**TTYL WORK PROJECT REPORT – THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023**

**SPLITTING WOOD FROM TREES REMOVED FROM 9 MILE PICNIC RECONSTRUCTION SITE**

By Lou Romero

This project concludes the first 3 weeks of TTYL’s 9 week work season. Sam and I are gratified by the planning that Shelby and her team dedicated to the entire undertaking. We are pleased with our involvement and contributions. Every FOSM member that worked with the outstanding youths on a variety of projects was impressed by their willingness to learn and enthusiasm to perform assigned tasks. In the end we all learned something from each other in this cross-generational youth development endeavor.

Upon arrival at 9 Mile, we encountered 8 beautiful Deer wandering through the reconstruction “footprint”. They seemed just as curious about what we were up to as we were about how they might be experiencing all the human activity in their environment.

The photos below show the TTYL crew busy splitting large rounds into firewood pieces. Judging by the smiling faces they are enjoying the results of their teamwork and skills they have learned during the brief time working with FOSM volunteers.

4 principle topics emphasized during our work together are **Safety; Teamwork; Work Ethics and Leadership principles.**

**Other topics featured during the 3 weeks include at least a brief introduction to:**

* The importance of Watersheds;
* Tree Species;
* Ecological zones;
* Fire Fuel Ladder;
* Fire-line Construction;
* Crosscut Saw use;
* History of the Pulaski tool
* Introduction to careers with the US Forest Service
* Dynamics of Positive Role Modeling and Mentoring
* The Meaning and Fulfillment from Volunteering
* The Meaning of Caring for the Land and Serving People in general.

SEE PHOTOS BELOW:

 