

## Update May 1, 2017 from Rick Trujillo

Hello Everyone

This is my third email of the season to inform that I have received your emails and to announce the work schedule for the 2017 Hardrock trail work volunteers. As most of you know, the Hardrock volunteer trail work is traditionally done over two consecutive days, usually the weekend before the Hardrock run proper. This year will be the 24th running of the Hardrock Hundred, with the start in Silverton at 6:00 am, Friday, July 14.

Therefore, the 2017 Hardrock trail work volunteers work schedule is for the two consecutive days of Saturday, July 8 and Sunday July 9. This is still more than two months away, hopefully enough time to allow most of you to make work/travel/lodging/camping arrangements to attend the work parties. As with last year there will be two separate work groups, one focusing on the Hardrock route itself (overseen by me) with the second focusing on the Silverton Double Dirty 30 route (overseen by Megan Finnesy).

It is a little early right now to state exactly where the work will be done for each work group, or to take tally as to who goes where. However, the snow has melted sufficiently to allow access to at least the lower portion of the Bear Creek Trail Ouray. I made a reconnaissance of this trail ten days ago getting to about the 1.5 mile point, but was unable to reach the "Washout" (deep snow) where we installed a new system of cribbing last year and where we usually work every year. However, I was surprised to find that significant sections of the trail in the slate sections along the lower switchbacks were completely covered by recent slate slides. These sections will have to be re-dugout, a major job. Depending on how the new washout cribbing held up through the winter (yet to be determined), I can see that the Bear Creek Ouray trail work may require both work days. More pertinent information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the work dates.

I will be sending one more general information email such as this for early June. Then as we get into mid-June I will provide more information such as where and when to meet for each work day.

Today, May 1, dawned overcast and relatively warm (35F) with no new snow on the ground here in Ouray. The weather in April moved like a pendulum back and forth from extremes of snow and cold to warmth and sun. Overall, however the increasing daylight hours have prevailed and the valleys are now

snow free and the high country is still covered with deep though shrinking snow depths (well consolidated 5.0 ft. on Red Mountain Pass yesterday, verses 7.5 feet on April 1). A fast moving spring storm put down some 2 inches of snow in downtown Ouray two days ago, but the sun of yesterday made short work of it by day's end.

Attached are some photos of my reconnaissances of the Bear Creek Trail Ouray on April 21 and 30 to give some idea as to what spring time in the San Juans is like.

