

Rubicon Trail Site Assessment

April 24, 2013

Crew: Rick Hammonds, Byron Saylor

Weather Conditions: The weather conditions for the Rubicon Trail were sunny, and windy. The temperature on the trail was approximately 42(F) at 7:30 am and 53(F) around 12:30 p.m. The summary of weather conditions up to this day are as follows:

2013		20-April	21-April	22-April	23-April	24-April
GT	Precip (in)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Avg Temp (F)	61	64	66	63	65
SLT	Precip (in)	0	0	0	0	0
	Avg Temp (F)	48	49	49	49	46
R2	Snow Depth (in)	21	20	17	17	16
	Avg Temp (F)	43	44	48	46	42
LL	Precip (in)	0	0	0	0.37	0
	Low Temp(F)	37	41	40	37	41
	High Temp(F)	63	35	64	63	56
	Ave Temp(F)	49	52	52	47	48

Reference Loon Lake Elevation: ~6,500 ft

GT = Georgetown; elevation: 2,880 ft <http://classic.wunderground.com/cgi-bin/findweather/getForecast?query=95634>

SLT= South Lake Tahoe; elevation: 6,623 ft <http://classic.wunderground.com/cgi-bin/findweather/getForecast?query=38.89361191,-119.99527740&MR=1>

R2 – Rubicon#2 Snotel Site; elevation: 7,689 ft <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/nwcc/site?sitenum=724&state=ca>

LON –Loon Lake; elevation: 6,410 ft http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/stationInfo?station_id=LON

Trail Sections (Areas in grey not observed):

Wentworth Springs Campground / Post Pile Grade /

Gate Keeper / Ellis Creek Tie Intersection / Walker Hill / Soup Bowl / Winter Camp / Little Sluice Area

Trail Conditions / Observations: Entered the Rubicon Trail (Trail) from Loon Lake entrance. Traveled from Loon Lake to Wentworth Springs Campground and then to Little Sluice. From Little Sluice we traveled back to Loon Lake via Gate Keeper. There were no vehicles seen on the Trail over the course of the day. We observed vehicle tracks from Ellis Creek Intertie to Little Sluice. All of the BMP’s were exposed along with the Trail and were functioning as designed. Due to the warmer temperatures, the Trail was exposed one hundred percent. The runoff has begun to decrease in all sections of the trail with some sections having no runoff at all.

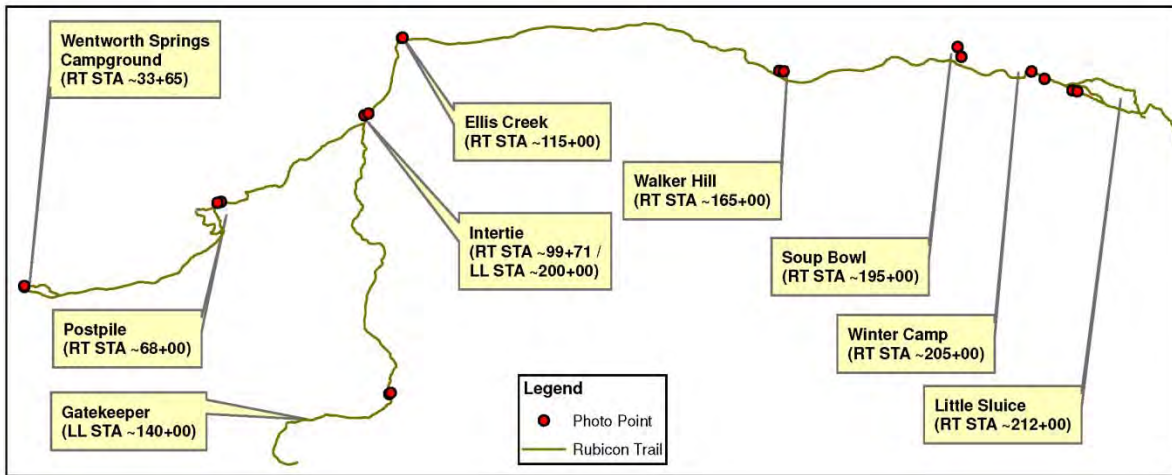
County Assessment: As of this site visit for the conditions observed, the County has determined that the goals of the Saturated Soil Water Quality Protection Plan (SSWQPP) are being met. Observed water levels were low enough to not pose a risk of washing contaminants from the under carriage of vehicles pursuant to the monitoring protocols.

Report reviewed by U.S. Forest Service on 26 April, 2013.

