



Autumn 2024 Gila Trail Projects

All trail users welcome
No trail work experience necessary

Sawmill Wagon Road Trail & CDT

Dates: Sept 10-12, 2024

Who: Hikers only because of no water at basecamp for stock.

Trail Work: brushing

Project Difficulty: easy to moderate

Map of Project: <https://caltopo.com/m/JHNQD>

Backpack to basecamp: 4.25 miles

Hiking during the day: up to 5 miles

Meeting time and place: 8:30 am at the junction of Little Cherry Creek Road and Highway 15

Project contact: Melissa Green – groundworktrails@gmail.com. RSVP required.

Plan for Trail work: We will backpack into our base camp and set up camp. After that, we will do some trail work from camp. The camp is a dry camp, so water will be packed in. On our last day, we will work a partial day and then backpack out.

Food and Water:

- **Food:** Gila BCH homemade vacuum-sealed meals (breakfasts and dinners) will be available for this project. We can accommodate meat eaters, vegetarians, and some gluten-free diets. But you can also bring your own breakfasts and dinners if you prefer.
 - o Everyone will need to provide their own lunches and snacks.
- **Water:** Please bring water for the backpack to base camp. We will provide jugs of water at base camp. There is no water on the trail where we will work, so bring a 4-quart water capacity.



What you will need to bring: See packing list below – last page

We will provide: Tools, hard hats, trail and safety training, project supervision, and first aid kit with Wilderness First Responder-trained personnel.

Phone service: There is no cell service on the backpack in or on Sawmill Wagon Road Trail. The CDT may have spotty cell service. No cell service at basecamp

Vehicle Requirement: 2wd

Elevation: 6600 ft up to 9000 feet

Nearest Town: Silver City

Weather: Come prepared with layers. Mornings and evenings may be chilly. Days will likely be warm.

Why This Trail: The Sawmill Wagon Road Trail, a National Recreation Trail, connects Fort Bayard with other trails, including the Continental Divide Trail. Part of this trail are also a part of the Gila Centennial Race on October.

Directions:

From Silver City: Take Highway 15, north 9.6 miles. Little Cherry Creek Road on the right, where the road takes a sharp turn to the left. If you pass the Ben Lilly pull-off, you have gone too far.

Schedule:

Schedules are flexible and dependent on the volunteers' condition and energy level. Frequent breaks are encouraged. Gila BCH encourages volunteers to work within their limitations and take care of themselves during the project. Please check the weather in your project area prior to leaving for the project and pack accordingly.

Tuesday, Sept 10th

8:30 am – 9 am - Introductions, paperwork, work objectives, safety talk. Turn in food to horse packers.

9 am - Begin hike to basecamp.

12:00 – 1:30 pm - Set up camp and lunch.

1:30 pm – 4 pm –Trail maintenance

Wednesday, Sept 11th

7:30 -8 am - Breakfast

8:30 – 9 am - Work Objectives/Safety Talk

9 am – 12 pm - Trail maintenance

12-12:30 pm - Lunch

12:30- 3:30 pm - Trail maintenance

4 PM - Return to camp

Thursday, Sept 12th

7:30 -8 am - Breakfast

8:30 - 9 am - Work Objectives/Safety Talk

9 am – 12 pm - Trail maintenance

12 - 1 pm – Lunch and pack up camp

1 – 4 pm – lunch, pack up and backpack/pack out -

4 pm – Return to the trailhead and drive home.

Pack List

Camping

- ___ Waterproofing for all gear (trash bags & ziplocks)
- ___ Tent &/or tarp
- ___ Ground cloth
- ___ Sleeping pad
- ___ Warm Sleeping bag
- ___ Headlamp
- ___ Extra headlamp batteries
- ___ Backpacking Backpack

Clothing

- ___ Long underwear top and bottom
- ___ Warm hat or buff
- ___ Warm gloves (for cool mornings)
- ___ Socks & underwear
- ___ Sleep socks (always stay dry)
- ___ Short sleeve shirt
- ___ 2 pairs work pants (must be long pants) (extra is in case other is wet or ripped)
- ___ 2 Long sleeve work shirts (for thick brush, sun protection & sudden temperature drops)
- ___ Warm top and bottom layers – **No** Cotton – Wool or synthetic only
- ___ Warm Jacket
- ___ Camp shoes/sandals
- ___ Durable Raincoat
- ___ Rain pants
- ___ Sleep clothes (especially if we are working in poison ivy)

Personal

- ___ Personal toiletry items & TP
- ___ Knife / Leatherman
- ___ Lighter
- ___ Sunscreen
- ___ Hand sanitizer
- ___ Personal drink cup/coffee mug
- ___ Lunches and snacks
- ___ Food (see project description above)

Work

- ___ Sturdy boots or trail work appropriate shoes
- ___ 4-quart water capacity minimum
- ___ Heavy-duty work gloves
- ___ Eye protection/sunglasses

Optional

- ___ Bowl and utensil
- ___ Book
- ___ Shorts (for camp)
- ___ Chapstick
- ___ Whistle
- ___ Maps and GPS
- ___ 1st aid kit
- ___ Bandana
- ___ Alarm clock
- ___ Camp chair
- ___ Soap (Biodegradable)
- ___ Hiking Poles
- ___ Backpacking pillow

Please let us know if you don't have something on the list or ask questions if you are unsure what you have is adequate.