

On Thursday May 25, fifteen FOSM volunteers returned to the Challenge Trail extension, building new tread west and east of a VLC (very large culvert :) which runs under the second hairpin turn as you drive up 536. Water was still flowing through the culvert and down the drainage; part of the crew built a temporary rock crossing to use on this and future work sessions in the vicinity. West (and south) from the culvert, tread work continued where the crew left off during the hasty rainy retreat the previous week. East (and south) from the culvert, construction started in a flat grassy area and continued onto rocky flat terrain with many high-stumped oaks, before moving onto the steep sideslope below the highway (not pictured). Temps remained cool enough for pleasant working conditions throughout the day.

The volunteers were Michael Arndt, Tayo Basquiat, Courtnee Bennett, Dan Benton, Jenny Blackmore, John Braly, Sim Cook, Luis Cuadros, Byron Garner, Bruce Hansche, Jim Houle, Jeff Huser, Eric Russell, Roland Stumpf and Ralph Wrons.

Photos by Jenny Blackmore unless otherwise noted.

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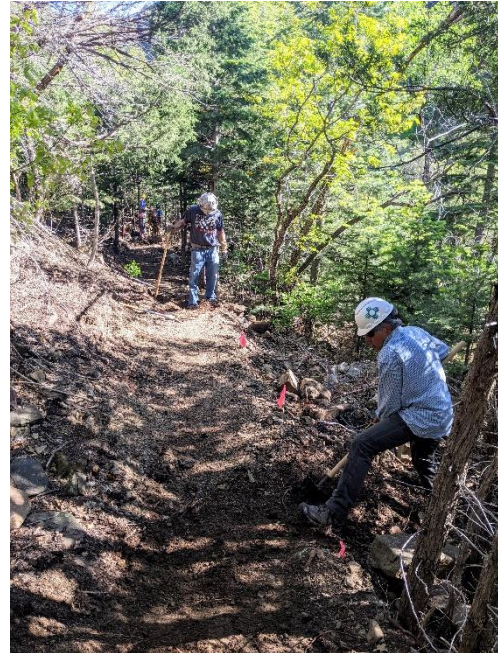
See where the flag is? That's about where the rock was. See the rock behind Bruce? That's where he and Jeff moved it.



Roland, Eric and John work on one of Kerry's realignments



Courtnee and Tayo find a good spot to add some drainage



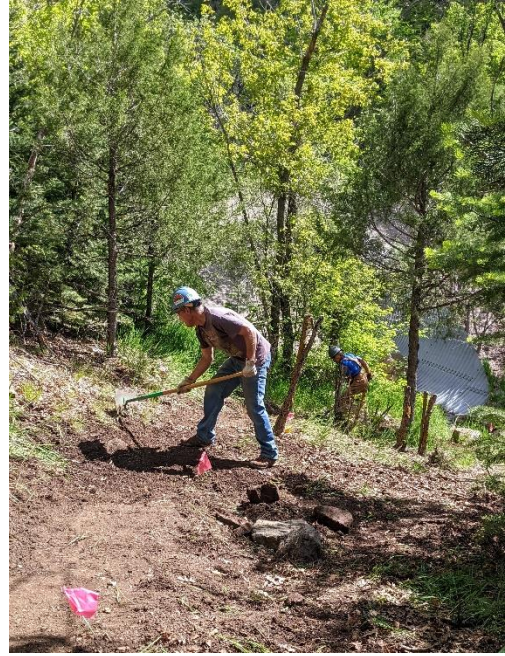
Luis and Michael do some finish-work on benched tread



