



2026 Gila Trail Projects

**All trail users welcome
No trail work experience necessary**

Powderhorn Trail # 82

Date: Nov 17th – 20th, 2026

Trail Work Description: brushing, logging, spot tread, and trail markers

Project Difficulty: easy to moderate

Map of project: <https://caltopo.com/m/04V1B8S#>

Base Camp: trailhead

Hike during the day: up to 6 miles round trip

Riding during the day: up to 13 miles round trip

Meeting time and place: 8:30am at Kelly Tank. Then we will proceed to the trailhead once we have consolidated gear based on who can drive to the trailhead. Those with low and medium clearance vehicles will leave their vehicles at Kelly Tank. Equine riders will ride from Kelly Tank. See directions below.

Project contact: Melissa Green – groundworktrails@gmail.com

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. Everyone will need to provide their own lunches and snacks.
- **Water:** We will bring water jugs for basecamp/trailhead. If you are driving to the trailhead and can fit your own water jugs, please bring them. Please bring 3-quart water capacity or a way to filter water during the day.

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: Spotty cell service at the trailhead and once the Powderhorn trail is on the ridge.

Vehicle Requirement:

- **To Kelly Tank:** 2wd medium clearance unless the road is muddy. 4WD recommended if the road is wet
- **To Powderhorn Trailhead:** 4 wd high clearance is needed

Elevation: 8000 - 9500

Nearest Town: Silver City- has a hospital. Mimbres/San Lorenzo is closer but only has a small urgent care with limited hours

Weather: Be prepared with layers. Rain is possible. Mornings and evenings will be chilly.
Days will likely be warm. We will have the hot tent and /or propane fireplace heater

Why These Trails: This trail was affected by the 2022 Black Fire. It was once a great way to get to McKnight Mountain and to make a loop with McKnight Canyon Trail. But the fire damage the trail and it is no longer a pleasant trail.

Directions: From Silver City: Take 180 east about 7.5 miles to Hwy 152. Take a left onto Hwy 152 and travel about 14 miles to Hwy 35. Take a left onto Hwy 35. Stay on Hwy 35 past the Mimbres Ranger FS Station about 1.22 miles. Turn Right. There are multiple roads that split off as soon as you turn. Make sure you take the correct one. You are heading up to Kelly Tank via the Powderhorn Ridge Rd, so you want the middle road. Do not drive up the Mimbres River and do not take the McKnight Canyon Rd. Stay on the Powderhorn Ridge Road for about 6.34 miles. There you will see Kelly Tank. This is where we are meeting initially. After this, we will continue another 3.6 miles to the trailhead. Note that the worst part of the road is after Kelly Tank. If you have a low or medium clearance vehicle, you will want to carpool from here.

Schedule:

Schedules are flexible and dependent on the condition and energy level of the volunteers. 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.

Monday, Nov 16th

Camping at Kelly Tank is an option if you want to arrive a day early. Please bring your own food and water.

Tuesday, Nov 17th

8:30 am – 9:00 am – Introductions, work objectives, safety talk, and gear check

9:00 am – Drive to Powderhorn Trailhead

10 am – 12 pm- Trail maintenance

12 – 12:30 pm – Eat lunch

12:30 - 4 pm – Trail maintenance

Wednesday, Nov 18th - Thursday, Nov 19th

7:30 - 8 am - Breakfast

8:30 – 12 pm – Trail maintenance

12 - 12:30 pm - Lunch

12:30 - 4 pm - Trail maintenance

4:00 – Return to camp

Friday, Nov 20th

7:30 -8 am - Breakfast

8:00 am – 9:30 am - Pack up camp and personal gear

9:30 am – Drive back to Kelly Tank

11 pm – Drive home

Packing List: last page

RSVP required - Melissa Green – groundworktrails@gmail.com

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/water shoes ___ 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 ___ 3-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.