Reviewers: Richard Thornburgh, District Ranger, and Eric Nicita, Soils Scientist

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Photo Monitoring:



Gate Keeper

LL Station 146+77.03

Water Depths: 0.3', 0.3', 0.3'

Mean: 0.3', Median: 0.3', Mode: 0.3'

Notes: The Rock Outlet Protection (ROP) was seen on the trail, with snow melt runoff flowing within the ROP. The water was flowing towards Rock Energy Dissipator (RED).

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Wentworth Springs Campground

RT Station 33+65.67

Water Depths: 0.0', 0.0', 0.0'

Mean: 0.0', Median: 0.0', Mode: 0.0'

Notes: The Rock Ditch Crossing (RDX) was completely exposed with no snow remaining. There was no runoff at this time.



Post Pile

RT Station 75+00

Water Depths: 0.3', 0.4', 0.5'

Mean: 0.4', Median: 0.4', Mode: N/A

Notes: The Rock Ditch Crossing (RDX) was observed and was functioning as designed. Snow melt runoff was observed flowing down the hardened surface of the Trail.

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Ellis Creek Intertie

RT Station 99+86.95

Water Depths: 0.0', 0.0', 0.0'

Mean: 0.0', median: 0.0', Mode: 0.0'

Notes: The Rock Lined Channel (RLC) was completely exposed and there was no runoff at this time. The Rock Energy Dissipator (RED) was no longer covered with snow.



Ellis Creek

RT Station 115+00

Water Depths: 0.4', 0.8', 0.9'

Mean: 0.7', Median: 0.8', Mode: N/A

Notes: Snow melt runoff from the northerly drainage was flowing into Ellis Creek.

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Walker Hill

RT Station 170+80

Water Depths: 0.2', 0.2', 0.3'

Mean: 0.2', Median: 0.2', Mode: 0.2'

Notes: The Rock Slope Protection (RSP) was completely exposed on both sides of the Trail. There was minimal snow melt run-off flowing down the hardened surface of the Trail, which discharges into a Rock Energy Dissipator.



Soup Bowl

RT Station 198+40.84

Water Depth: 0.1', 0.2', 0.2'

Mean: 0.2', Median: 0.2', Mode: 0.2'

Notes: The Rock Ditch Crossing (RDX) was completely exposed with snow melt run-off moving through it.

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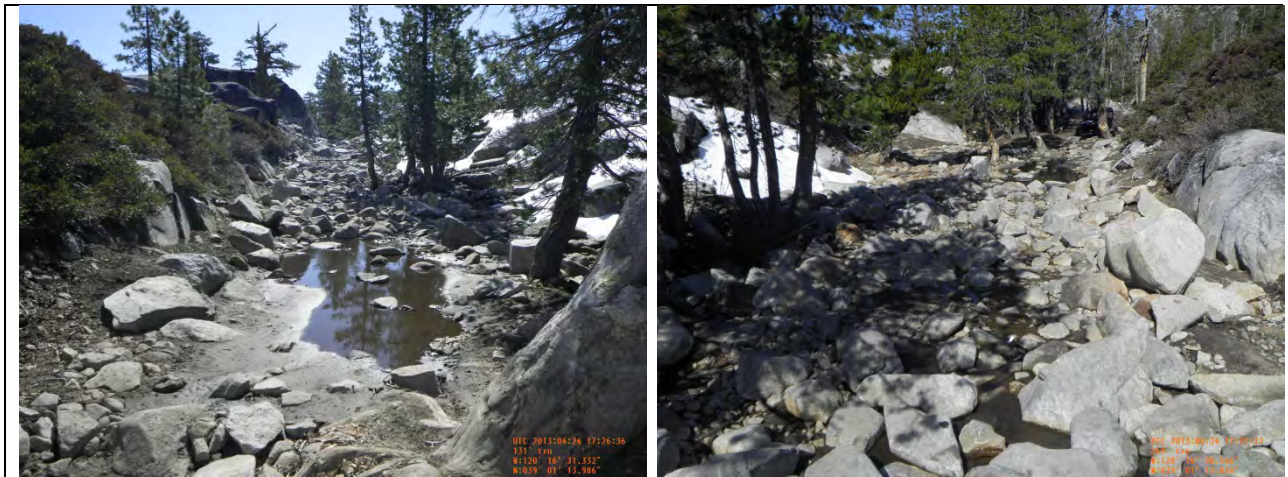
Winter Camp

RT Station 209+58.39

Water Depth: 0.2', 0.6', 0.6'

Mean: 0.5', Median: 0.6', Mode: 0.6'

The Rock Fill (RF) was completely exposed with no snow remaining. There was runoff moving over the RF.



Little Sluice

RT 213+50.32

Water Depth: 0.1', 0.1', 0.3'

Mean: 0.2', Median: 0.1', Mode: 0.1'

The Rock Fill (RF) was completely exposed through the minimal snow. There was runoff that was flowing over the RF.