



**2L Trails**  
**Trail Volunteer Project Report for 2018**  
**Salmon/ Challis National Forest**



Presented by:  
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## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

Trail volunteers have participated in multiple efforts to open access for our public lands and to improve the conditions of our local trails. During the summer of 2018, thirty-nine trail enthusiasts volunteered for both organized “Trail Days” and for individual efforts. This year, we were able to engage more trail users to participate in the Volunteer Program. Most of the volunteering efforts focused on opening access to our national forest. Their individual efforts had most of the popular trails cleared by mid-July. On some trails that have been “log-out” annually for the past 5 year, volunteers were able to focus more on Brush-out and minor tread repairs.

The 2L Trails had organized three “Trail Days” this Summer:

- Williams Creek (June 1-3, 2018)
- Hughes Creek (July 7, 2018)
- North Fork Trails Day (August 18, 2018)

The [Williams Creek](#) Trail Day focused on a trail realignment that eliminated a “fall-line” that was carrying water down its tread. Five SIMBA members worked side-by-side with two Forest Service personnel to complete this task. SIMBA members also cleared the Powder House Gulch Trail of all deadfall.

The [Hughes Creek](#) Trail Day turned out to be a unique experience. Only four people participated in this organized event. But individual efforts were taking place all over the Salmon National Forest. There were volunteers working on the North Moccasin, Ax Park Cut-off, and CDT-Bradley Gulch.

The [North Fork Trails Day](#) became a “Trail Recon Mission”. Because all of the trails we planned on “logging-out” had already been cleared, volunteers were sent out to record trail issues. We still performed trail maintenance.

This report includes:

- Trail descriptions,
- Maps
- Specific project tasks and locations
- Diagrams on how to properly repair trails
- Before and after photos
- Summary of the project outcome with suggestions for major improvements
- Spread sheets displaying values of both Organized Group efforts and individual volunteers’ efforts.

Note; tools and PPE were provided by the Youth Employment Program (YEP). Many volunteers utilized their personal equipment and vehicles. This has been recorded on the spreadsheets.



## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

### Williams Creek Trail Project (078) June 1-3, 2018

This National Trails Day (June 2) event paralleled SCA's trail training near Williams Creek Picnic Area. Five SIMBA members and two S/CNF Trail Supervisor's worked on a trail realignment project, below the Big Fir Trailhead. We chose to do our own project separate from SCA because they were training their people. Our project was a Trail Realignment that eliminated a fall-line. This fall-line carries water, eroding a steep slope.

The volunteering efforts began on June 1 with final flagging of the project, making sure the trail will be sustainable. June 2 is when we had a crew of seven digging a 575 ft tread. On June 3, Max and Blom came back to Log out the Upper end of Williams Creek Trail and Powder House Trail (079).

#### Results:

- 575 feet of tread dug for the trail realignment
- The fall line trail was blocked and disguised using branches and down trees.
- 39 down trees were logged out of Upper Williams Creek Trail and Powder House Trail
- 6.8 miles of trail maintained
- 32 volunteer hours completed by 5 SIMBA Volunteers (24 hours on June 2)
- Team effort from both the S/CNF and SIMBA.
- Excellent coaching from Harry and Geoff (S/CNF)

Suggestions for improvements: The Williams Creek Trail is in constant need of improvements. There are multiple locations that the trail is a "fall-line". Erosion is a big problem, especially near the saddle of William/Perreau (location #6 on the project map). Cows walking up to the stock tank created multiple trail-braids rutting out the slope. This location needs improvements to reduce the erosion and for safe passage of trail users. Also, cattle constantly destroy the efforts of volunteers, annually. We need to:

1. Identify and eliminate fall lines
2. Trail Armoring in places the cows constantly destroy
3. Reclaim/ disguise trail braids
4. Install Cow and "redneck" proof signs





# 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

Williams Creek Trail Project (078)

June 1-3, 2018



Clearing Vegetation and digging tread.







# 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

Williams Creek Trail Project (078)

June 1-3, 2018





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

### Hughes Creek, July 7, 2018

This volunteer event had little production due to the small number of people that attended. There were four people that participated in this organized effort: two dirt bikers a SVS Intern, and myself (Marc). There were many others doing individual efforts on other trails, but only four people participated with the organized event.

