

# 2023

## SEASON REPORT

### CCF TRAIL STEWARDSHIP



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# SEASON TOTALS

**Crew size:** 12 paid members (including one lead and one assistant)

**Total number of volunteers:** 211 individuals

**Volunteer hours worked:** 1042 hrs

Number of project sites: 7 sites

Number of trails scouted or maintained: 20 trails

Trail maintained, improved, and scouted: 45 miles

Trail closed, junked, or revegetated: 310 feet

New tread established: 860 feet

Number of hazard or fallen trees removed: 59 trees

Number of drains maintained or installed: 231 drains

Number of retaining walls built: 86 walls

Number of staircases built: 26 staircases

Number of steps built: 239 steps

Number of switchbacks constructed: 18

Number of stream crossings built: 3

Number of belay pads/staging areas installed: 10

**Amount of rock set: ~310 tons or 620,000lbs**



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The CCF Trail Crew on Devil's Castle Loop at Alta Ski Area. Photo credit: David Wyllie.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. [Our Crew](#)
2. [Our Partners and Sponsors](#)
3. [Climbing Access Projects](#)
4. [Little Cottonwood Canyon Projects](#)
5. [Big Cottonwood Canyons Projects](#)
6. [Mill Creek Canyon Projects](#)
7. [Wasatch Front Projects](#)
8. [Reflections](#)



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# OUR CREW

**Crew lead:** Emily Salle

**Assistant crew lead:** David Wyllie

**Crew members:** Mike Roberts, Alex Bennett, Derek Toroongian, Georgia Drew, Cole Dugdale, Isaac Hodson, Kyle Pilcher, Ryan Nordgran, Ryan Sauer, and Harrison Dobaj



Five of twelve members of the CCF Trail Crew at Jacob's Ladder. From left: David Wyllie, Cole Dugdale, Emily Salle, Isaac Hodson, and Derek Toroongian. Photo credit: Emily Salle



# OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

National Forest Foundation

Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation

US Forest Service

David Kelby Johnson Memorial Foundation

Central Wasatch Commission

REI Co-Op

Alta Ski Area

Brighton Resort

Snowbird Resort

Solitude Mountain Resort

Petzl Foundation

Wasatch Mountain Club

Salt Lake Climbers Alliance

Cirque Series

Snowbird Play Forever

Alta Environmental Center

Wasatch Trail Run Series

Town of Brighton

## Adopt-A-Trails Sponsors

Visit Salt Lake

Alpha Coffee

Big Cottonwood Community Association

Backcountry.com

Black Diamond Equipment

Lucid Software

Hilton Salt Lake City Center

Sam's Club

Snowpine Lodge

Snowbird Play Forever



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# CLIMBING ACCESS PROJECTS

The CCF Trail Crew took on several projects with the Salt Lake Climbers Alliance (SLCA), the Access Fund, and the USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD) to improve the sustainability of climbing access in the Wasatch. This was highly technical work that focused on installing rock features built from stone that was gathered on-site.

## PROJECTS

### **East Gate Buttress**

Little Cottonwood Canyon: SLCA and Access Fund

### **Challenge Buttress**

Big Cottonwood Canyon: SLRD, Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative, Salt Lake County Tourism Recreation Culture and Convention (TRCC)

### **Jacob's Ladder**

Lone Peak: SLRD and SLCA

### **The Pile (S-Curves)**

Big Cottonwood Canyon: SLRD, Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative, Salt Lake County Tourism Recreation Culture and Convention (TRCC)



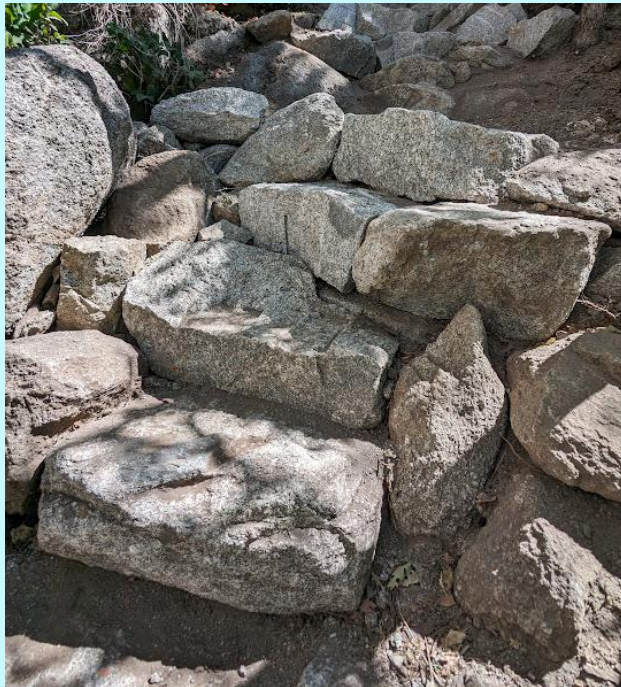
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# CLIMBING ACCESS PROJECTS

## East Gate Buttress: Little Cottonwood Canyon

**Partners:** Salt Lake Climbers Alliance (SLCA) and the Access Fund

**Duration:** 5 weeks at the beginning of the season



Examples of finished structures. Photo credit: Emily Salle

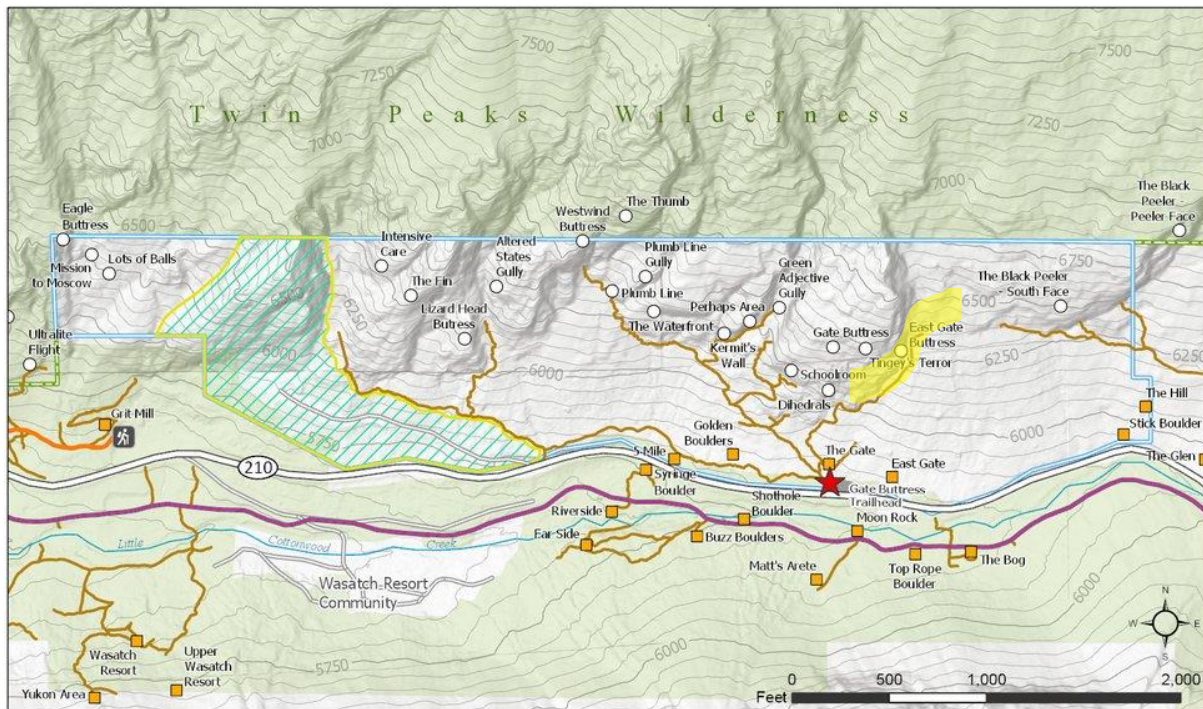
This project focused on designing and establishing an improved approach trail to the East Gate climbing routes. The original trail was eroding, full of loose rock, and unsustainably steep. The finished project rerouted the trail to create a sustainable grade and to allow safe, lasting access to routes on the eastern face of the popular Gate Buttress climbing area. With the technical assistance and guidance of the Access Fund's Conservation Team, CCF installed switchbacks, rock retaining walls, and rock staircase features.

This project gave certain members of the crew a chance to develop technical skills and strengths in the beginning of the season that became invaluable throughout the rest of the season.



