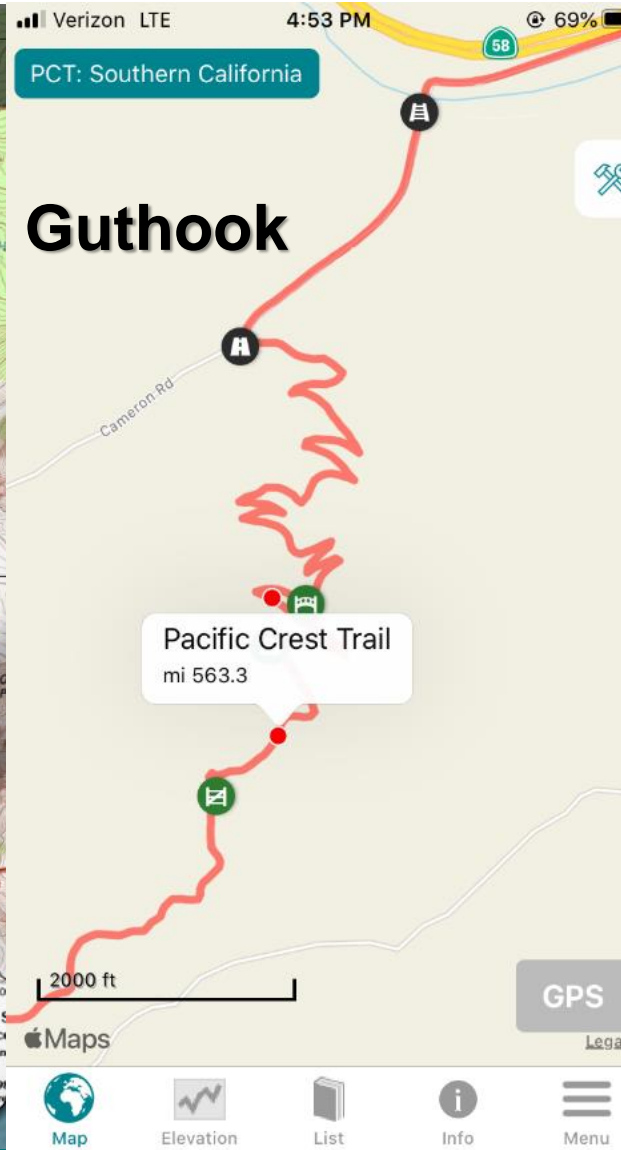
Weather Stations

USFS, National Land Survey of Iceland, AW030 data courtesy of the JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) N° MN 12° E





Handheld Resources and Technology





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Recording Conditions





Pacific Crest Trail Association Trail Assessment and Conditions Form

Page ____ of ____

Region: _____ Section: _____ Reported By: _____
Start Loc.: _____ End Loc.: _____ Dates Scouted: _____ to _____
Distance Covered: _____ Link to/Location of Photos: _____

Summary of Maintenance Needs	Brushing (% or ft) Light _____ Medium _____ Heavy _____
	Slough/Berm (% or ft) Minor _____ Medium _____ Major _____
	Drainages (#) Minor _____ Medium _____ Major _____
	Downed Trees (#) < 12" _____ 12 – 20" _____ 20 – 30" _____ >30" List Below

Condition Types			
<u>Tread</u> Cupped/Gullied Eroded <u>Inslope/Outslope</u> Narrowed Rough/Cobbled Rock/Root/Stump Slough/Berm Trenched Unstable Wet/Muddy/Bog Widened/Braided	<u>Drainage</u> Blocked Ineffective <u>Structure</u> Check Dam/Step Culvert Drain Dip Water Bar	<u>Corridor</u> Brush/Branches Clearance Low/Narrow Downed/Hazard Tree(s) Heavy Brush Slide <u>Signage/Kiosks</u> Damaged/Needs Paint Missing Non Standard	<u>Recreational Impact</u> Illegal Campsite Litter/Waste Prohibited Use Social Trail <u>Other Structures</u> Water Crossings Steps Switchback Turnpike/Causeway Wall/Cribbing

Item ID	Condition, Description and Metrics (Length, Width, Depth, Height, Count, Size, etc.)	Photo ID	Maint./ (R)econ.	Priority 1-Hazard 2-Damage 3-Restore





Mile 719.4 - Approximately 50ft of Trail undercut and eroded from high water event. Tread narrowed to 8" or less, should be medium-high priority, not dangerous.





