

San Juan Back Country Horsemen 2017 Trail and Project Accomplishments

Ver 11-02-17

Project Name	Date(s)	Description	Project Leader(s)	Outcomes
<p style="text-align: center;">Anderson Trail (SJBCH adopted) <i>Pagosa Ranger District</i></p>	July & August 2017	Work with Pagosa RD trail crew to clear and maintain trail. Monitor invasive weed eradication (~MP 2).	John Nelson, Kristie Hefling, JoAnn & Randy Senzig	SJBCH cleared trees on first 2 miles and at top of trail (~2 mi.). USFS cleared middle of trail. SJBCH also did brushing and trail maintenance on first few miles of trail.
<p style="text-align: center;">Williams Creek Trail <i>Pagosa Ranger District</i></p>	July 10-14, 2017	Haul remaining 4 tons of crusher fines to overlay turnpike installed in 2016. (Original project was funded largely by National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance matching grant to SJBCH.)	Bob Volger	USFS Rocky Mtn. Specialty Pack String hauled last 4 tons of gravel. SJBCH provided all logistical support for stock & crews, incldg. meals; USFS fire and trail crews helped load/unload panniers.
<p style="text-align: center;">National Public Lands Day</p>	Sept. 23, 2017	Organize SJBCH demonstration for NPLD to inform public about what we do in the backcountry.	Lisa Nelson	SJBCH crosscut demo & branding of cut rounds attracted many participants (est. 150-200).
<p style="text-align: center;">Piedra Area <i>Pagosa Ranger District</i></p>	June & July 2017	Clear blowdowns on Lower Weminuche Tr., Coldwater Crk. Tr., Skunk Crk. Tr., Sand Crk. Tr., Shaw Creek Tr., etc. Can use chainsaws; both day and overnight opportunities.	John Nelson	168 trees cleared on Lower Weminuche Tr.—first time trail has been opened in 10 yrs. SJBCH led 1 overnight pack trip to Lower Weminuche; also worked w/ Ron Decker (USFS ret.) & Becca Smith (USFS) on 2 trips to Lower Weminuche.

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Squaw Creek Trail <i>Divide Ranger District</i>	Arrive—Aug. 18 Pack-in—Aug. 19 Pack-out—Aug. 20	Help USFS pack in supplies for Stacy Boone's Step Outdoors trail crew.	Lisa McClure (USFS Divide RD)—John & Lisa Nelson assist	SJBCH also helped pack out portions of collapsed Squaw Creek bridge.
South San Juan Wilderness trail clearing	October 27 & 29	Concerns were relayed to SJBCH from hunters about inaccessibility on Opal Lake, Fish Creek and Leche Creek trails.	Mike Pluth	This late-season project resulted in 7 trees being cleared on Leche Creek Tr. and 20 trees being cleared on Opal Lake/Fish Creek trails. More clearing is planned, weather permitting.
USFS project at Turkey Springs with Pagosa 8th grade students <i>Pagosa Ranger District</i>	June 1	Assist USFS w/supervising tool use by students, who rerouted a portion of trail in Turkey Springs.	Tyler Albers (USFS Pagosa RD) & Kristie Hefling assists	In addition to helping supervise, SJBCH also packed in water on a horse and introduced the students to horse use and safety on the trail.
Horseback Patrols for USFS	As needed	Ride w/FS personnel for patrol and project support.	All	Various SJBCH members rode trails as Wilderness Information Specialists for San Juan Mountain Association.
Rock Wall Repair <i>Pagosa Ranger District</i>	June 16	Continue work on 2015 project to re-point mortar on rock wall in front of Pagosa Ranger District office.	Dan Licarrdi	Repaired a 20-foot section of the rock wall—removing rocks and resetting them in concrete.

San Juan Back Country Horsemen volunteer hours for trails and projects in 2017

TOTAL: 920 hours