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# East Gate Buttress: Little Cottonwood Canyon



## Legend

- ★ You Are Here
- Trailhead
- Bouldering Area
- Climbing Area
- Climbing Access Trail
- Little Cottonwood Trail
- Alpenbock Trails
- Parking Lot
- ▭ Twin Peaks Wilderness
- ▭ United States Forest Service
- ▨ Closed to Climbing - Vault Area
- ▭ Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

SLCA map showing climbing access at Gate Buttress. The highlighted area indicates the worksite.  
Credit: Salt Lake Climbers Alliance

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CCF would like to especially thank Loryn Posladek and Kyle Leihising of the Access Fund's Conservation Team for sharing their technical training with our crew. CCF would also like to thank all the volunteers (organized through SLCA) who came out to help gather rock for this project.





# East Gate Buttress: Little Cottonwood Canyon



Examples of finished structures. Photo credit: Emily Salle

## METRICS

**6** new switchbacks (including new corridor and retaining wall)

**300** feet of new tread

**30** retaining walls

**16** staircases

**90** steps

**2** restored staging areas

**190** feet of old trail closed and naturalized

Approximately **160** tons of granite moved and set by hand\*

\*Rock structures including staircases and retained switchbacks were all made of native granite. Estimates of tonnage are based on an average quartz density of 150lbs per cubic foot.



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# CLIMBING ACCESS PROJECTS

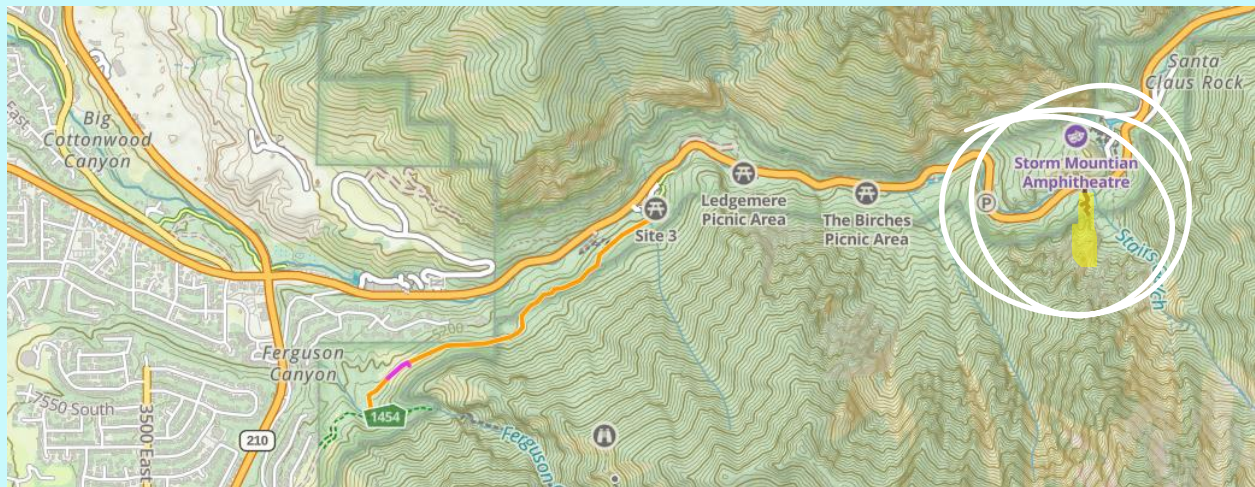
## Challenge Buttress: Big Cottonwood Canyon

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

**Funding:** Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative, Salt Lake County Tourism Recreation Culture and Convention (TRCC)

**Duration:** 7 weeks

**Volunteer time spent:** 42 hours



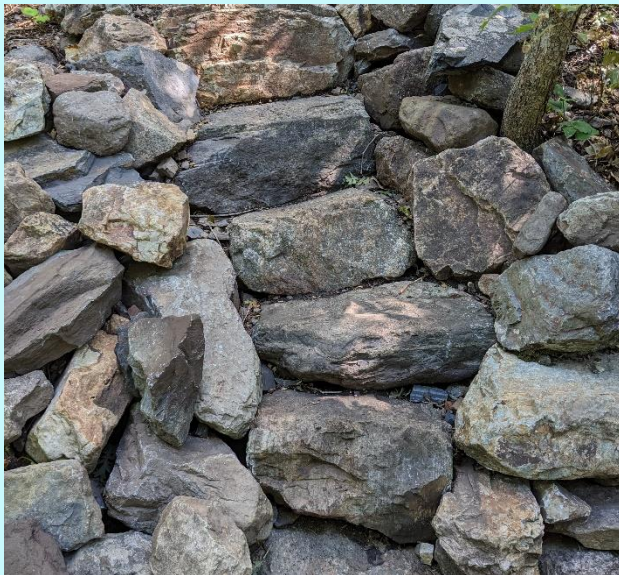
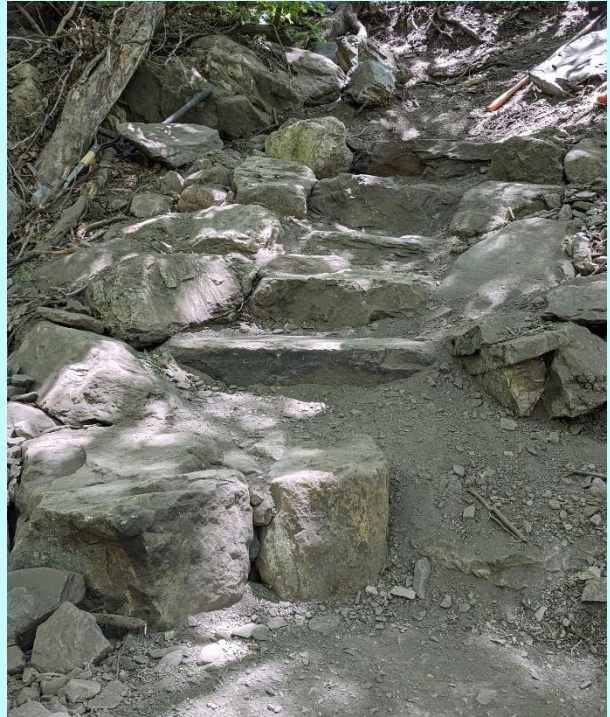
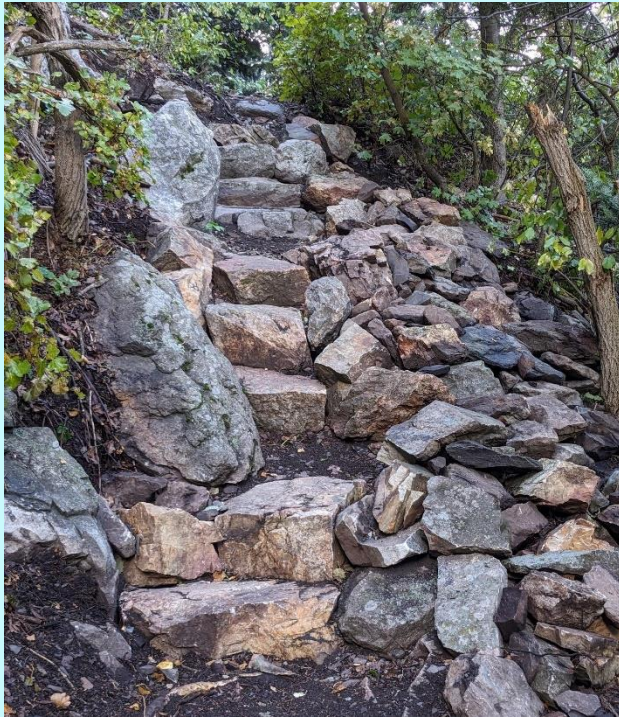
Highlighted area shows Challenge Buttress site in Big Cottonwood Canyon. [www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)

Challenge Buttress is one of the most popular and accessible climbing areas in the Wasatch, making soil erosion at the site significant. CCF and the SLRD identified a need for erosion control along the entire project site that was separated into two sections: the approach and the staging areas. Along the approach our crew installed check steps, rock wall, and staircases; closed braided social trails; established and retained primary routes; and installed drainage features. At the staging areas for the climbing routes on both the east and west faces, CCF installed a series of belay pads — flat soil surfaces retained by rock wall for climbers and belayers to access individual routes.