Reporting Procedures

- Timely reporting
- Who to report to
- Communication
- Format if not using the Assessment Form





Break time

We'll begin again shortly

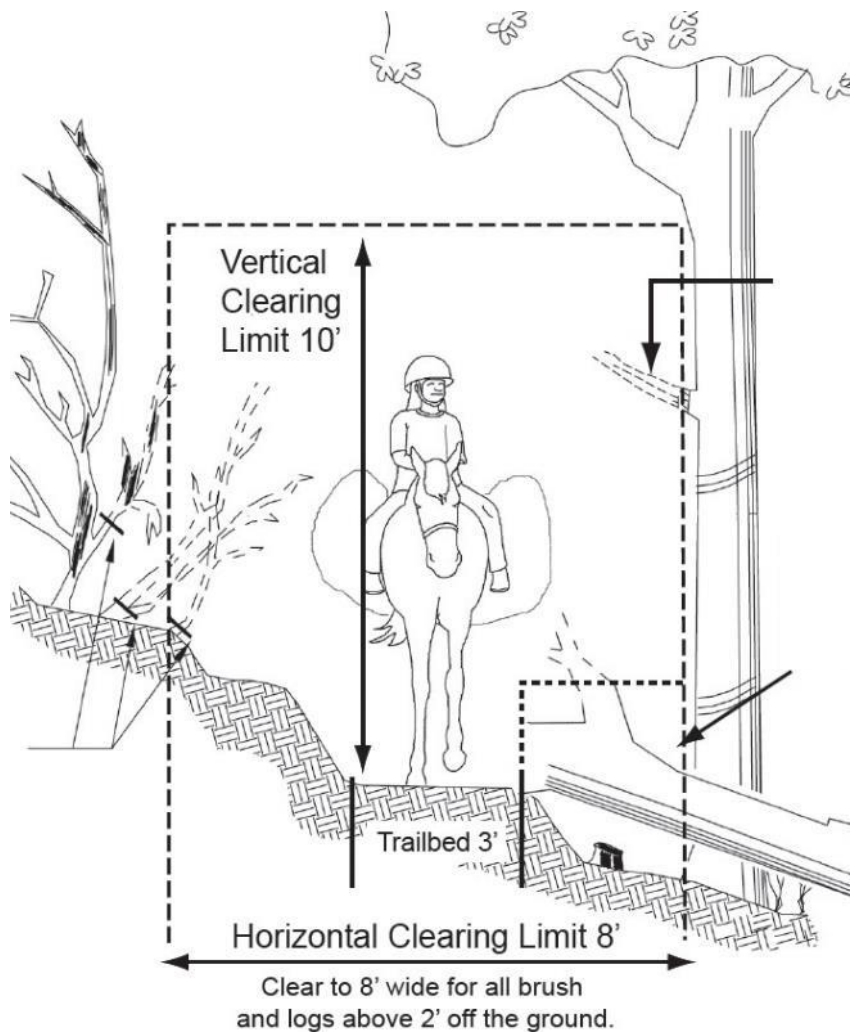




Developing “Trail Eyes”



