

FOSM Trail Session Report for 11/14/19

The Friends of the Sandia Mountains (FOSM) trail crew continued working on a Cienega/Armijo Trail Improvement Project (CATIP) reroute. Great weather for trail building! Cool but very little wind and plenty of sunshine.

The crew continued extending the last section of Deer Bed Trail downhill towards the start of Vista Trail, completing approximately 790 feet of new trail or 0.15 mile. If the weather holds, we'll finish this section next week. Opening the new work to traffic will depend on being able to dig out some trees and prune branches in the trail corridor.

The crew of thirteen volunteers were a great group of trail builders: Sim Cook, Raquela Thomas, Cleve Sharp, Jim Houle, Byron Garner, Bruce Hansche, Phil Cromer, Betsy Kapiloff, Jeff Huser, Jenny Blackmore, Rav Nicholson, and Betsy and Bob Galloway.

All photos below by Betsy Galloway.

Bob Galloway
FOSM Project Leader



We started where we left off last week, the crew working through a very tough rocky section.



And we worked and worked and worked to finish this section.



Finally the last bit of grooming completes the upper section (except for saplings in the tread).



Before: Luckily it wasn't as steep here but there was still plenty of mastication debris.



During: These two crew members worked ahead to pull away debris and duff along the line.



During: We didn't find as many rocks here and the crew pushes forward.



After: Nice level tread winds down the slope.



Leveling the tread is always the last step in a new section.



After lunch we worked out of the cold shade into the sunshine.



Before: Heading down towards the end of the Deer Bed Trail reroute.



During: The crew picked up steam as they sensed the end of the line.



After: Done. The crew has headed down towards the last piece of the new trail section.



The low fall sun highlights the dormant summer grasses along the trail.