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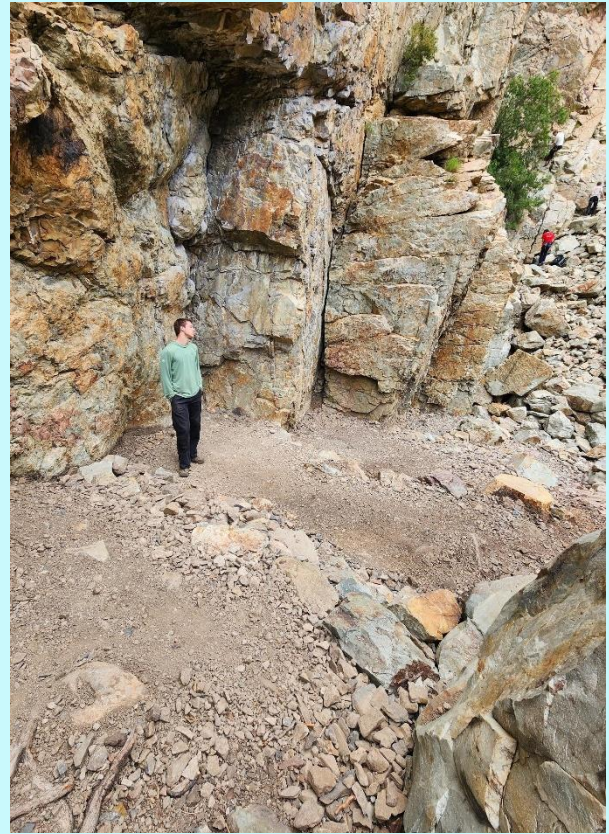
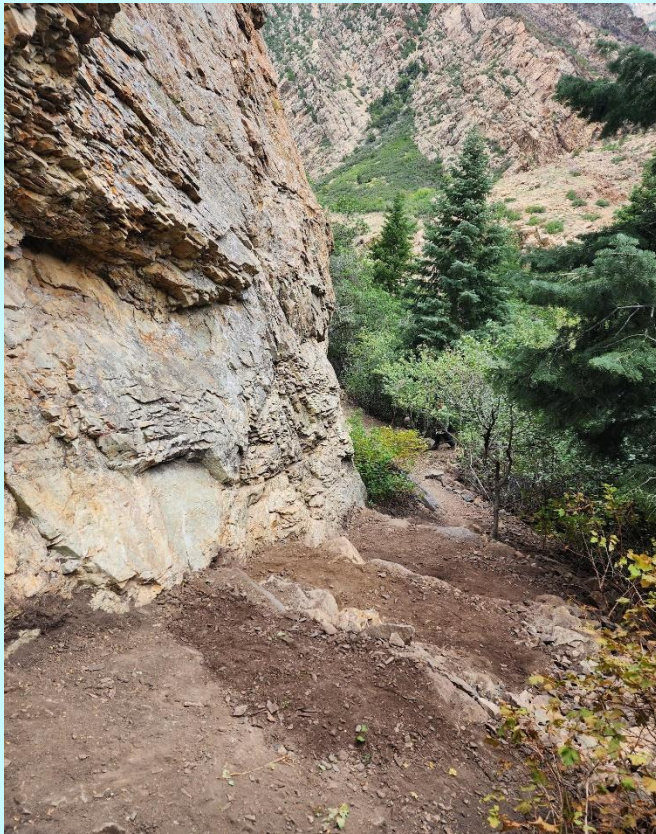
# Challenge Buttress: Big Cottonwood Canyon



Some of the rock staircases installed along the approach and at the crag of Challenge Buttress.  
Photo credit Emily Salle.



# Challenge Buttress: Big Cottonwood Canyon



Belay pads at the east (left) and west (right) faces of Challenge Buttress. Photo credit: David Wyllie.

## METRICS

126 steps  
10 staircases  
27 retaining walls  
3 drains  
50 feet of closed social trail  
55 feet of new, rerouted trail  
780 feet of improved existing trail

8 retained belay pads  
1 (very large) tree removed  
1468ft<sup>3</sup> of rock set into structures  
110 tons of rock set: approximately  
220,000lbs\*

\*based on an average quartzite density of 150lb/ft<sup>3</sup>



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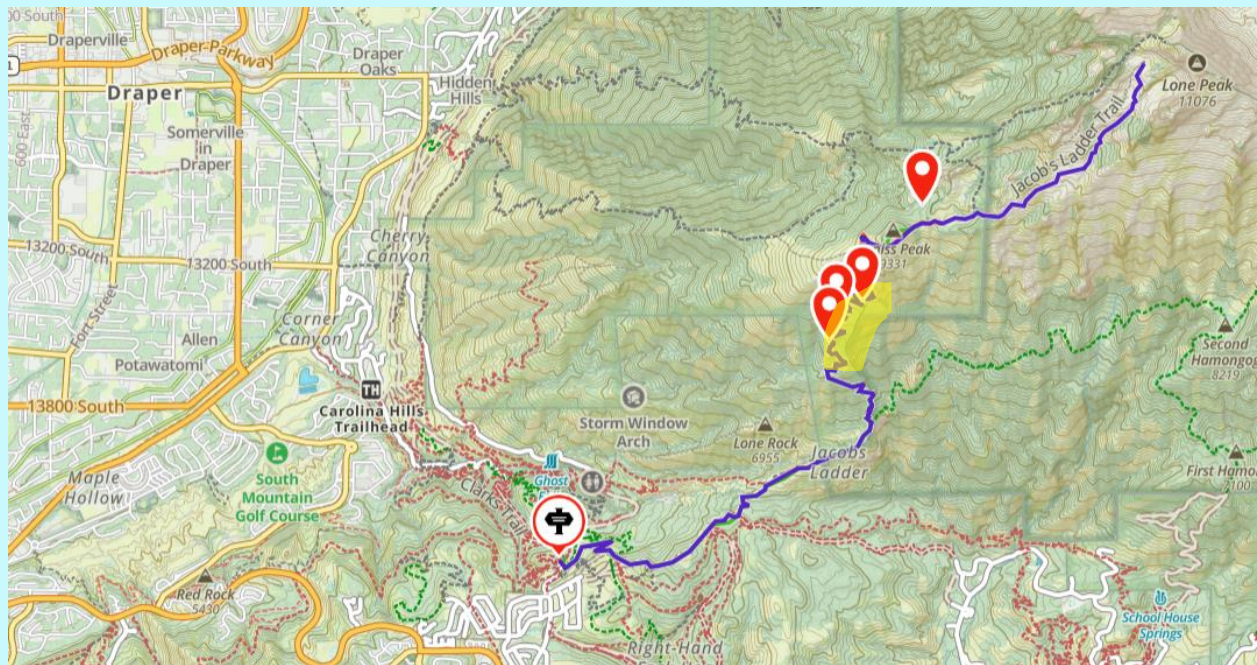
# CLIMBING ACCESS PROJECTS

## Jacob's Ladder: Lone Peak

**Partners:** Salt Lake Climbers Alliance (SLCA) and the USFS SLRD

**Duration:** 8/10 – 8/12/2023

**Volunteer time spent:** 126 hours



Highlighted area shows worksites. Northern-most pin shows campsite. [www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)

The CCF Trail Crew completed this project to protect the upper section of the Jacob's Ladder trail in Corner Canyon near Draper, UT from heavy use and erosion. This is the primary route for hikers and climbers to access the Lone Peak cirque. The reroute of the original Jacob's Ladder trail was completed in 2022, and it was CCF's goal to use native rock wall to retain as many of the new switchbacks as possible during the allotted project time. Because the project site was five miles from the trailhead, the crew spent two nights camped on the flats above Ennis Peak (see map).



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# Jacob's Ladder: Lone Peak



Before (left) and after (right) of a switchback on Jacob's Ladder. Photo credit: Emily Salle

## METRICS

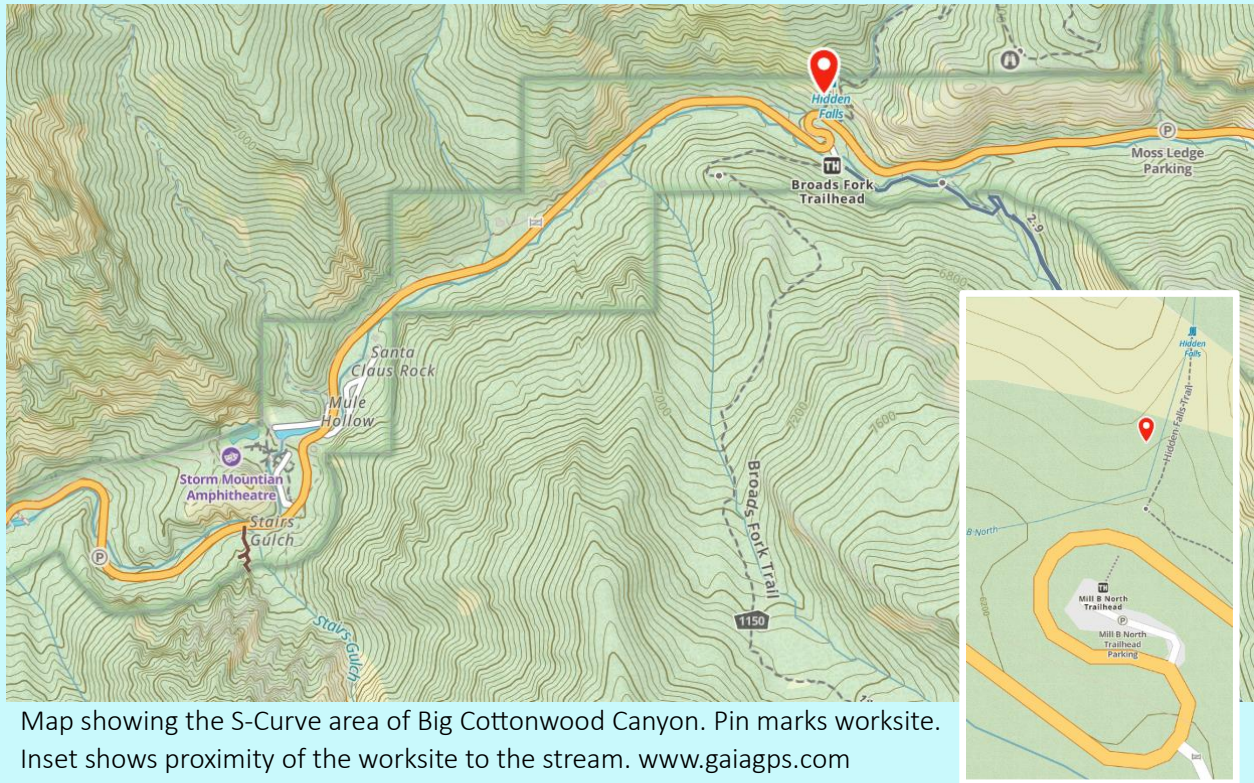
- 8 drains installed**
- 11 retaining walls built**
- 75 feet of social trail closed**
- 4 check steps installed**
- 340 cubic feet of rock set into structures**
- 1.5 miles of trail improved**
- 12 switchbacks reinforced**
- 410 feet of tread rebuilt**
- 80 feet of corridor cleared**
- 5 trees logged out**



