

July Trail Report, Konnarock Nuts & Bolts Crew & Dawg Days

PATH weekend, Konnarock Nuts & Bolts crew & Dawg Days, combined to make it a 10 day extravaganza.

Thursday, July-17th, I hiked into Chatfield & knocked down the cone in the Privy.

Also removed 3-6" blowdowns from across the trail.

Afterwards I Hiked & lopped 2-miles south of Partnership & 1 mile north from VA-670 looking for a reported blow down.

Friday-18th, Chris, Tom, Herb, Ron & Jim, mowed & lopped the I-81 area.

At 1pm, Jim & Herb met with Josh Kloehn(ATC Roanoke)& hiked into Desert Dog re-lo & flagged the remainder of the re-lo.

David & Martha weed whacked along boardwalk @ North Fork of Holston River & the Davis Family Cemetery. They also walked their section & picked up trash.

Saturday-19th, we went into D.Dog re-lo & lopped, sawed & cleared the trees & brush to the south end of the re-lo. An all day rain kept us cool & energized. It was a rewarding day to get so much done.

Hot showers & pot-luck dinner @ Stony Fork hit the spot.

Sunday-20th & Monday-21st, club members & 3 Konnarock workers dug trail on Desert Dog.

Very productive 2-days, as we completed 300' of new trail.

Spent the evenings at Konnarock, enjoying Sylvia's cooking and resting.

Tuesday-22nd, Sylvia & Jim, working as the Nuts & Bolts crew, looped & cleared the Demonstration Trail at Konnarock Trail Camp.

This is a nice gentle loop trail crossing the ridge above the camp.

Wednesday-23rd, Sylvia & Jim lopped & cleared Sylvia's section from FS-86, south to VA-622(Nicks Creek Road).

Thursday-23rd Jim & Steve met on Tilson to scout the north re-lo.

Afterwards, I located the spring, north of VA-742(North Fork of Holston River) & prepped it for return to action.

Friday-25th, I did some Dawg Day errands, getting tools from the Bland shed, then groceries.

I went by VA-615 to the Laurel Creek A.T. Bridge & looked over the new section of safety railing that US Forest Service(EDRD) recently installed.

It matches up good with the existing rail & is well attached to the structure.

Friday night was hot dog nite at Marcia's Cabin, & a feast it was. Dogs of all kinds showed up.

Saturday-26th, Seven sturdy soles took a Wilderness Bushwhack Hike in the "Hunting Camp Creek Wilderness", following the low water trail along Little Wolf Creek.

The old A.T.

The kids got really involved when we put them out in front to scout the trail & guide us in the right direction. Excitement was in their eyes & voices as they found old white blazes & became skilled at recognizing the old trail tread. This trail has not been maintained, nor used for about eight years. There is plenty of overgrowth, a few downed trees and many creek crossings.

2014 being the 50th Anniversary of the "Wilderness Act" we had much discussion about the wilderness & how it affects the trail & how the trail fits into a wilderness area.

It was an 8.2 mile hike, lasting 5 hours.

Upon completion, 12 year old Alexandra commented that the hike had changed her life forever. She really had a great time, as did we all.

Saturday evening open grill @ Marcia's Pavilion was another feast enjoyed by 18 hungry Dawgs.

See pictures at: <http://www.path-at.org/gallery/index.php/Path---2014/July-2014?page=1>

Attendees:

Alexandra Augoustidies - 2
Kendra Battle - 2
Diana Billips - 1
Chris Bracknell - 1
Jeff Brown - 1
Terry Cooke - 1
Marcia Cope - 6
Valerie Cope - 5
Tom Dillon - 1
Hope Elmiligy - 2
Faith Elmiligy - 2
David Emrey - 1
Martha Emrey - 1
David Faucette - 3
Katie Floyd - 2
Barry Hester - 2
Jim Houck - 7
Ron Hudnell - 4
Drew Jones - 2
Herb MacDonald - 3
Matt Scott - 2
Grace Shuping - 2
Sylvia Swain - 2
Greg Weaver - 2
Donalee White - 1
Trudy Whitney - 2
Tracy Williams - 1
Steve Yonts - 2