

# Rubicon Trail Site Assessment

## March 11, 2014

**Crew:** Rick Hammonds, Byron Saylor

**Weather Conditions:** The weather conditions for the Rubicon Trail were clear, cold and windy. The temperature on the trail was approximately 33(F) at 7:30 am and 37(F) around 1:00 p.m. The summary of weather conditions up to this day are as followed:

		2014				
		7-Mar	8-Mar	9-Mar	10-Mar	11-Mar
<b>GT</b>	Precip (in)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.44	<b>0.00</b>
	Avg Temp (F)	51	56	57	51	<b>51</b>
<b>SLT</b>	Precip (in)	0	0	0	0.14	<b>0</b>
	Avg Temp (F)	39	42	49	40	<b>33</b>
<b>R2</b>	Snow Depth (in)	29	28	27	27	<b>28</b>
	Avg Temp (F)	34	34	41	44	<b>35</b>
<b>LL</b>	Precip (in)	0	0	0	0	0
	Low Temp(F)	31	35	37	32	32
	High Temp(F)	48	57	52	44	38
	Ave Temp(F)	39	45	45	37	35

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](http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/stationInfo?station_id=LON)

### Trail Sections (Areas in grey not observed):

Wentworth Springs Campground / Post Pile Grade /

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

**Trail Conditions / Observations:** We entered the Rubicon Trail from the Loon Lake entrance. We traveled from Loon Lake to Ellis Creek Intertie 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 no vehicle tracks at all sites. Some of the BMP's were not covered with snow along the Trail. The ones that were exposed were functioning as designed. We did not monitor Wentworth Springs Campground and Post Pile due to mechanical issues.

**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. The County will continue to monitor Trails conditions as weather conditions change.

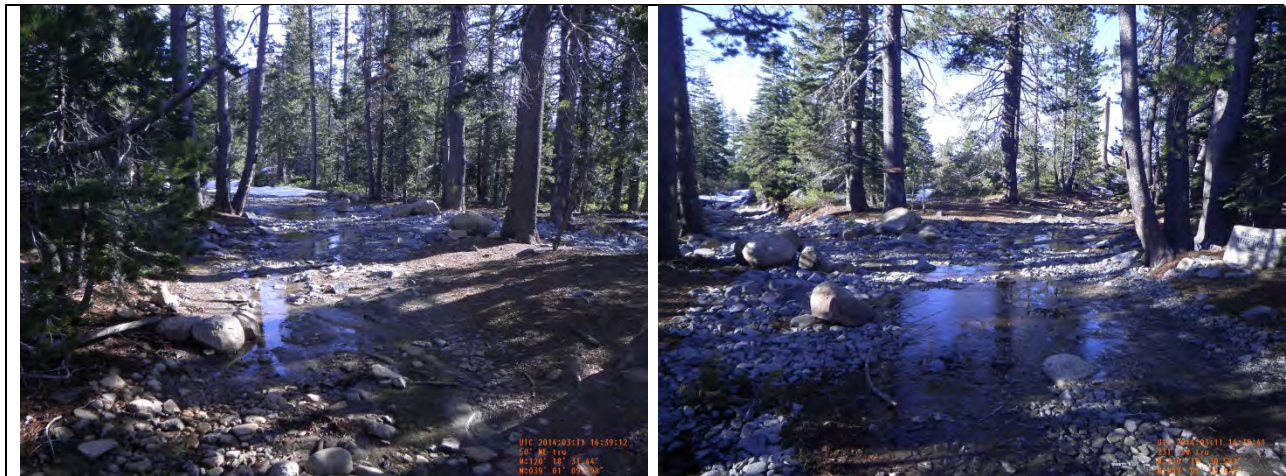
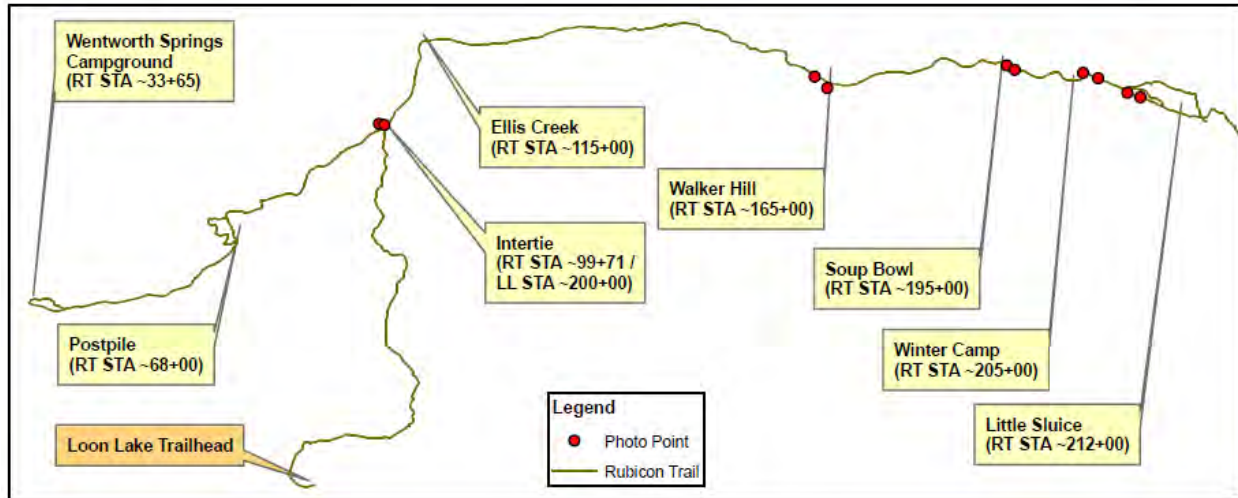
Report reviewed by U.S. Forest Service on 12 March, 2014.