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# CLIMBING ACCESS PROJECTS

## The Pile: Big Cottonwood Canyon



Map showing the S-Curve area of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Pin marks worksite. Inset shows proximity of the worksite to the stream. [www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative, Salt Lake County Tourism Recreation Culture and Convention (TRCC)

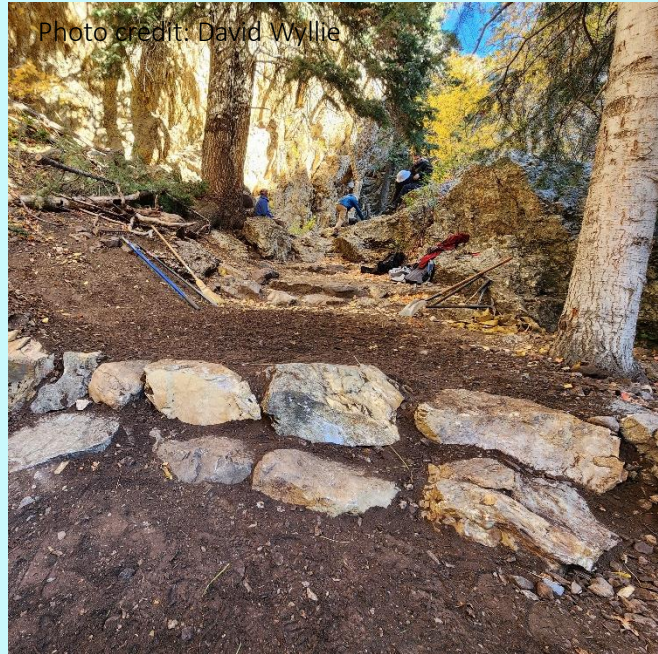
**Duration:** on-going

This site became a priority for improvements because of its proximity to a consistently flowing stream. The project aims to protect soil retention underneath the routes and along the approach. Several steps and retaining walls were installed this season, and there are plans to install additional features during 2024 season.



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# The Pile: Big Cottonwood Canyon



## METRICS

**50ft** of repaired tread

**1 step** installed

**4** retaining walls

**350 ft<sup>3</sup>** of rock set

**26 tons** of rock used\*

**80 ft<sup>2</sup>** naturalized



Photo credits: David Wyllie

\*based on an average quartzite density of 150lb/ft<sup>3</sup>



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## TRAIL WORK PROJECTS

# LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON

Trail maintenance projects in LCC included the trail system at Alta Ski Area, the Red Pine Lake trail, and the Little Cottonwood Creek trail. These sites mostly required maintenance of drainage features, closure of switchback cuts, and corridor widening.

## PROJECTS

### **Alta Ski Area System Trails**

Partner: Alta Ski Area, Alta Environmental Center (AEC)

### **Red Pine Lakes Trail**

Partners: USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

### **Little Cottonwood Creek Trail**

Partners: USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

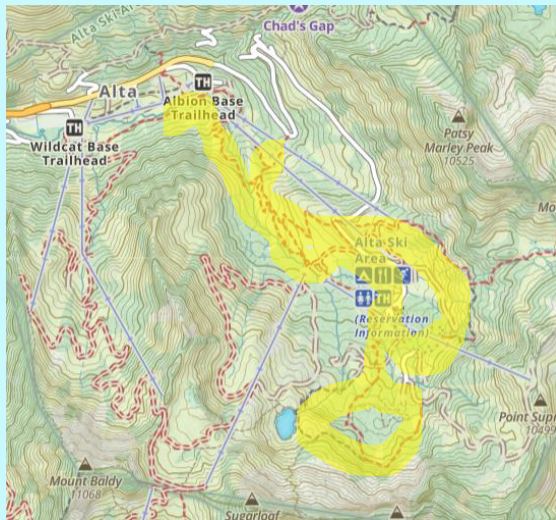


# LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON

## Alta Ski Area System Trails

**Partner:** Alta Ski Area, Alta Environmental Center (AEC)

**Duration:** 2 weeks



Trails maintained are highlighted.  
[www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)

### METRICS

- 7.8 miles maintained and scouted
- 65 drains cleaned
- 14 drains built
- 100 feet of trail corridor opened
- 35 feet of switchback cuts and social trails closed
- 5 hazard trees removed

Alta Ski Area maintains 12 miles of designated trails on USFS land. This summer our crew was able to maintain nearly 75% of all available trails in the system while also participating in several stewardship events with the Alta Environmental Center (AEC). Most of the trail work included drain, corridor, and tread improvements.

Stewardship work focused on ecological restoration through the planting of native trees and wildflowers.



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# Alta Ski Area System Trails



Photo credits: David Wyllie

## TRAILS MAINTAINED OR SCOUTED

Secret Lake Trail: FS1011A

Devil's Castle Loop: FS1011

Snake Pit Trail: FS1015

Albion Meadows Trail: FS1006

Catherine's Pass Trail: FS1008



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# LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON

## Red Pine Lakes Trail: FS1003

**Partner:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

**Volunteer hours spent:** 40 hours



www.gaiagps.com

Trails maintained are highlighted.



A closed social trail. Photo: Kyle Pilcher

This very popular, heavily eroded trail was rerouted to include new switchbacks in 2022. In 2023, the CCF Trail Crew worked to maintain the closure status of the old trail and switchback cuts. The hazard trees that were removed from the trail were used to naturalize and block switchback cuts. A thorough cleaning of all of the trails drains was also performed.

## METRICS

**3.4 miles** scouted

**60 drains** cleared

**8 hazard or downed trees** removed

**1/4 mile of social trail** and switchback cuts closed and naturalized



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# LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON

## Little Cottonwood Creek: FS1003

**Partner:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

This heavily used, easily accessible trail mostly needed drain work. Because it is an old road, the corridor is wide and erosion is mitigated by the gentle grade. The infrastructure, like bridges, was found to be in good shape and did not need maintenance.



A rebuilt drain. Photo: Emily Salle

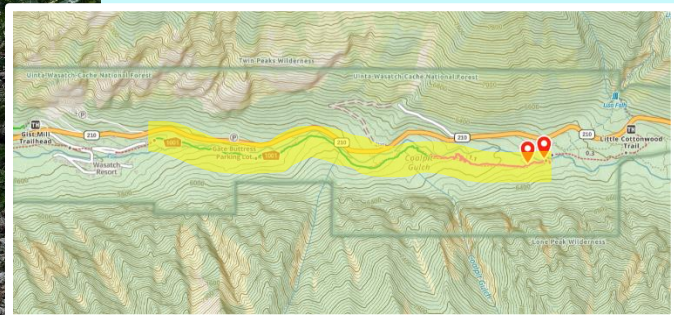
## METRICS

**2.8 miles** maintained

**19 drains** cleaned

**2 drains** installed

**4 trees** removed



Trail highlighted. [www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)



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## TRAIL WORK PROJECTS

# BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON

Big Cottonwood Canyon includes an extensive and diverse range of trails. Some of the trails in our maintenance scope, like Lake Blanche, see very high visitation levels. Other trails that extend further away from the popular trailheads see much lighter visitation. The maintenance strategy for each trail depended on a combination of the nature of the trail's construction (i.e. grade and age) and the erosion risk (i.e. drainage mitigation and level of visitation).

