

Trails Minutes Summary July 2016

Graeme has been doing the maintenance on the cross island trail. He cleared the brush from the top of the big hill to near John Kirk's place. He also tackled the tall grass west of the Fire Hall. Graeme reported that he used his "blower" to remove the grass from the trail, and it worked well.

The monthly maintenance list is as follows:

Camilla, August: Allan, September: Tim, October: Margie & Ralph, November.

Dan May from the CVRD met with us; Dan is attempting to find a contractor who can cut the long grass on the trail as well as weed out the many tufts of grass in the trail bed.

The hike in Denman Island Park went well despite the absence of Allan. Graeme led the hike around a around 6-km loop. We discussed linking the Shady Lane trail to one of the Wren Road multi-purpose trail, and hope to work on this in the future. Grahame has some good ideas for names for the trails in the Northlands, which we'd like to get on a map. Craig may be able to help with that.

OLD BUSINESS:

Building a switchback trail to replace the direct route on the bluff area above Betty's Beach continues a priority. By the fall we hope a new route will be flagged and the availability of downed trees to form part of the switchback trail will be noted.

NEW BUSINESS

The monthly maintenance person will work on clearing tall grass from the sides of the Cross Island Trail. We agreed that trying to clear the grass from the Cross Island Trail bed is still too big an issue for us and we will leave the problem to Dan May of the CVRD.

We agreed that we should purchase a line trimmer and new brush cutter attachment similar to the one we have. We also thought it good to purchase a blower to attach to our Stihl motors on Graeme's recommendation. We will also purchase a 3-bladed cutter that replaces the saw blade on the brush cutter and may prove to be better than a line trimmer in dealing with the long grasses. Graeme will cost out the rental of a wheeled line trimmer. If this machine is effective in dealing with the long grass, we may ask the CVRD for funding to purchase one.

Allan and Michael will try to extend the reach of the ATV on the Boyle Point main trail. When this is done, Allan will arrange a date to clear the start of the trail that leads to the 3-cedars.

A hike in Paradise Meadows has been arranged for **Tuesday 16th August**. We hope to hike to Croteau Lake via Battleship Lake and return via Helen Mackenzie Lake, about 12-km. We will meet to car-pool and catch the **8.40-am ferry**.

Craig is welcomed as a new member of the Trails Committee.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, 23rd August at 7.30-pm at the Fire Hall**.