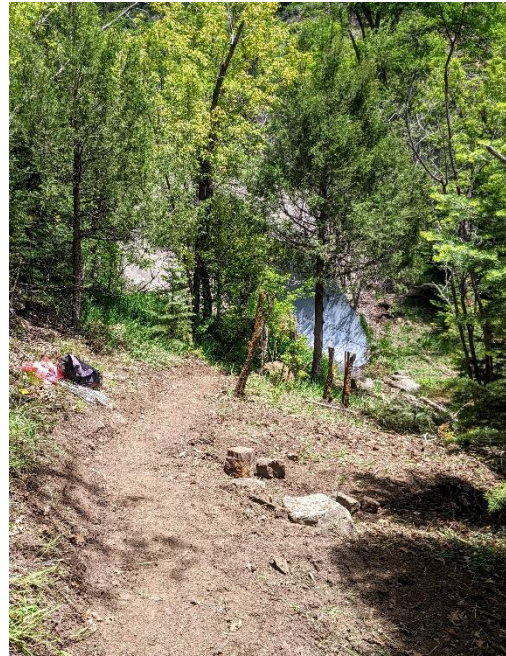
Jim goes low



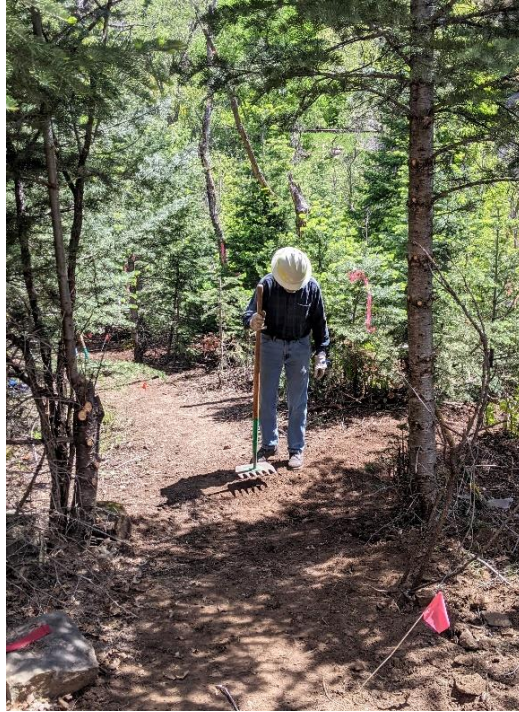
Dan finds an egregious obstruction
(Sim in background)



Jeff and Ralph work just west of the VLC



Before (with Bruce) and after – a nice wide turn into the drainage

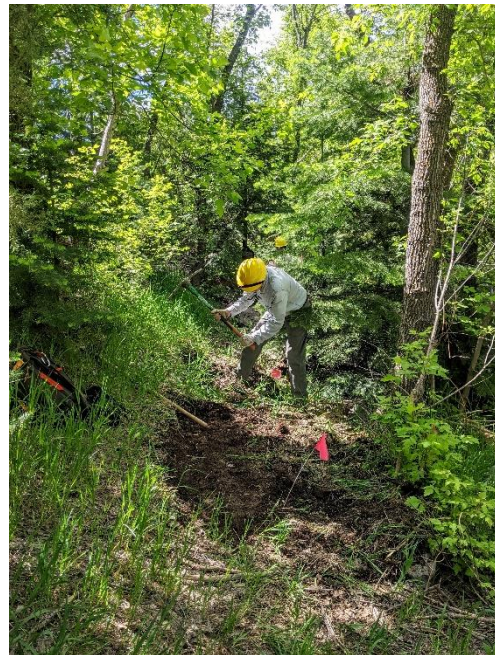


On the west side, Byron adds some finishing touches to his drainage feature

The crew crosses to the east side



Roland, John, Bruce and Eric in the green, green grass



Eric finds a steeper section



Sim and Michael start on the flats before heading to steeper terrain

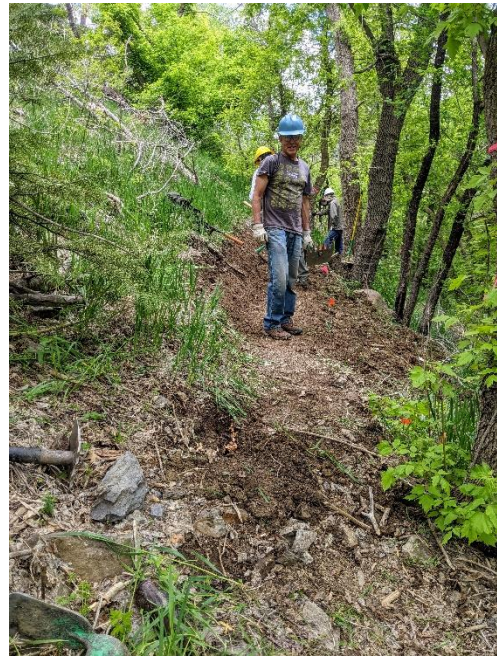


'Nothing like a little post-lunch rock-wrassling. Jeff and John are glad for two rock bars this week.

More stumps...



Jim and Tayo take turns on the remains of theirs



Ralph's before and after. Satisfying!



Bruce Hansche's before and after photos of the rock crossing ("after" taken during lunch ;)



Before and after of the turn crossing the drainage