## PROJECTS

### Lake Blanche

Partners: USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

### Bonneville-Shoreline Trail: Ferguson to Dogwood

Partners: USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

### Mill B North

Partners: USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)  
Funding: Recreation Trails Program (RTP)

## MAINTENANCE AND SCOUTING

Broad's Fork, Cardiff Fork (Donut Falls), Lake Catherine, Lake Mary,  
Mill D North, Days Fork, Lake Desolation Trail,  
Beartrap Fork, Silver Lake, Lake Solitude



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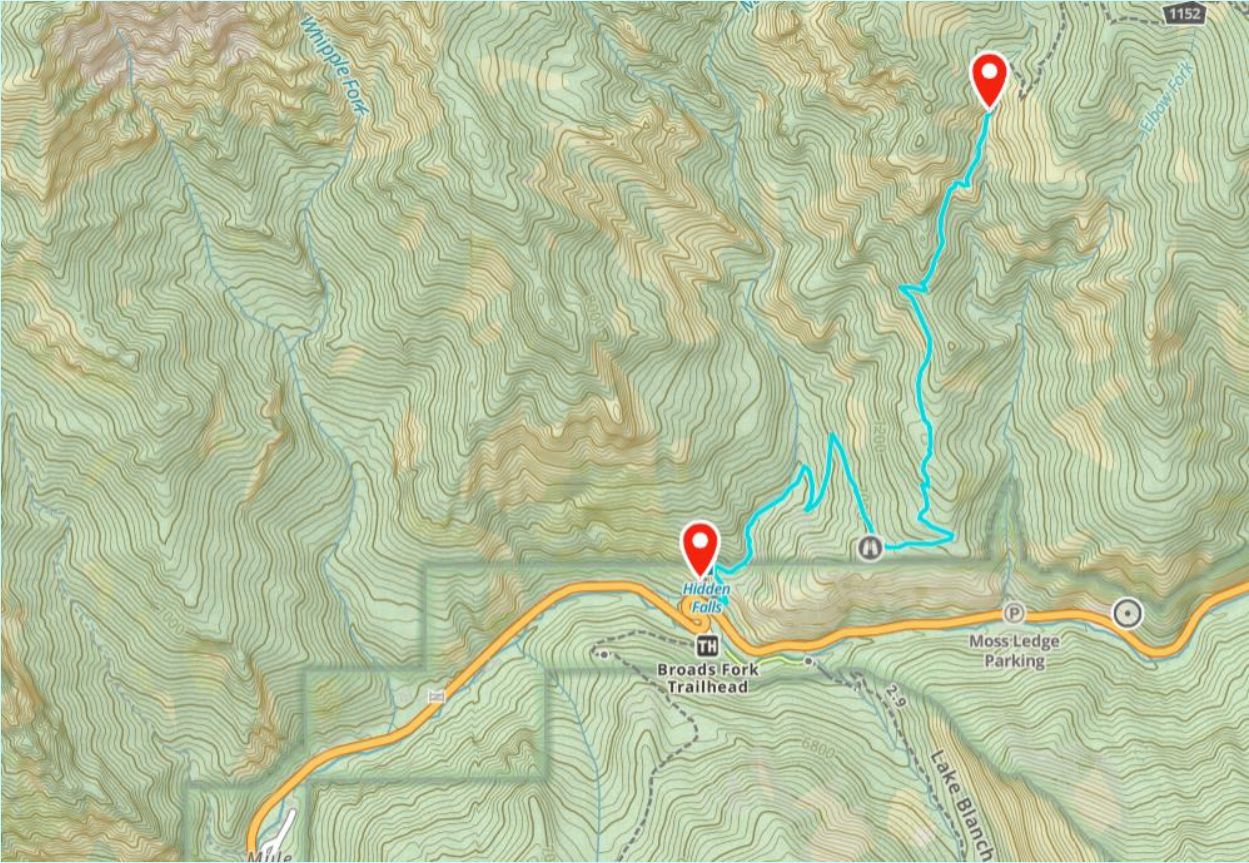
# BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON

## Mill B North: FS1152

**Partner:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

**Funding:** Recreation Trails Program (RTP)

**Volunteer time spent:** 40 hours



Trail to worksite. Northern pin marks the worksite. Southern pin marks trailhead. [www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)



## Mill B North: FS1152

The explicit goal of this project was to work alongside the SLRD trail crew and the Utah Conservation Corps to rebuild and reinforce three steam crossings in an upper drainage area that had been damaged by an avalanche two winters before. The CCF trail crew was given one drainage crossing for which they designed and implemented improvements. The features constructed included a retained pad of porous crush with stepping stones, a multi-tiered staircase, and a stretch of retained tread.



Final photos of the top tiers of the staircase pictured upper left and above to the right. Left: detail of crush pad and bottom staircase. Photo credits: Cole Dugdale.



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Final photos of the full project site shown from the bottom (above left) and the top (above right). Photo credit: Cole Dugdale.

Above: the CCF crew moving one of the stair rocks into place. Photo credit: Emily Salle

## METRICS

**75 feet** of new tread

**Five** retaining walls

**14** steps and **3** stepping stones

**100ft<sup>2</sup>** crush pad

**27,000 lbs** of rock used

**(13.5 tons)\***

\*based on an estimate of 150lb/ft<sup>3</sup>



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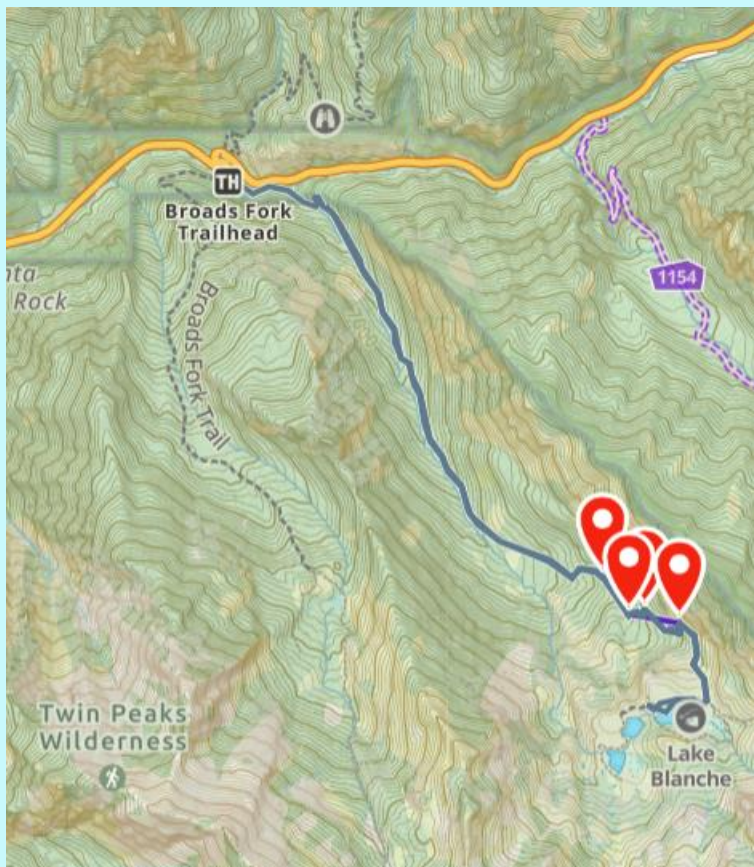
# BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON

## Lake Blanche: FS1151

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

**Funding:** Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

**Volunteers time spent:** 110 hours



Map of the trail from the trailheads to the lake. Major worksites are marked with red pins. [www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)

Lake Blanche is a heavily trafficked trail that extends from the S-Curves trailheads up to the base of Sundial Peak. The steepness, location, and popularity of this trail have led to several major maintenance concerns. The work that CCF performed in 2023 focused on rebuilding drains, closing switchback cuts, and cleaning established drains.



