

# Rubicon Trail Site Assessment

## April 30, 2014

**Crew:** Rick Hammonds, Byron Saylor

**Weather Conditions:** The weather conditions for the Rubicon Trail were sunny and warm. The temperature on the trail was approximately 46(F) at 7:30 am and 61(F) around 2:30 p.m. The summary of weather conditions up to this day are as followed:

| 2014       |                 | 26-Apr | 27-Apr | 28-Apr | 29-Apr | 30-Apr      |
|------------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|
| <b>GT</b>  | Precip (in)     | 0.01   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | <b>0.00</b> |
|            | Avg Temp (F)    | 44     | 46     | 47     | 64     | <b>69</b>   |
| <b>SLT</b> | Precip (in)     | T      | 0      | 0      | 0      | <b>0</b>    |
|            | Avg Temp (F)    | 34     | 39     | 42     | 46     | <b>49</b>   |
| <b>R2</b>  | Snow Depth (in) | 19     | 16     | 14     | 11     | <b>10</b>   |
|            | Avg Temp (F)    | 42     | 44     | 47     | 47     | <b>48</b>   |
| <b>LL</b>  | Precip (in)     | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0           |
|            | Low Temp(F)     | 26     | 27     | 29     | 43     | 45          |
|            | High Temp(F)    | 36     | 42     | 54     | 56     | 63          |
|            | Ave Temp(F)     | 31     | 33     | 42     | 49     | 53          |

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 Little Sluice and then to Wentworth Springs Campground. From Wentworth Springs Campground 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 tracks at all sites. Most of the BMP's were not covered with snow along the Trail. The ones that were exposed were functioning as designed.

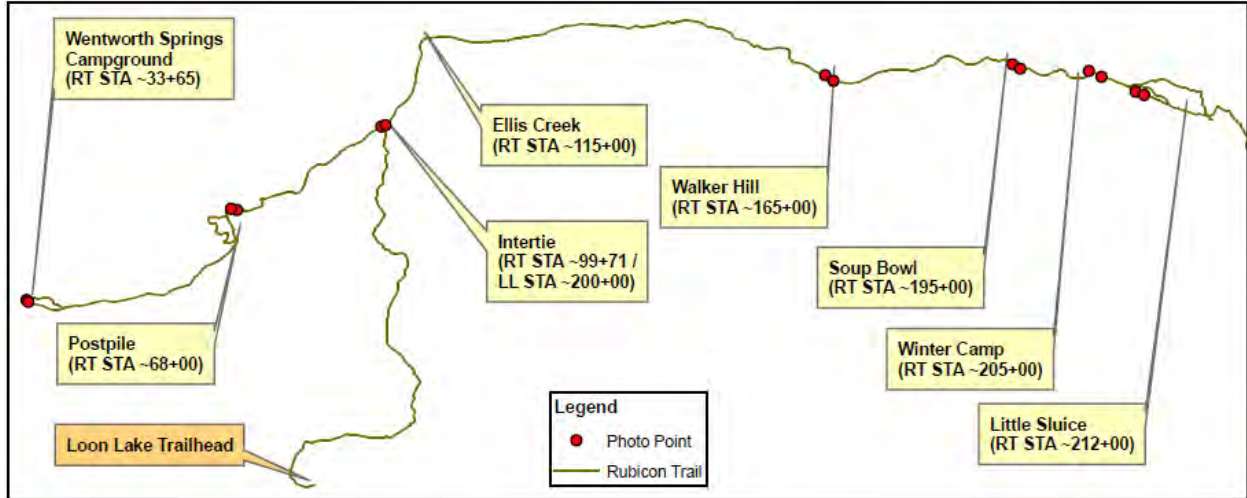
**County Assessment:** As of this site visit for the conditions observed, the County has determined that the goals of the Saturated Soil Water Quality Protection Plan (SSWQPP) are being met. Observed water levels were low enough to not pose a risk of washing contaminants from the under carriage of vehicles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

Report reviewed by U.S. Forest Service on 7 May, 2014.

