

Rubicon Trail Site Assessment

December 28, 2022

Crew: Brian Bettencourt and Nicholas Howle

Weather Conditions: The weather conditions for the Rubicon Trail were clear and cold. The air temperature on the trail was approximately 20(F) at 9:00 a.m. and 31(F) around 12:30 p.m. The summary of weather conditions up to this day are as follows:

2022		24-Dec	25-Dec	26-Dec	27-Dec	28-Dec
SLT	Precip (in)	0	0	0	1.29	1.92
	Avg Temp (F)	26.2	27.8	39.1	36	29.5
R2	Snow Depth (i)	43	42	41	39	39
	Avg Temp (F)	38	38	42	44	45
LL	Precip (in)	0.01	0	0.01	0.2	3.26
	Low Temp(F)	15.99	15.99	16	16.2	19.46
	High Temp(F)	29	27	37	34	26
	Ave Temp(F)	45	54	58	51	35

Reference Loon Lake Elevation: ~6,500 ft

SLT= South Lake Tahoe; elevation: 6,623 ft <http://classic.wunderground.com/cgi-bin/findweather/getForecast?query=38.89361191,-119.99527740&MR=1>

R2 – Rubicon#2 Snotel Site; elevation: 7,689 ft <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/nwcc/site?sitenum=724&state=ca>

LON –Loon Lake; elevation: 6,410 ft http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/stationInfo?station_id=LON

Trail Sections (Areas in grey not observed):

Wentworth Springs Campground / Post Pile Grade /

Ellis Creek Tie Intersection / Walker Hill / Soup Bowl / Winter Camp / Little Sluice Area

Trail Conditions / Observations: Staff entered the Rubicon Trail using the Loon Lake entrance to Soup Bowl. Snow conditions observed were 2-4+ ft. deep in the area. Trail weather conditions were clear and cold. BMPs were covered in snow. Where visible, drainage appeared to be working as designed.

County Assessment: Conditions did not exist to warrant an inspection per the Monitoring Protocol. However, due to weather forecasts and possible melt we felt a site visit was in order. The area proved to be functioning as designed with water levels at a minimum. There was running water under the snow but of the three sites none met the conditions for closure.

The trail on the way into the Ellis Creek Tie has BMPs installed and all BMP's look to be performing properly with drainage as expected. The trail on the way in was mostly covered in snow with the drainages working as designed. The Walker Hill area was completely covered in snow with no water issues and the Soup Bowl area mostly snow covered showed little water with drainage working as designed.

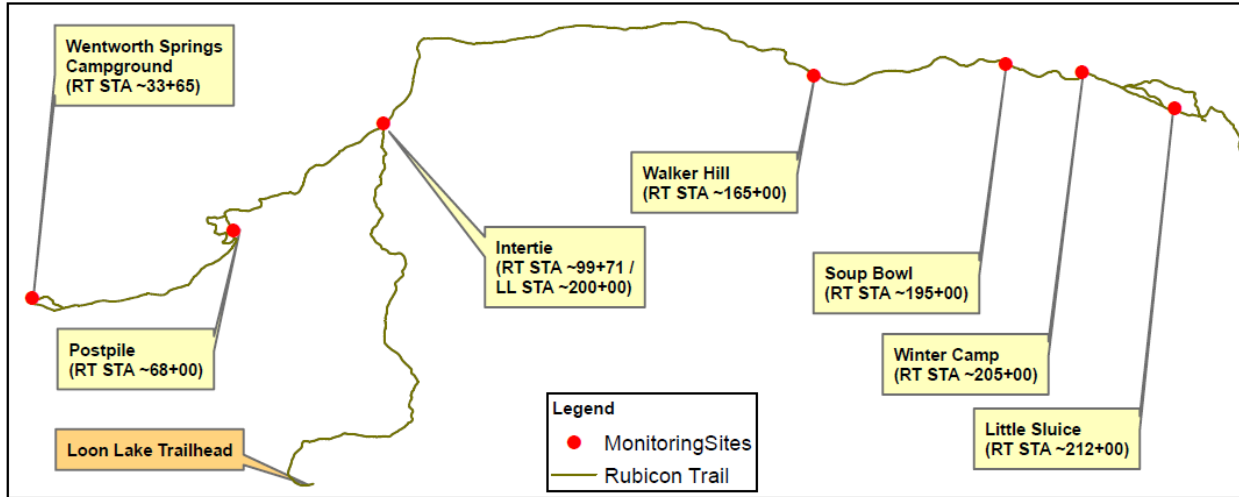
Report reviewed by U.S. Forest Service: 1/12/23

Reviewers: Vincent Pacific

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Photo Monitoring:



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**Wentworth Springs Campground
RT Station 33+65
Not Observed**

**Post Pile
RT Station 68+00
Water Depths: Not Observed**

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**Intertie
RT Station 115+00
Water Depths
1.5/2.5/3.0**



Water at intertie flowing from west to east as designed and water depths were minimal.

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**Walker Hill
Rt Station 165+00
Water Depths
0/0/0**



Walker Hill area was completely covered in snow

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**Soup Bowl
RT Station 195+00
Water Depths**

0/1.5/0



Minimal exposure with area mostly covered in snow and drainage working as designed.

**Winter Camp
RT Station 205+00
Not Observed**

**Little Sluice
Rt Station 212+00**

Not Observed