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Photos of crew member Mike Roberts rebuilding water-bar style drains.  
Photo credits: Isaac Hodson

## METRICS

- 3.6 miles of trail work scouted**
- 7 drains maintained**
- 14 drains rebuilt**
- 100 ft of naturalized switchback cuts**
- 7 hazard trees removed**
- ~2 tons of rock set into structures**

\*based on an estimate of 150lb/ft<sup>3</sup>



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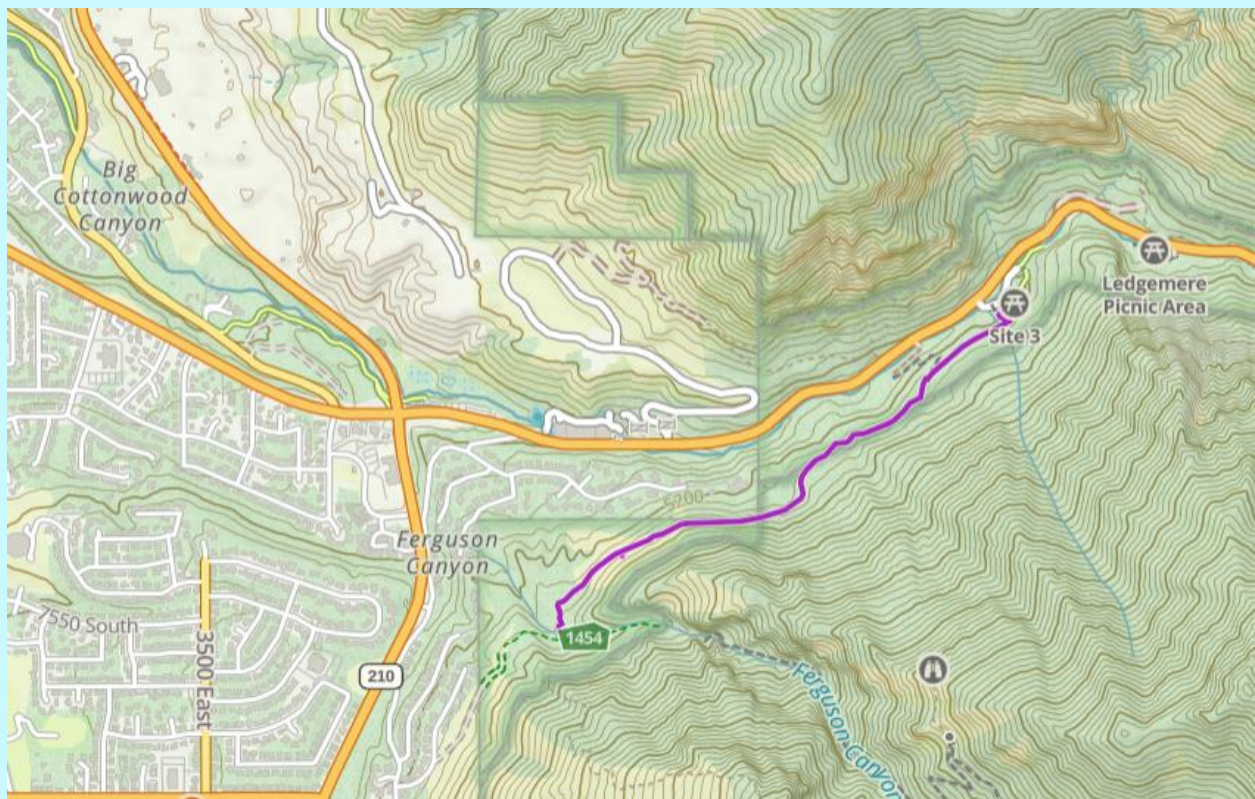
# BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON

## Bonneville-Shoreline Trail: Ferguson to Dogwood

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

**Funding:** Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

**Volunteers time spent:** 271 hours



Map shows the 1.2 miles of trail constructed from Ferguson (west side) to Dogwood (east side) at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. [www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)



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# Bonneville-Shoreline Trail (BST): Ferguson to Dogwood

This season was the final year of construction of this 1.2 mile section to connect the mouth of Ferguson Canyon to the Dogwood Picnic area in Big Cottonwood Canyon. The construction of this trail marks progress toward the 280-mile goal of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail to run from Nephi, UT to the Idaho border.



Left: crew members removing a rock from the tread. Right: newly widened tread above the valley.  
Photo credits: Emily Salle

This project required different types of work at various stages and locations along the trail depending on natural features. On the Dogwood (eastern) end of the trail, the CCF Trail Crew worked alongside the USFS SLRD Trails crew to cut new trail and build several switchbacks, drains, and retaining walls. Trail that had been cut in previous years of this project, or by volunteers earlier in the season, was widened and rehabilitated to reduce narrowing and vegetation growth. A stream crossing on the Ferguson (west) side of the trail was retained with rock wall and a crush pad to raise the tread level and prevent trail wash outs in the spring.



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# Bonneville-Shoreline Trail (BST): Ferguson to Dogwood



## METRICS

- 1.2mi** of trail improved and maintained
- 1,800 feet** of widened tread
- 270 feet** of new tread
- 4** retaining walls
- 16 drains** installed
- 5 trees** cleared
- 250ft** of closed and naturalized social trails

Retaining wall projects on the BST. Photo credits: David Wyllie (above) and Emily Salle (below)



# Bonneville-Shoreline Trail (BST): Ferguson to Dogwood



Stream crossing. Photo credits: David Wyllie

## STREAM CROSSING

- 30ft long
- 12ft wide
- 1 drain dug on west side
- 160ft<sup>2</sup> crush pad
- 180ft<sup>3</sup> of retaining wall
- 25 tons of rock set into structures\*

\*based on an average quartzite density of 150lb/ft<sup>3</sup>



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# BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON

## MAINTENANCE AND SCOUTING

**Broad's Fork FS1150: 2.2 miles**

6 drains cleared

4 check steps installed

5 trees cleared

**Cardiff Fork (Donut Falls) FS1156: 2.0 miles**

1 USFS sign installed

**Lake Mary and Lake**

**Catherine FSGWT: 2.9 miles**

200ft of switchback cuts closed

**Silver Lake FS1162, FS1163 and Lake**

**Solitude FS1171: 4.0 miles**

3 drains maintained

2 trees cleared

**Mill D North FS1158: 2.2 miles**

1 tree cleared

**Days Fork FS1160: 3.3 miles**

**Lake Desolation Trail FS1159: 2.6 miles**

**Beartrap Fork FS1161: 2.0 miles**



Photo credits: Emily Salle (above) and Georgia Drew (below)





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## TRAIL WORK PROJECTS

# MILLCREEK CANYON

Millcreek Canyon (MCC), the northern-most canyon of the three, is a popular biking, hiking, and dog-walking destination. There is ample access to remote wilderness trails and popular trails alike. The primary concern with remote trails in MCC is trail sloughing — the migration and narrowing of a trail’s surface downhill. Two of our projects focused on this issue. Another concern in Millcreek is heavy use near the Big Water Trailhead. Much of the user impact in this area derives from mountain bikers descending into MCC from the Wasatch Crest Trail via the Great Western Trail.

## PROJECTS

### **Great Western Trail Reroute**

Partners: USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD),

Funding: Salt Lake County Millcreek Collections, Recreation Trails Program (RTP)

### **Alexander Basin-Bowman Fork Connector**

Partners: USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation:  
Restoration Recreation Initiative

### **Desolation Trail from Thayne Canyon Trailhead**

Partners: USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

Funding: Salt Lake County Millcreek Collections, Recreation Trails Program (RTP)

## MAINTENANCE AND SCOUTING

**Thayne Canyon Trail:** 3.7 miles scouted



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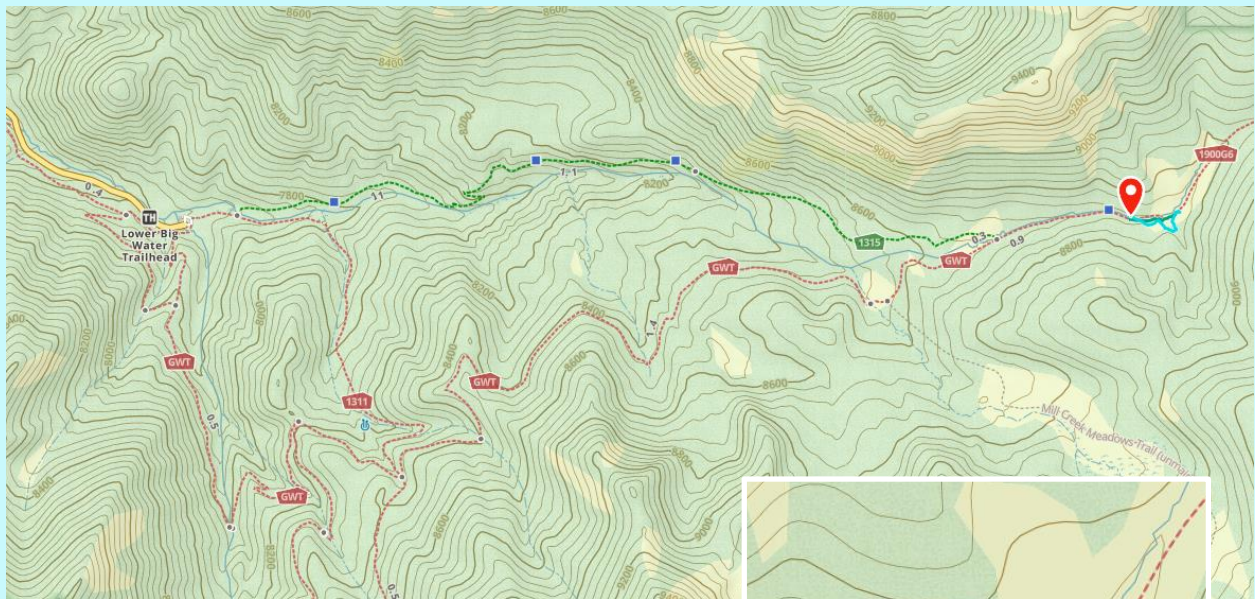
# MILLCREEK CANYON

