FY 2020 IDL OHV Trail Construction Projects

Many of the projects would not happen without the help of Idaho Parks and Recreation (IDPR) Trail cat program, volunteers and Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) area staff. Getting schedules lined up is always a challenge. This year we not only struggled with schedules and equipment breakdowns, but also COVID issues preventing us from traveling or working with others.

Please note that rerouted trail or new trail takes a significant time to design, layout and clear before construction can begin. Depending on where the new trail is laid out, it is walked a minimum of five (5) times, but often more to find the best trail location. Once located, it is the help of volunteers, IDPR and IDL area staff that make these new trail opportunities possible.

Pend Oreille (Sandpoint/ Priest River area)

- Hayes Gulch
  - Sluice box trail 112 (single track). ¼ mile of the trail was rerouted. The previous trail location was unsustainable and traveled up a 35-40% grade on a clay soil that became impassable when wet. The reroute was completed with the IDL recreation program and a group of 10 volunteers comprised of local motorcycle riders. We reduced the grade to 8-12%, added grade reversals and reclaimed the old trail.
  - Claim jumper trail 114 (single track). 0.2 miles of the trail tread bench was reworked to increase the sustainability and rideability of the trail. Additional water control was installed to improve water drainage. The same group of volunteers who assisted with the Sluice box trail assisted with this one.
- Mirror Lake
  - Iron Mask Trail 130 (50” or less). 1 mile of trail constructed last fall and reworked this spring. The trail replaced an unauthorized user created trail, with a sustainable trail. Construction was completed with help from the IDPR trail cat program. Spring work included adding turnouts, slope cutting a portion of the cutbank, widening portions of trail and reworking the climbing turns to better accommodate longer vehicles and reduce impacts to the trail.
- Hoodoo
  - Bad Voodoo Trail (TBD) (50” or less). ½ mile of new trail was constructed with the remainder of the trail to be constructed in FY 21. The Pend Oreille fire crew brushed 1/2 mile of heavily vegetated trail, before they lost the flagging that was pulled by the public and set the project back. Trail limiters and allowed use signs have been installed with the remainder of the signs and water control on existing trail to be installed in FY 21.
  - A road contractor was used to eliminate multiple sections of an unauthorized trail that was causing heavy water damage to the main road. A reroute was planned as a sustainable alternative, but the removal of ½ mile of flagging on the Bad Voodoo trail set this project back. The planned reroute will provide a loop opportunity in conjunction with the Bad Voodoo trail.
Southwest Area (Idaho City)

- Steamboat
  - Some of the trail names are getting a name change, but the trail number will remain the same. Along with name changes, trails that are only identified as a number will be named.
  - The IDPR Trail Cat program completed the trail reroutes.
  - The Boise Ridge Rider club has been instrumental in volunteering to assist with installing new trail signposts and sign decals to ensure sign consistency throughout the trail system. Roughly ½ of the signposts and decals have been replaced. This will be a multi-year project.
  - Pine Creek Trail 104 (single track) ½ mile of trail was rerouted to improve sustainability in sections, eliminate a long and confusing road section and improve the experience.
  - Pine Ridge Trail 201 (50” or less), This trail was formerly known as Pine Creek ATV. To eliminate confusion, the trail was renamed. Water dips were reworked to improve water drainage.
  - Pine Ridge Connector Trail 202 (50” or less) Water dips were reworked and the name was changed from Pine Creek Connector.
  - Greyback Trail 205 (50” or less) water dips were reworked and the trail tread was resurfaced to address rutting.
  - Kevins Hand Trail 664 (Single Track) ½ mile of trail reroute was constructed by IDPR to get the trail off a road, keeping the single track.
  - Chuck Wells Trail 595 (Single Track) This trail was formerly known as just trail 595. As a tribute to a man who gave so much to recreation in Idaho, it was decided to name this trail after him.

East Idaho Area

- Kelly Canyon
  - Most of the trails in the Kelly Canyon area are yet to be named and some trails are currently identified only as a number. When the trail system is in place, the recreating public will be asked to assist with names.
  - The IDPR Trail Cat program has been a huge help with the new construction
  - Trail 800 (50” or less) 1.5 miles of new trail ½ mile of rerouted trail. Trail limiters, signs and a raised turnpike was installed. The rerouted portion of trail moved the trail out of a small ravine bottom and onto the side of the hill where the grade could be reversed to control water. The new portion of trail increased trail distance and eliminated the need to use a 4wd road. Following the construction of the new portion of trail, the 4wd road was rehabilitated and reseeded.
  - Trail 803 (50” or less) This reroute eliminated two hill climbs out of a camping area and provided a sustainable alternative.
  - Cranky Grouse Trail 804 (50” or less) 1 mile of new trail has been laid out and partially cleared, the construction will be completed in FY21. This trail will replace two duplicate unauthorized and unsustainable trails that have already been reclaimed and rehabilitated.