A picture containing outdoor, tree, grass

Description automatically generated

This 18” diameter fallen fir was the first of many

large trees that the crew encountered on Cienega trail.

Jerry and Dave survey the situation. (Note – This is

the same tree shown in Sally’s report of our hike on

Cienega trail last week.)

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

Large tree has been removed.

A group of people in a forest

Description automatically generated

Bill and Bet working on a fallen tree. The areas where

the bark has been removed mark the locations of the cuts.

The bark is removed to protect the saw teeth from possible

imbedded dirt that can dull the saw.

A picture containing outdoor, grass, fungus, tree

Description automatically generated

Another obstacle being cut away by Bill and Jim.

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

This 19” diameter tree and associated debris was

completely blocking the trail. When these fallen trees

are too big to safely cross over, walk-arounds tend to

develop, many of which are lengthy and/or hazardous.

A person sitting in a tree

Description automatically generated

After all the debris has been removed, work begins on

the 19” diameter tree. Jim and Jerry handle the saw.

A close up of a lush green forest

Description automatically generated

Big tree in previous photos has been cut away and trail

is clear.

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

This train wreck made up of at least seven dead or green

trees blocked up to twenty-five feet of the trail and

was likely the largest one ever encountered by our crew.

Jerry is standing near the top of the blockage. His yellow

helmet is barely visible in the distance. Photo is looking uphill.

A group of people walking down a dirt trail next to a forest

Description automatically generated

Photo shows the enhanced walk-around at the big train wreck. Byron employed his trail building skills to help create a safe and sustainable alternative to the blocked trail. Actually, the new path is vastly superior to the old trail which had become nothing more than a two-foot deep arroyo here. A lot of

protruding branches were cut back to provide space for the new

trail section.

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

Bob inspects the top end of the big train wreck. It was indeed a

massive tangle of fallen trees and broken treetops. If a 6’ tall

person was standing on the old trail below, his head would not reach up to the grey horizontal tree trunk at the right side of the photo. Bob is standing on the new trail section. This photo is looking downhill.

A person in a forest

Description automatically generated

Sometimes the job gets down and dirty. Rav is working

to remove part of yet another mess of fallen trees from

the trail. Dave works on another piece of the puzzle.

A bird sitting on top of a grass covered forest

Description automatically generated

Jerry tosses away a broken piece of branch as the crew approaches a fallen tree across the trail.

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

Tree in previous photo is no longer in the way.

A bird standing on top of a tree

Description automatically generated

Bob works to remove brush from another train wreck. Like

most such train wrecks, this one required the removal of

trees in “pickup sticks” fashion, one tree at a time in specific

order, to safely remove everything.

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

Sometimes there is not much distance between the fallen

trees. This one was just beyond the big train wreck in

the previous picture. It was removed.

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

Another view of the big mess. Bob cuts away branches

at the far side.

A group of people in a forest

Description automatically generated

Bet and Byron making the last cut on the train wreck from previous photos.

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

Train wreck gone. Trail portion cleared.

A tree in a forest

Description automatically generated

Bet crosses back over fallen tree to remove remaining

protruding branches prior to the work starting to remove

the trunk from the trail.

A person standing next to a tree

Description automatically generated

Jim and Bob preparing to place protective sheath back

on the saw so that it can be safely carried to the next

job.

![A person standing next to a tree

Description automatically generated]()

Jim working to remove a 17” diameter fallen tree trunk that was

suspended at head height over the trail.

A person standing next to a tree

Description automatically generated

Cut shown in previous photo has been completed. The cut section

was removed to clear the trail.

![A tree in the middle of a forest

Description automatically generated]()

Like other Sandia trails, there was a spring explosion

of flowers along Cienega. This was but one of many Clematis

vines that covered the hillside at this location.