

On Thursday December 7, fourteen FOSM volunteers and SRD Trails Foreman Jen Medina-Gray hiked in a little under 2 miles along the Lower Pine Trail (to the junction with Gear Grinder Trail), then worked back northwards towards the trailhead, clearing corridor for a pending (long) realignment along the trail. The realignment incorporates sweeping switchbacks crossing the original trail, which is steep and trenched-out. Lower Pine is a multi-use trail, open to OHV. This realignment and others will be built along Lower Pine once conditions improve for tread work; Jen pin-flagged this one on Monday. On the workday Jen and Eric cleared the larger downfall with chainsaws while Byron swamped and the rest of the crew removed branches, bushes and deadfall with pruning saws, a couple Silky Katanaboys, and the occasional loppers. Later the resulting slash was pulled to the edge of the original trail for use in closing it off once the realignment is built. The morning started off chilly but temps rose quickly and conditions were lovely – though the return hike was a mudfest, easy to see why the USFS has planned these reroutes!

The volunteers were Dan Benton, Claudia Bergsohn, David Bernstein, Jenny Blackmore, John Braly, Luis Cuadros, Byron Garner, Susan Gregory, Bruce Hansche, Jim Houle, Laura Leon, Bill Perkins, Eric Russell and Roland Stumpf.

Photos by Jenny Blackmore.



Claudia and David go low



Claudia goes high while  
Bill goes low



David does his deep knee bends



Bright Susan in the morning sun



Tricky to spot, but there's  
a Dan in this photo



Bruce goes for the underbuck



Luis helps the photographer

High-stumps are left for leverage when removing the stump roots later.



John goes really low.  
Roland stands by to assist.



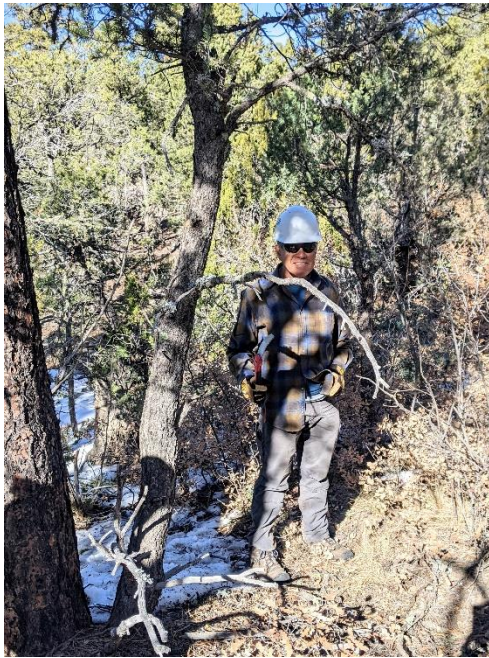
Bill and Laura high-stump some piñon.  
(Sorry, li'l trees)



Swamp-Man! Byron spends his day (re)moving slash.



Jen and Eric and the gas chainsaw



Luis: Always ready



Susan bucks some larger branches

Some before and after



Subtle differences



Less subtle



The chainsaw came in handy for this 18-incher



During. Jen has already started clearing this tangle.



Done. Ready for tread construction when the time comes.



Jim, Roland, Dan, Dave

Turtles on a lunch-log