

Sandia Nordic Ski Club Trail Work Report
Summary of Improvements to Klaus Trail North Corridor
Week of July 11, 2022

We made significant progress on the Klaus Trail North corridor this week, using the Yanmar ViO 25 mini excavator. The Klaus Trail parallels the Service Road and runs from the Sandia Nordic storage container at the south end to where it joins the Sandia Nordic groomed trail system just south of the Ellis Parking lot. The north corridor of Klaus begins at the cut off from the Service Road just across the small clearing to the south of the gravel pit and heads north to the junction mentioned above. Work this week began at the south end of the north corridor and focused on leveling the grade of the trail. We also worked with FOSM to clear a couple of reroutes on the south section of Klaus. The work with FOSM involved clearing the reroutes of large fallen trees, and also felling a number of dead standing trees and a few small live trees as well. The new corridors that FOSM cleared follow the contour of the mountain much better and will improve access for both skiers and grooming equipment and enhance skier safety as well. Photos of this week's work sessions are included below.



Jeff Huser using the mini excavator to dig out a large partially decayed stump.



SRD Trails Foreman Russell Berman uses the horizontal blade on the mini excavator to smooth out the rough-cut left by the scoop bucket.



Bruce Hansche moving a small boulder from the trail.



Bruce using the excavator to unearth a large flat boulder. This rock was too large to move off the trail with the mini excavator. We will be returning for a rock work day with the scoop bucket changed out for a breaker attachment (a large jack hammer). This will allow us to break up this rock and other large rocks on the trail allowing them to be moved.



This photo is from the FOSM work day on Saturday, July 16th and shows Michael Arndt bucking a large log that had fallen across the trail previously. Dennis Crowther (yellow hard hat) and Cliff Giles are waiting to remove the bucked log. Bucking is a term used by sawyers to describe cutting a log into pieces.



FOSM and Sandia Nordic member Eric Russel felling an aspen “cigar butt”. Cigar butt is a term used by sawyers to refer to a standing tree that has the top broken off.



Michael Arndt limbing a small fir tree on the side of a section of the Klaus Trail which was recently graded with the mini excavator. This small fir, and the standing dead tree to its left were both felled after Michael completed the limbing prep work.