Assessing Brushing



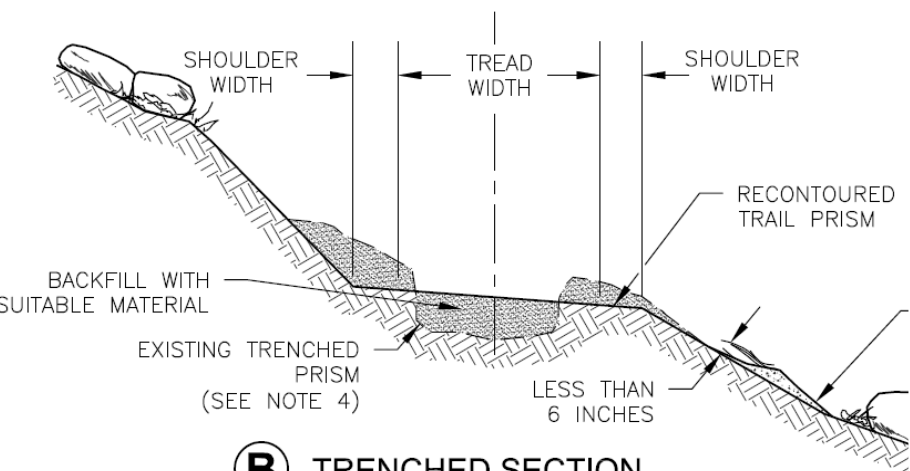


Assessing Brushing

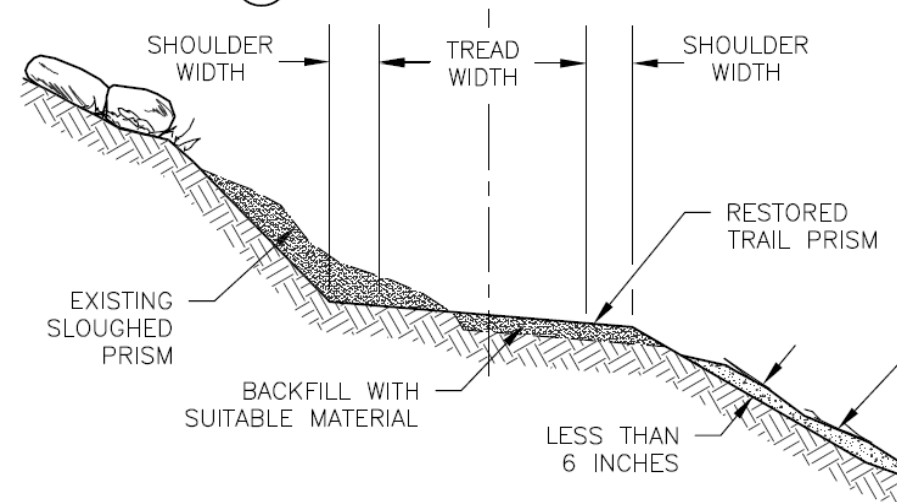




Assessing Tread and Drainage



(B) TRENCHED SECTION



(C) SLOUGHED SECTION





Narrowed



Sloughed



Cupped





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Assessing Signage





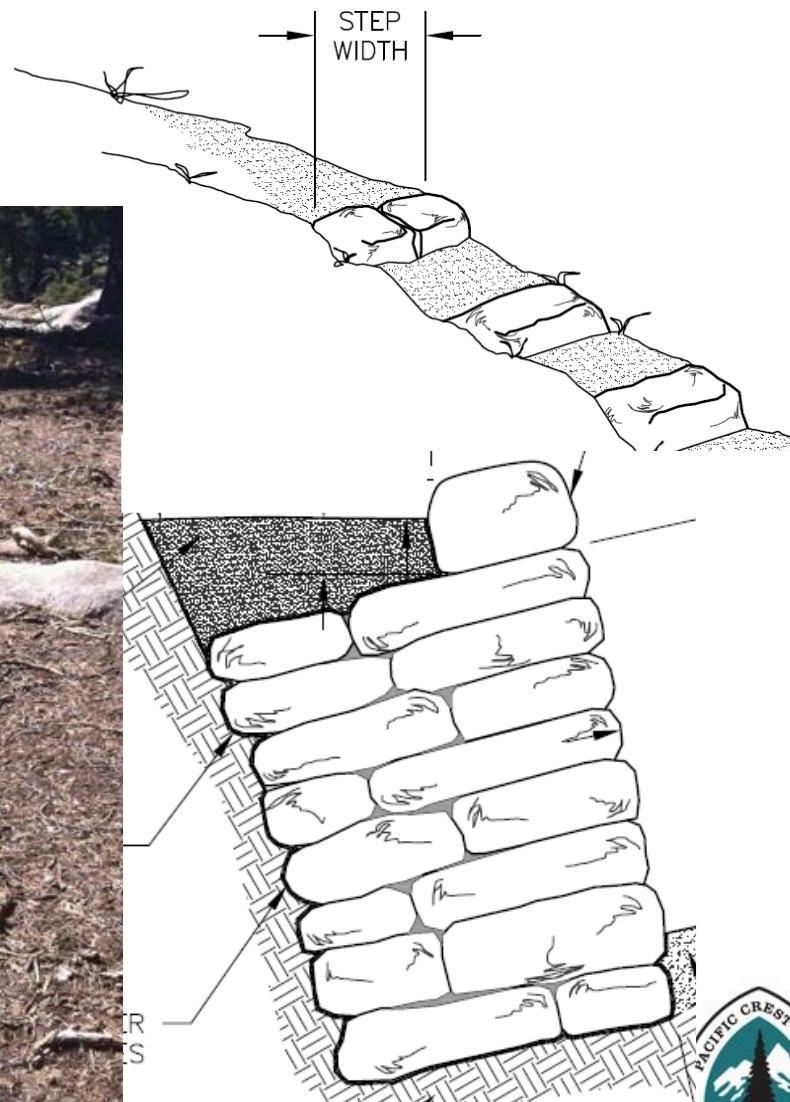
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Assessing Blowdowns