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

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## Photo Monitoring:

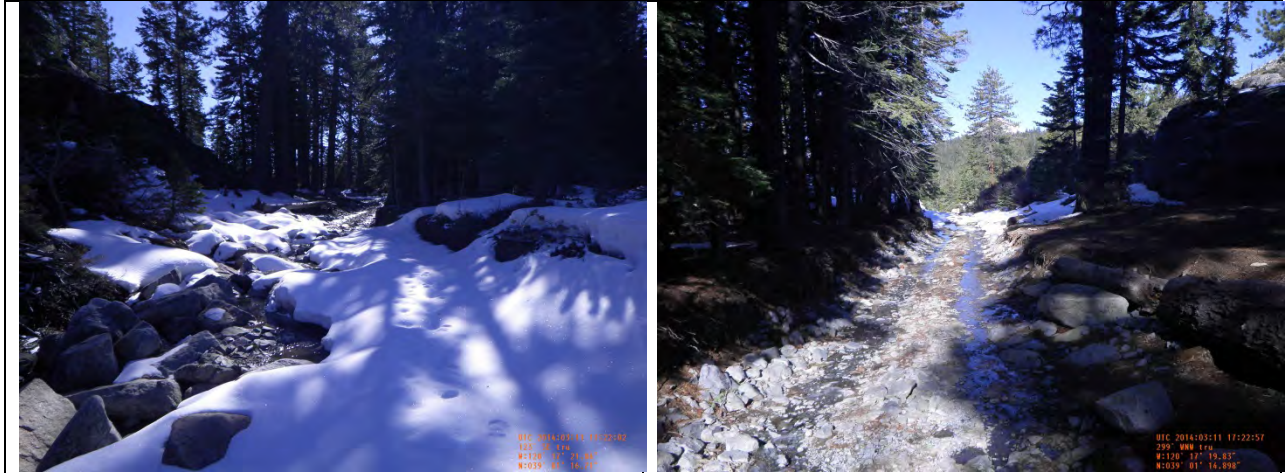


Ellis Creek Intertie  
RT Station 99+86.95

Water Depths: 2", 2", 2"  
(Average: 2")

Notes: The Rock Lined Channel (RLC) was exposed with snow melt run-off flowing in the RLC. The water was properly draining towards the Rock Energy Dissipator (RED) which was not covered with snow and functioning as designed.

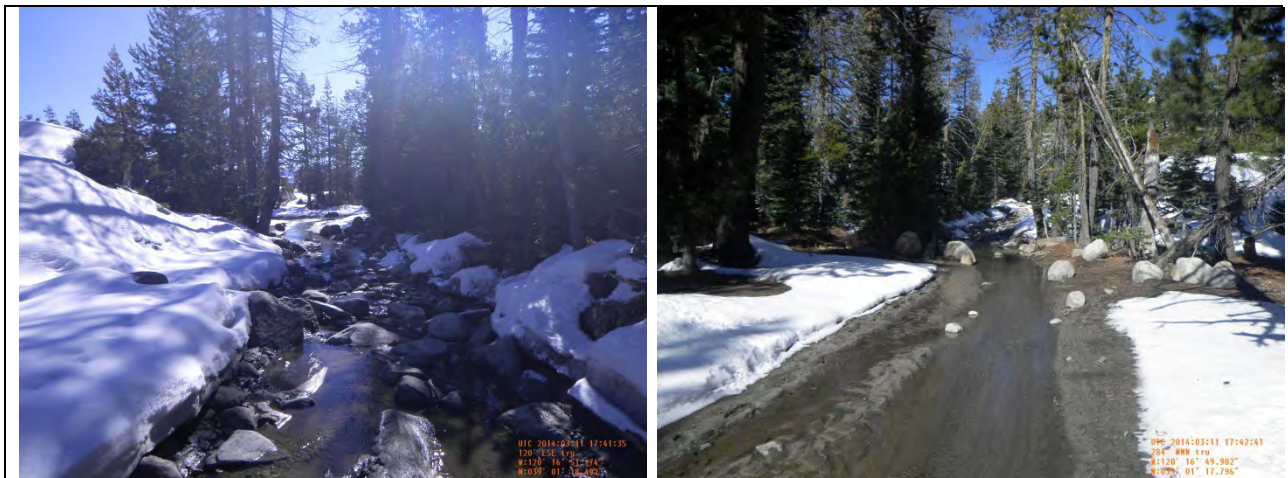
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Walker Hill  
RT Station 170+80

Water Depths: 3", 1", 1"  
(Average: 1 5/8")

Notes: The Rock Slope Protection (RSP) was not fully 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: 6", 4", 3"  
(Average: 4 3/8")

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

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Winter Camp  
RT Station 209+58.39

Water Depth: 8", 6", 8"  
(Average: 7 3/8")

The Rock Fill (RF) was not fully exposed through the snow. Where visible, the run off was flowing over the RF. In addition to the measurements being 8" or less for this location, the spatial variability was such that the measurements were not consistently 8" or greater for lengths longer than 10 feet as called out in Condition 2 of the Protocol.



Little Sluice  
RT 213+50.32

Water Depth: 2", 3", 4"  
(Average: 3")

The Rock Fill (RF) was mostly exposed through the snow. Where visible, the run off was flowing over the RF.