

Rubicon Trail Site Assessment

February 17, 2015

Crew: Vickie Sanders, John Arenz

Weather Conditions: The weather conditions for the Rubicon Trail were warm and sunny. The temperature on the trail was approximately 40(F) at 8:00 am and 65(F) around 12:00 p.m. The summary of weather conditions up to this day are as followed:

2015		13-Feb	14-Feb	15-Feb	16-Feb	17-Feb
SLT	Precip (in)	0	0	0	0	0
	Avg Temp (F)	47	46	43	42	44
R2	Snow Depth (in)	14	13	12	12	12
	Avg Temp (F)	49	47	42	44	45
LL	Precip (in)	0	0	0	0	0
	Low Temp(F)	41	40	39	34	36
	High Temp(F)	61	60	52	62	57
	Ave Temp(F)	51	48	45	46	47

Reference Loon Lake Elevation: ~6,500 ft

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 /

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. All BMP’s that were visible were functioning as designed. Sediment was observed in the Rock Energy Dissipaters (RED) on the February 11, 2015 inspection. Adopt a Trail groups were notified and the County requested assistance to have the RED’s cleaned out before the next storm event. It was observed that several groups have already cleaned their section. Other groups are scheduled for this weekend. The trail was in good condition.

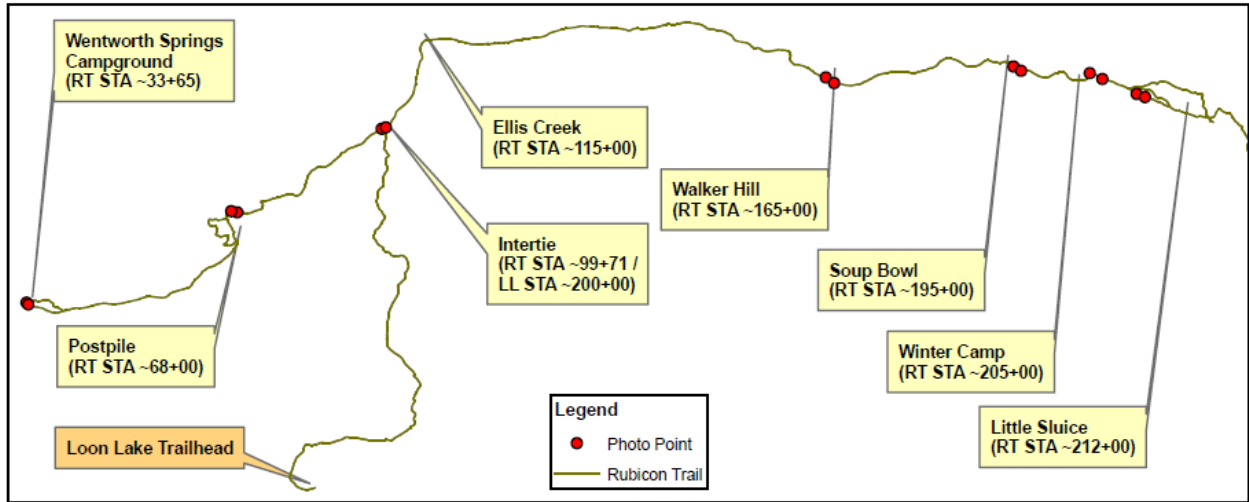
County Assessment: As of this site visit for the conditions observed, the County has determined that the goals of the Saturated Soil Water Quality Protection Plan (SSWQPP) are being met. Observed water levels were low enough to not pose a risk of washing contaminants from the under carriage of vehicles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

Report reviewed by U.S. Forest Service on February 23, 2015.

Reviewers: Richard Thornburgh, District Ranger, and Vince Pacific, Hydrologist

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Photo Monitoring:



Wentworth Springs Campground
RT Station 33+65

Water Depths: 0.04', 0.04', 0.2'

Notes: The Rock Ditch Crossing (RDX) was exposed with minimal runoff observed.

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Post Pile
RT Station 75+00

Water Depths: 0.02', 0.02', 0.02'

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



Ellis Creek Intertie
RT Station 99+86

Water Depths: 0.02', 0.04', 0.5'

Notes: The Rock Lined Channel (RLC) was exposed with minimal runoff observed in the RLC. The Rock Energy Dissipator (RED) was visible and with water in it. The water was observed to be flowing into the RED as designed.

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Walker Hill
RT Station 170+80

Water Depths: 0.2', 0.02', 0.02'

Notes: The Rock Slope Protection (RSP) was not fully exposed on one side of the Trail. There was runoff observed flowing down the hardened surface of the Trail.



Soup Bowl
RT Station 198+40

Water Depth: 0.1', 0.04', 0.04'

Notes: The Rock Ditch Crossing (RDX) was exposed with runoff flowing through it.

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Winter Camp
RT Station 209+58

Water Depth: 0.2', 0.5', 0.3'

The Rock Fill (RF) was exposed with runoff observed flowing over the RF. The measurements at this location are below the .7' standard therefore Condition 2 is no longer met.



Little Sluice
RT 213+50

Water Depth: 0.2', 0.1', 0.04'

The Rock Fill (RF) was exposed with the runoff flowing over the RF.