## Great Western Trail: FSGWT/1900G6

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

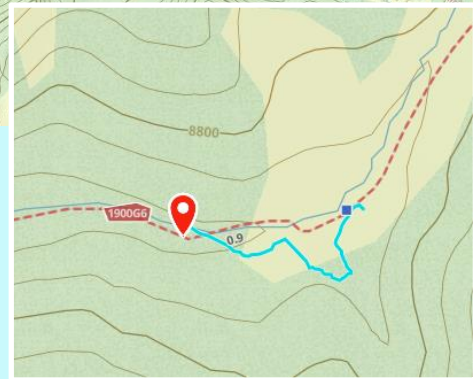
**Funding:** Salt Lake County Millcreek Collections, Recreation Trails Program (RTP)

**Duration:** August 26<sup>th</sup> through September 2<sup>nd</sup>



Pin marks beginning of worksite. Inset (right) shows the old stream crossing. [www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)

This project created an alternative trail route for multi-use that avoids stream contact. The newly established trail lifts the tread up onto a higher bench and eliminates stream crossings. Heavy mountain biking traffic was a primary design consideration for the reroute. Features include gentle grade reversal drains, wooden retaining walls, a reinforced drainage crossing, banked turns, and widened tread corridor.



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# Great Western Trail: FSGWT/1900G6



## METRICS

**850 ft** of new tread (0.16 mi)

**530 ft** of closed and naturalized old trail

**7 new drains** installed

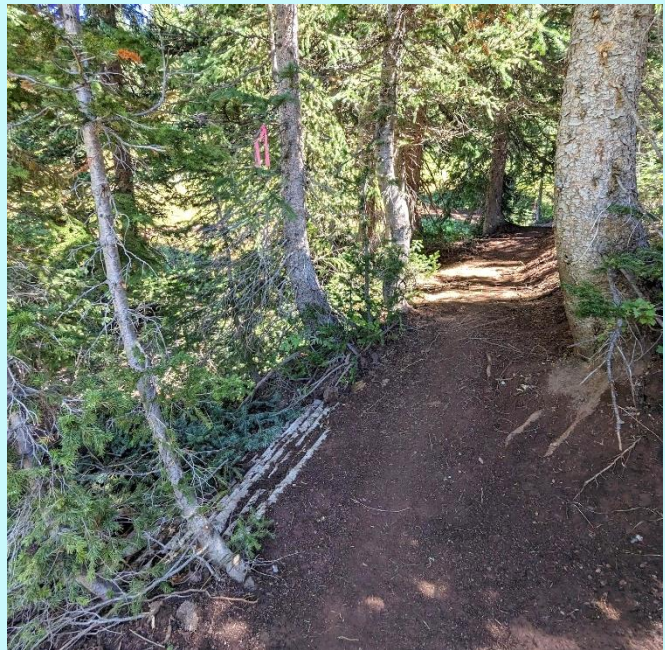
**4 hazard trees** removed

**2 retaining features** installed

**1 stream crossing:**

**24ft<sup>2</sup>** of crush pad

**20ft<sup>3</sup>** retaining rock and log wall



New tread and retaining log wall (below).

Photo credits: Emily Salle



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## Great Western Trail: FSGWT/1900G6



Revegetation and naturalization efforts to close the old trail included loosening the tread surface, saving live vegetation that was removed for new construction, and then replanting on the old trail surface. Branches from the removal of hazard trees were also utilized in the naturalization.

Photo credits: Emily Salle



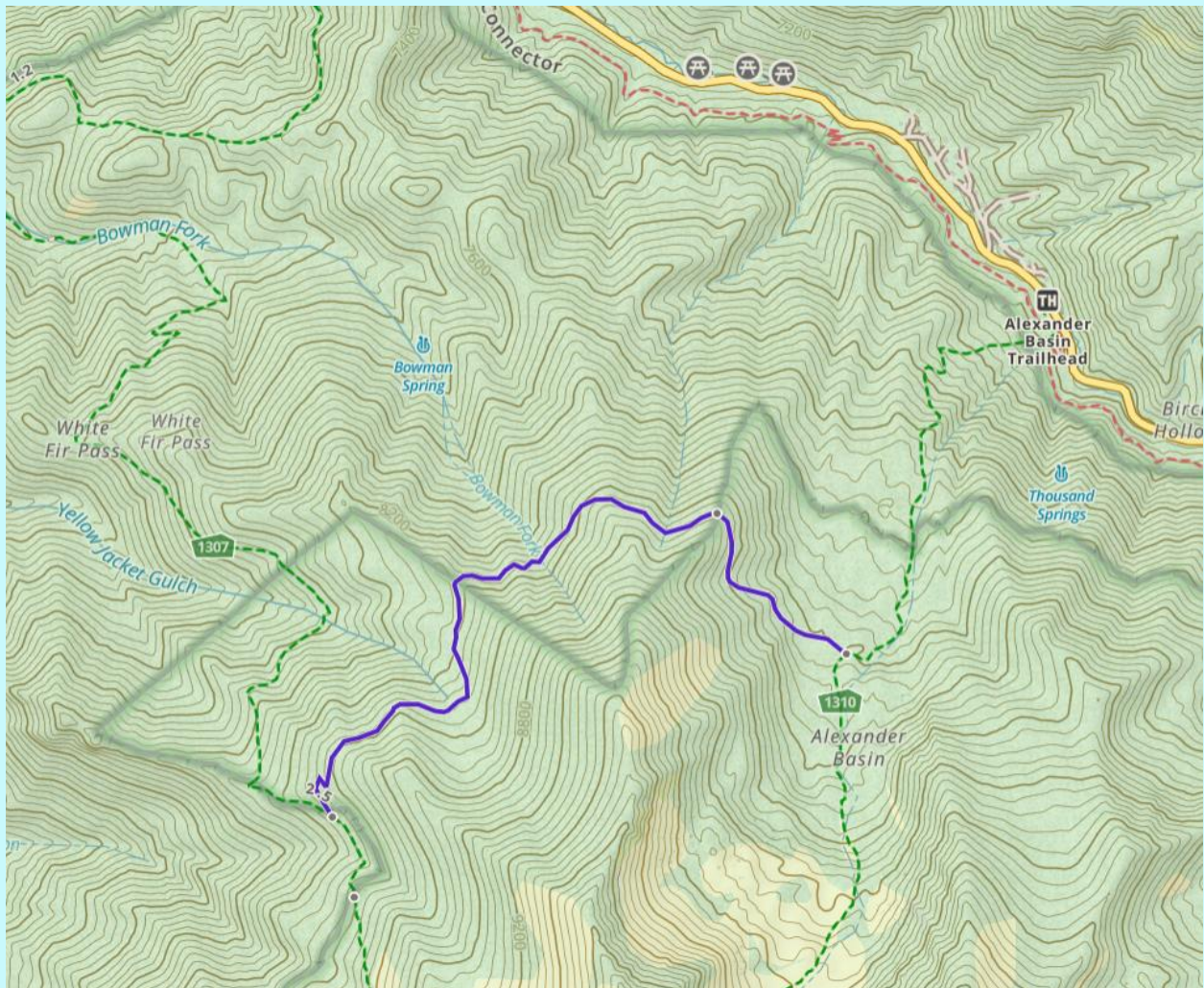
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# MILLCREEK CANYON

## Alexander Basin-Bowman Fork Connector: FS1319

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

**Funding:** Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative (RRI)



Trail section that was maintained shown in purple.  
[www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)



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# MILLCREEK CANYON

## Alexander Basin-Bowman Fork Connector: FS1319

This project focused on tread repairs on the 1.5-mile connection between Alexander Basin and Bowman Fork. The primary issue on this trail was sloughing — the migration and narrowing of the trail surface downhill over time. The goal of the CCF crew was to pick out the most severely damaged sections of the trail and reestablish a wider trail bench on the uphill edge.



Overgrown and narrow tread (left) is replaced by wider and reestablished tread (right).  
Photo credit: Georgia Drew.



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# MILLCREEK CANYON

## Alexander Basin-Bowman Fork Connector: FS1319



Some of the crew clearing downed trees.  
Photo credit: David Wyllie

### METRICS

**1.5 miles** of improved trail

**150ft** of new tread

**15 trees** cut and cleared from the trail

In addition to the tread work, much of the crew's time was spent clearing downed trees with hand saws.