Assessing Rock Work





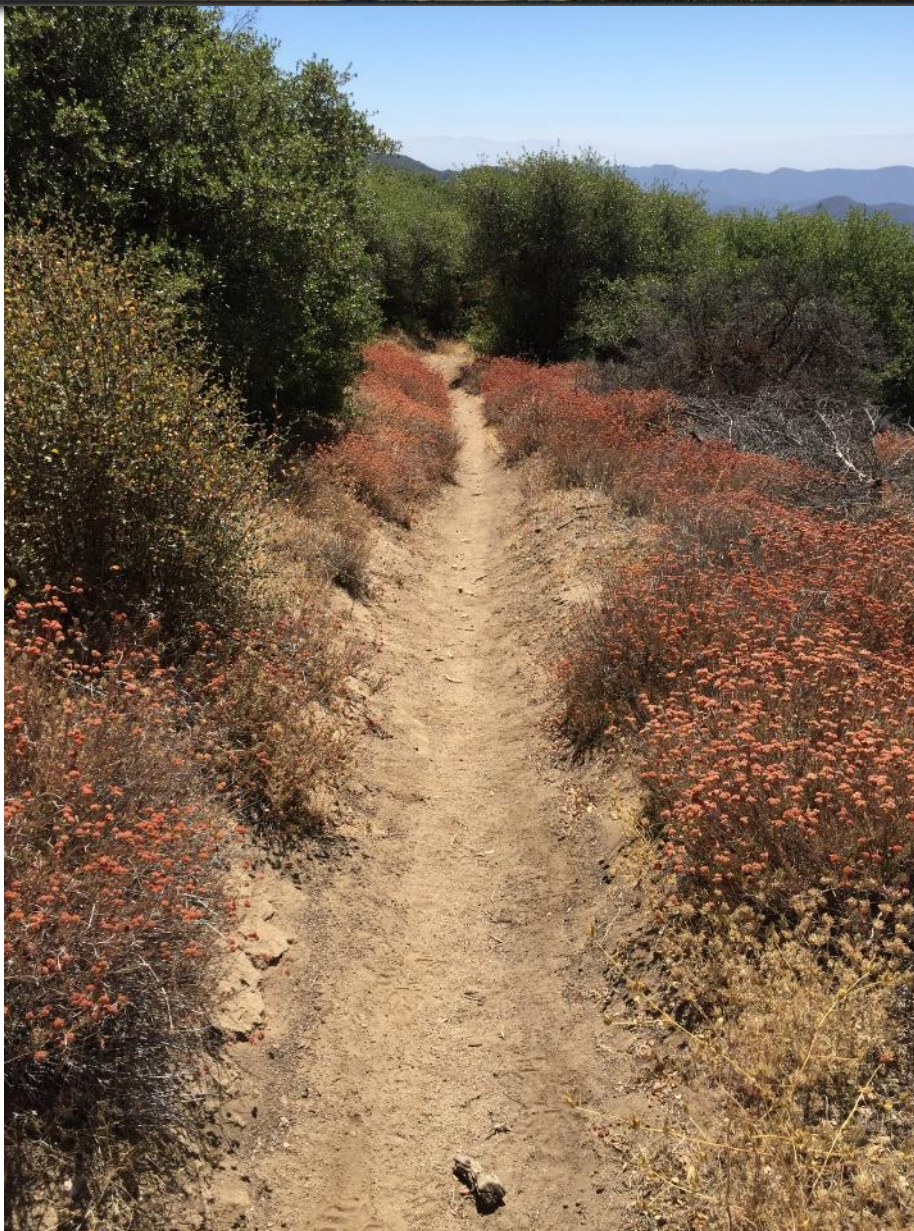
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Assessment Activities