Four trails on this project (Butcher knife Ridge 6110, Tin Can Spring 6213, Divide 6106, and Hughes Creek 6113) were logged out in early June By SIMBA members and a Dirt Biker. Their individual efforts are not recorded on this report.

The two Dirt bikers that attended the organized event chose to log-out the Divide Trail 6106 from Hughes Creek to Twin Creek Ridge, plus Twin Creek Ridge 6109. This wasn't on the scope of the project but is still important for access on public lands. The SVS Intern and myself focused on the Trail project #1. We brushed out the riparian growth around East Salzer Creek and West Salzer Creek. We also performed tread repairs between the two creeks.

#### Results:

- 200 feet of brushing
- 20 deadfall tree Logged-out of 5 miles of trail (Twin Creek Ridge)
- 50 feet of tread repairs
- 20 hours of volunteer work, and 10 coordinator hours

Suggestions for improvements: In comparison of other trails in the Salmon NF, Butcher Knife Ridge and Hughes Creek trails are in good shape. There are many issues that are addressed in the project description. All the project tasks listed still need to be performed. Let's keep chipping away at these projects.

Adjacent trails like Henderson Ridge, Ax Park Cut-off, and Bear Wallow are quickly disappearing due to heavy deadfall. We should identify the routes and log them out. Maybe this can be a joint effort with the IDPR to open up access.





# 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

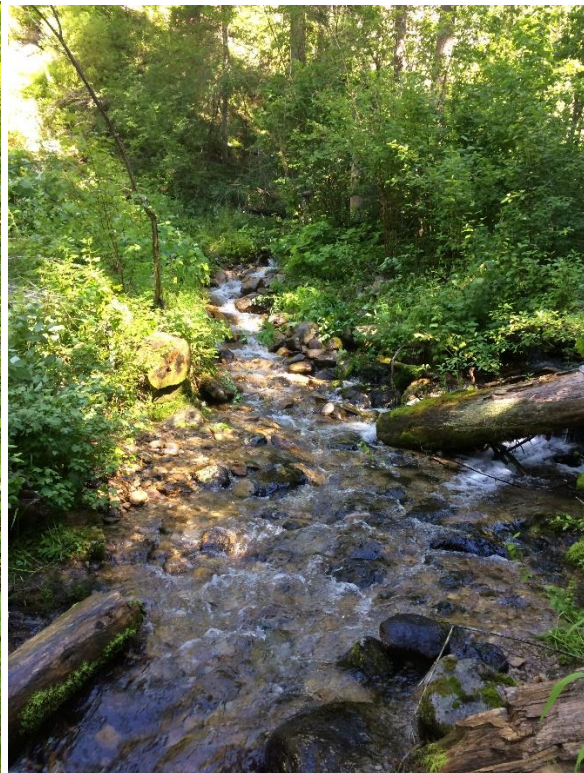


Before

East Fork of Salzer Creek



After







## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

Hughes Creek, July 7, 2018



One section of tread repair between West Fork and East Fork of Salzer Creeks. Due to decades of sloughing, the tread bench is narrowing, causing trail users to travel on the berm. In many places the berm is too soft to bare the weight of dirt bikes and pack animals.



# 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

## North Fork Volunteer Trails Day 8/18/18

### **Summary:**

The goal for this volunteer event was to gather data about trail conditions. Since most of the trails were already logged-out prior to the event, this was a good opportunity to look at other trail problems. There were 9 participants in the “Trail Recon” event; three dirt bikers and six mountain bikers. Because of the size of the group, we focused on the trails that tie into Divide Trail 6106. We broke into four groups:

1. Butcherknife Ridge 6110 and Henderson Ridge 614 = Dirt bikers
2. Grizzly Springs 6142, Bear Wallow 6142.1, and Tin Can Springs 6213
3. Divide, from Lost Trail to Twin Creek 6106
4. Twin Creek 6108

Everybody carried either a saw or trail tool during their Recon missions. We logged out more fallen trees on Butcherknife and Divide trails. Twin Creek had been logged out prior to our arrival. There was a little brush-out and rock-out activity happening, but mostly it was about collecting accurate trail data.

With the additional help from Eric Aiello, we are developing a GIS data map showing the location of trail problems with descriptions and photos. This data file is being implemented right now and the data will be owned by 2L Trails. 2L Trails will share it with the agencies, or other organizations as needed. This information will help 2L Trails with identifying important trail projects, and help with applications for trail funds. For the sake of this volunteer report I will add the information as well. I may share additional information on trails that have been worked on in the past.