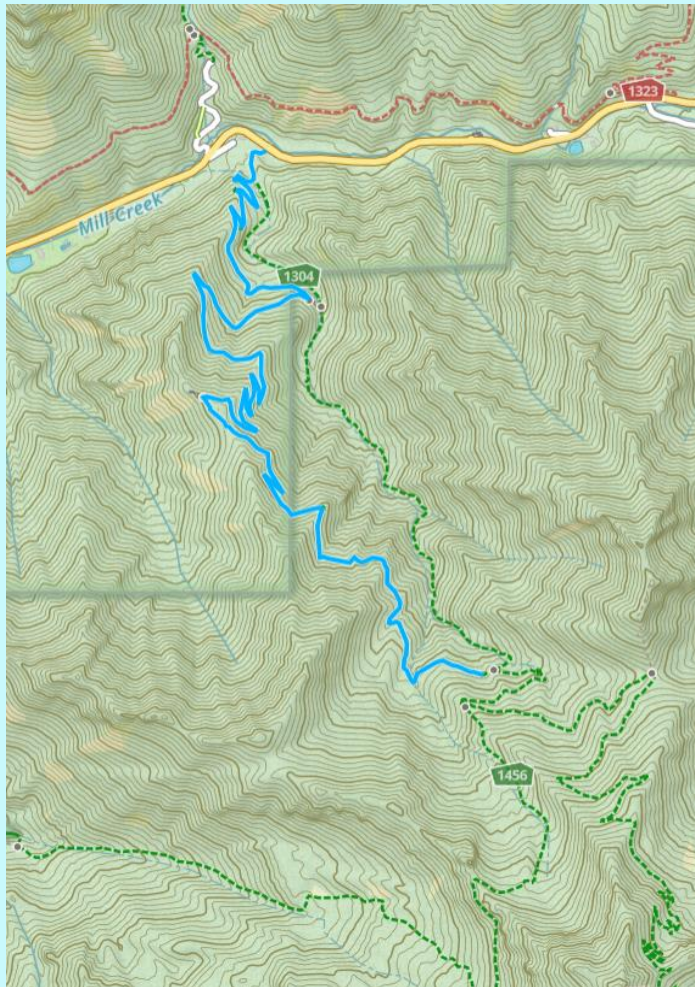
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# MILLCREEK CANYON

## Desolation Trail from Thayne Canyon: FS1158

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

**Funding:** Recreation Trails Program (RTP), Salt Lake County Millcreek Collections



This project repaired tread on the 3.8-mile stretch of the 17-mile Desolation Trail that originates from the Thayne Canyon Trailhead in Millcreek Canyon. The primary issue on this trail was sloughing — the migration and narrowing of the trail surface downhill over time. The CCF crew targeted the most severely damaged sections of the trail and reestablished a wider trail uphill, often rerouting small sections of the trail onto a higher bench. Continuing work will be needed in future seasons to fully mitigate the erosion on this trail.

The section of addressed trail is highlighted in blue.  
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# MILLCREEK CANYON

## Desolation Trail from Thayne Canyon: FS1158



Photo credits: Emily Salle

### METRICS

- 210 feet** of newly repaired tread
- 50 feet** of closed and naturalized tread
- 2** retaining walls
- 68ft<sup>3</sup>** of rock used
- 5 hazard trees** cleared from the trail
- 3.8 miles** scouted



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## TRAIL WORK PROJECTS

# WASATCH FRONT

The trails in the Wasatch Front, or the Foothills, experience some of the most significant erosion issues in our area caused in part by heavy multi-use traffic, steep trail design, and spring run-off. During the 2023 season the CCF Trail Crew performed general maintenance and scouting on these trails. While intensive, structural projects could be a good option for future seasons on these trails, they were not part of the 2023 season.

## TRAILS MAINTAINED AND SCOUTED

### **Mt. Olympus FS1455**

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

### **Bonneville Shoreline Trail from Heughs Canyon to Mt. Olympus Heughs Canyon FS1466**

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD), Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

### **Neffs Canyon FS1456: 2.5 miles**

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

Maintenance focused on diverting the stream from the trail with retaining structures.

Two major stream diversions were constructed.



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# WASATCH FRONT

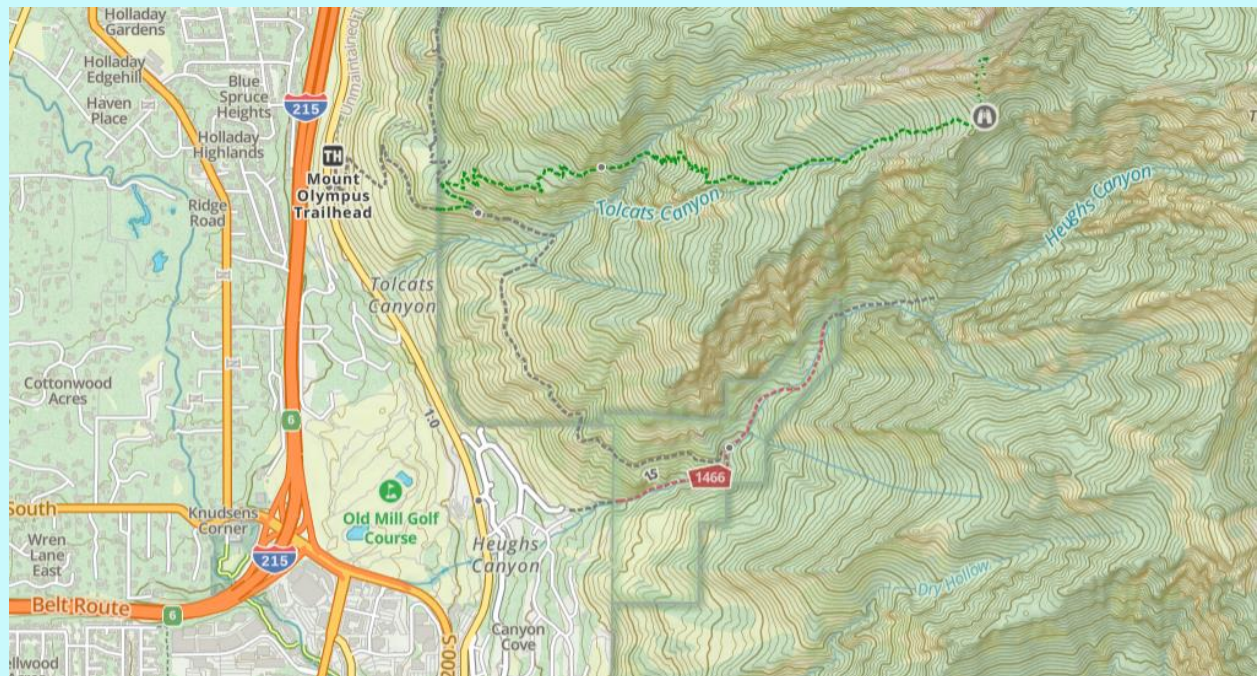
## Mt. Olympus FS1455

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

**Funding:** Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation: Restoration Recreation Initiative

**Volunteer time spent:** 215 hours

Maintenance focused on closing switchback cuts. Twelve switchback cuts were naturalized and blocked off on 2.7 miles of trail.



Area of the Wasatch Front with Mt. Olympus (northern-most), the BST, and Heughs (southern-most).  
[www.gaiagps.com](http://www.gaiagps.com)

## Heughs Canyon (FS1466) and BST to Mt Olympus

**Partners:** USFS Salt Lake Ranger District (SLRD)

**Funding:** Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation:  
Restoration Recreation Initiative

General maintenance performed  
on 3.3 miles of trail.



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# REFLECTIONS ON THE 2023 SEASON

The 2023 season was characterized by exciting growth for the CCF Trail Crew. The crew doubled from five to over ten members — its largest size in our history. CCF took on more technically advanced projects and carried a significantly higher workload than in the past. Specifically, our four climbing area projects deviated from our historic standard of general trail maintenance and required us to specialize in dry masonry techniques. We expanded how the crew was trained, which tools we regularly used, which partnering agencies we worked with, and the volunteer communities that we tapped into. We didn't hike as much. We didn't cover as many miles. But we moved a lot of rock and set structures that we hope will last for decades to come.

As the Crew Lead, I focused on developing a culture of hard work, a standard of integrity, and a positive, supportive environment. I couldn't be prouder of what the 2023 crew accomplished.

We are poised to build on the skills we've developed, the camaraderie of our crew, and the work we've done. As the population of the Salt Lake Valley grows toward 1.5 million, and as visitation in the tri-canyons surpasses 5 million, we can see the effect of this growing usership daily.

Thank you to each of the crew members for being such good company for our hard days together. Thank you to our project partners for their visions and teamwork. Thank you to our donors for making it possible. Thanks for a great season.



**Emily Salle**  
2023 Crew Lead  
Trails Stewardship  
Director



