

On Thursday, September 2, seven FOSM volunteers, along with SRD Trails Foreman Russell Berman, continued working northward (westward) on the Challenge trail extension in the vicinity of Dry Camp. Conditions were “tacky” more than muddy after rain the previous evening, and the soil dried out fairly quickly in most spots. Wet soil can be heavy, but it is also a lot easier and more pleasant to work with than dusty soil. For instance, when a rock gets pulled out of the tread, the resulting hole can easily be filled in and compacted if the soil is moist. Speaking of rocks, there were plenty! A steep sideslope and deep duff in spots added to the fun (to build sustainable trail it’s necessary to dig below the duff to find the “real” tread). Even with the benching and backslope already started by our friends at AMBA (ABQ Mountain Bike Association), the going was slow. But great views and cool temps made for a pleasant work session.

The volunteers were David Bernstein, Jenny Blackmore, Byron Garner, Jim Houle, Jeff Huser, Pat Madden and Eric Russell.

Photos by Jenny Blackmore.



Benching



Benching





Shoring up the tread



Refining the tread



Rock removal



It's the same rock.