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

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## Photo Monitoring:



Wentworth Springs Campground  
RT Station 33+65.67

Water Depths: 0.1', 0.1', 0.2'  
(Average: 0.13')

Notes: The Rock Ditch Crossing (RDX) was exposed with minimal snow melt run-off.

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## April 30, 2014



Post Pile  
RT Station 75+00

Water Depths: 0.4', 0.5', 0.6'  
(Average: 0.50')

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



Ellis Creek Intertie  
RT Station 99+86.95

Water Depths: 0.1', 0.2', 0.2'  
(Average: 0.17')

Notes: The Rock Lined Channel (RLC) was exposed with minimal snow melt run-off flowing in the RLC. The Rock Energy Dissipator (RED) was visible and with little water flowing through it.

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## April 30, 2014



Walker Hill  
RT Station 170+80

Water Depths: 0.2', 0.2', 0.3'  
(Average: 0.23')

Notes: The Rock Slope Protection (RSP) was not fully exposed on one side of the Trail. There was 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: 0.3', 0.4', 0.5'  
(Average: 0.40')

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

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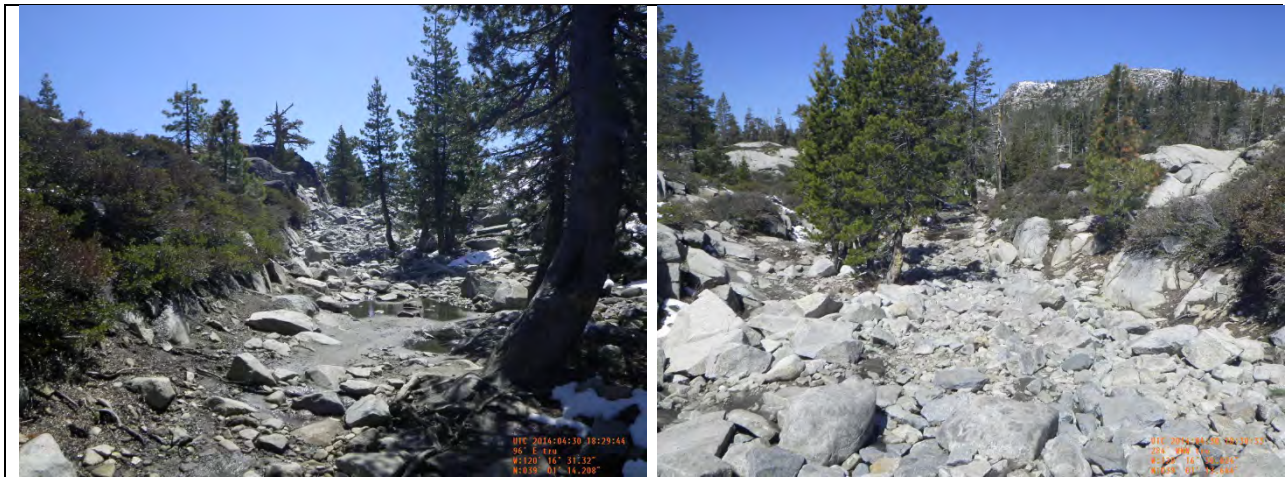
## April 30, 2014



Winter Camp  
RT Station 209+58.39

Water Depth: 0.3', 0.5', 0.8'  
(Average: 0.53')

The Rock Fill (RF) was exposed with snow run off flowing over the RF. Although one of the measurements was greater than 8", this appeared to be localized as additional checks of the depths were observed to be less within a 10 foot limit. Per Condition 2 of the Protocol closure of the Rubicon Trail is not warranted.



Little Sluice  
RT 213+50.32

Water Depth: 0.2', 0.4', 0.4'  
(Average: 0.33')

The Rock Fill (RF) was completely exposed with the run off flowing over the RF.