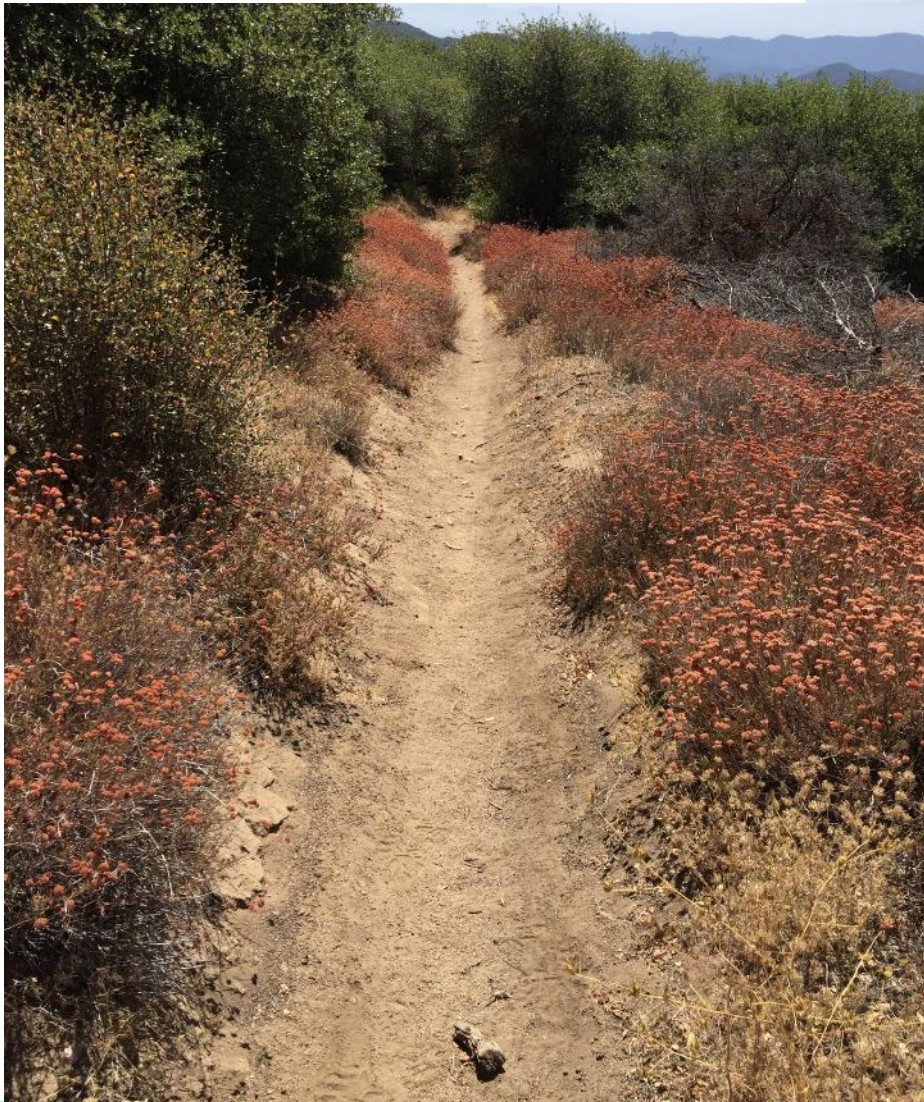
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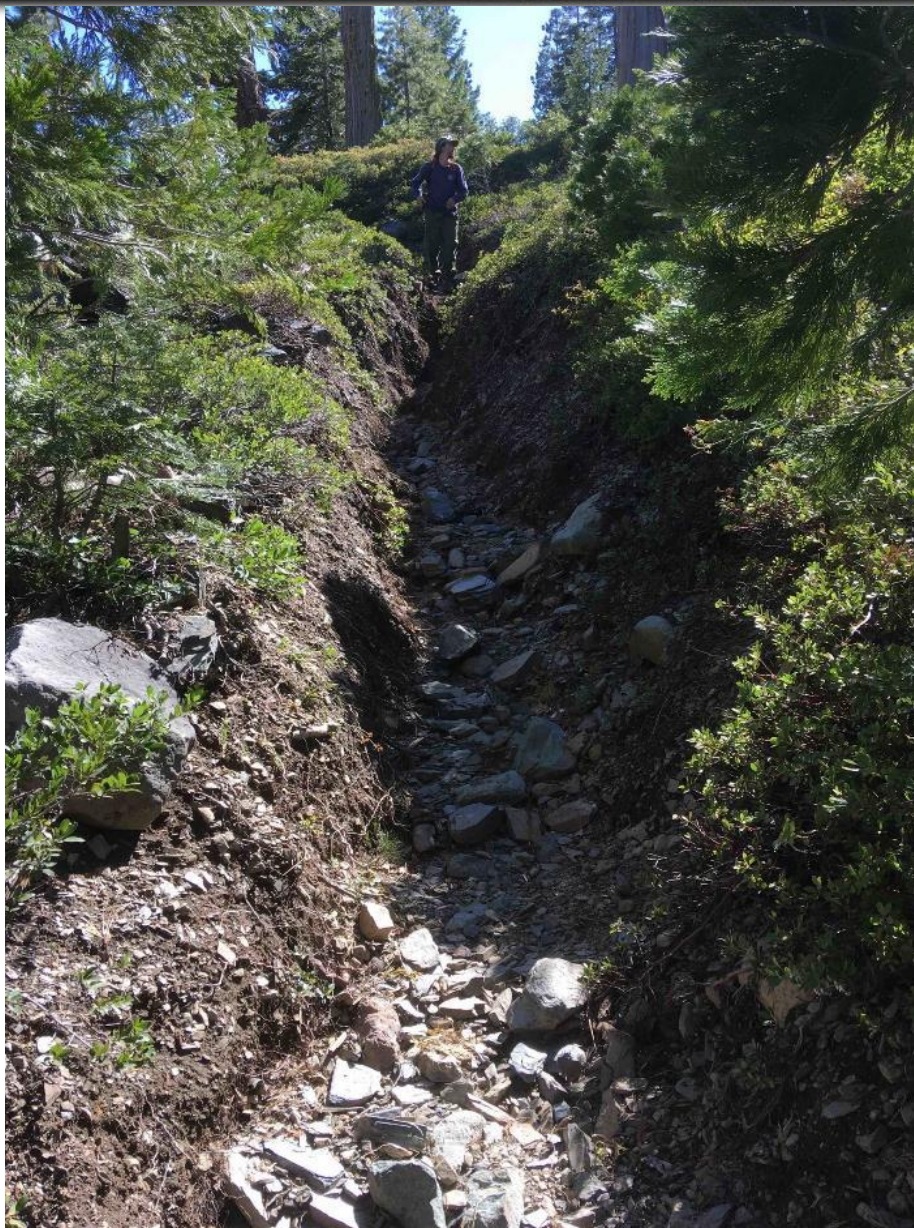
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(34°25'44.21"N, 118°15'49.52"W) – Moderate cupping for appx. 100 yards, 8-12" deep, could be deburmed in spots





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Now what? More ways to learn!

- **Start looking at trails!**
- **More Online Trainings:**
<https://www.pcta.org/volunteer/project-schedule/>
- **Connect With Your Local PCTA Chapter or Regional Rep:**
<https://www.pcta.org/volunteer/regional-groups/>
<https://www.pcta.org/about-us/regional-offices/>
- **Covid-19 Volunteer Protocols:**
<https://www.pcta.org/volunteer/covid-19-volunteer-protocols/>
- **Trail Skills College Curriculum:**
<https://www.pcta.org/volunteer/trail-skills-college/>
- **USFS Publications Website:**
https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/publications/fs_publications/





Acknowledgements

- Thank you for volunteering!
- Thank you for supporting the Pacific Crest Trail!