### **Work accomplished:**

As noted above, our focus was on trail conditions. There was some work accomplished. Here are the results:

- Butcherknife Ridge = 23 logged-out trees
- Bear Wallow = 6 logged-out trees
- Divide = 6 logged-out trees
- Twin Creek = 30 feet of brush-out.

9 volunteers, with a total of 68 hours

### **Recommendations:**

The 2L Trails Collaboration and agency partners will need to decide on what trail(s) are priority for 2019 projects. With this data, we should be able to submit quality applications to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) for project funds. Other avenues of funding should consider as well.



## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

### **Volunteer reports: North Fork Volunteer Trails Day 8/18/18**

The next pages are the data collected from these trails:

- Butcherknife Ridge 6110
- Henderson Ridge 6141
- Grizzly Spring 6142 and Bear Wallow 6142.1
- Twin Creek 6108
- Divide 6106
- Tin Can Springs 6213

Some of these trails have been on previous volunteer reports. There are more trail issues identified during our Recon Mission on these previous reported trails. With the development of our GIS data base, we should be able to record trail conditions without all the confusion of typing out reports. It's all part of the evolution of the Trails Volunteer Program. We will submit our GIS mapping as soon as possible.



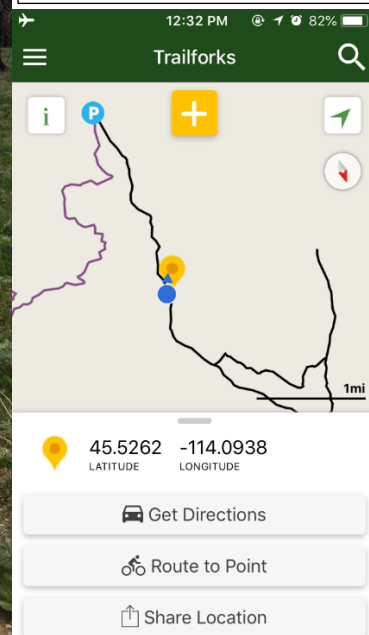


## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

**Butcherknife:** As always, more dead-fall, due to previous wind storms. The Dirt Bikers logged out 20 trees before their chainsaw broke. There are three areas where there's "Fall-line" trail that can potentially erode. One is at Indian Springs, the second is near Bear Wallow, and the last is between Tin Can Springs and the Divide Trail.



This is the section near Indian Springs. There is a drip drain half way up the meadow. Someday, it will start rutting out. It is recommended that this section is realigned with a side-hill trail rolling turns and drain features.







## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF



### **Butcherknife Ridge.**

This is the section between Tin Can Springs and the Divide trail. These water-bars have to be cleaned out at least once a year. They fill up with rocks and sediment really fast. Water spills over the tops of the bars when they are full. This section will need to be realigned to eliminate the fall-line and reduce erosion.





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

**Henderson Ridge:** This trail has almost disappeared due to the lack of trailhead access. The Indian Creek Road has not been maintained for years. Trying to navigate the length of this trail is almost impossible due to deadfall and thick brush. This trail will need to be located, with the potential to realignment, so old fall-lines can be eliminated and drain features added. If the road to the trailhead is not maintained, it is recommended that it becomes a designated trail for dirt bikes and non-motorized use. This will mean the trailhead will have to be relocated to an easier access.



Before the Mustang Complex Fire in 2012, both Grizzly Springs and Henderson Ridge were encroached with ATV use. Both trails are off limits to ATV travel. There will need to be trail cokes at the trailhead for Grizzly Springs, as well as Henderson Ridge.





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF



**Henderson Ridge**





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF



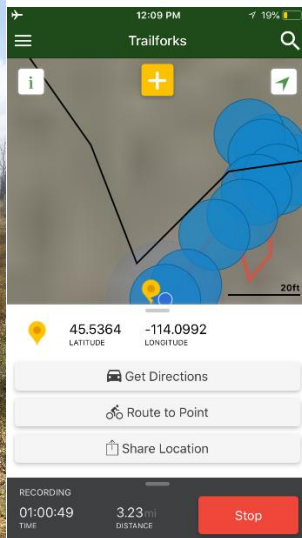
**Henderson Ridge;** old two-track from ATV encroachment.





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

**Grizzly Springs, including Bear Wallow Spring:** This trail is almost lost as well. Without access from the Indian Creek road (FS 036) there is no use. Trying to navigate the length of this trail is almost impossible due to deadfall and thick brush. This trail will need to be located, with the potential of realignment to eliminate old fall-lines and add drain features. If the road to the trailhead is not maintained, it is recommended that it becomes a designated trail for dirt bikes and non-motorized use. Before the Mustang Complex Faire in 2012, both Grizzly Springs and Henderson Ridge were encroached with ATV use. Both trails are off limits to ATV travel. There will need to be trail cokes at the trail head for Grizzly Springs, as well as Henderson Ridge.

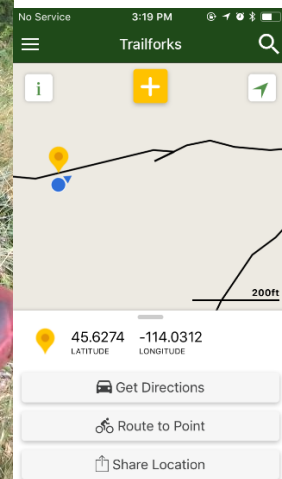






## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

**Twin Creek:** This trail was logged out prior to our organized trail day. Our trail volunteers found out the hard way. While they were there, they notice multiple details that were left out of the 2017 Volunteer Projects Report. There are some issues that duplicate the 2017 report, but have better details.

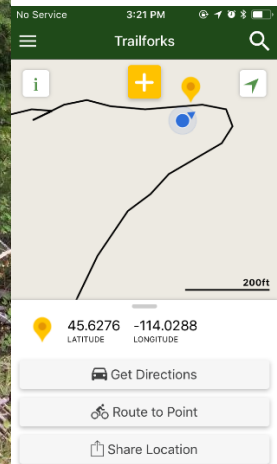


There are sections above the old cabin that are narrow due to “trail-creeping”. This forces users to travel across the berm, which can give out under the hoofs of pack animals. Its recommended that the side-hill trail be re-dug so users can travel on a solid surface. There are about three trail segments that have trail-creeping, totaling about one mile worth of digging.





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

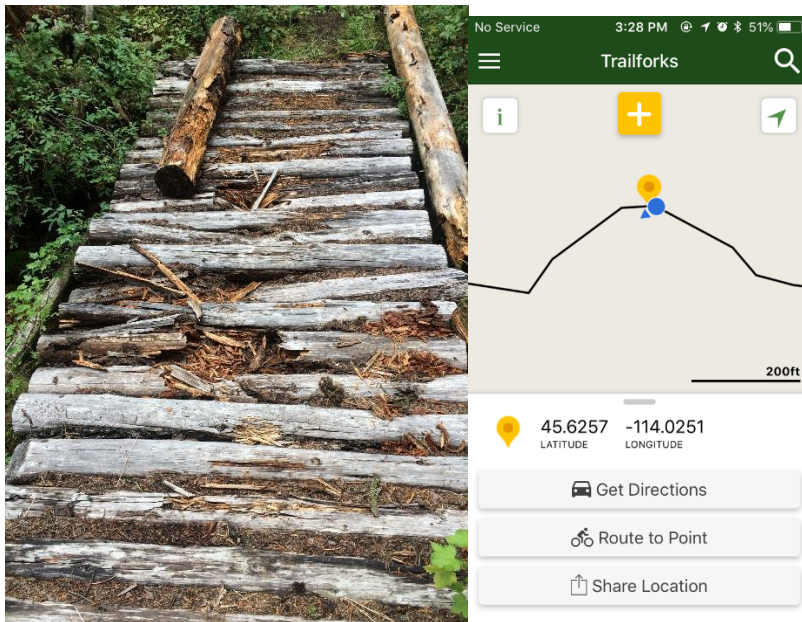


Twin Creek: Trail Creeping





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Twin Creek: This bridge is rotted. Users have been passing to the left. The creeks' banks are soft. Without armoring, the banks can break down, detouring the water onto the trail. It is recommended that all creek crossings have armored banks to help keep the water in its channel.





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF



Twin Creek: These turnpikes are short segments through this area. There needs to be a consistent turnpike with drain features in order to reduce the impacts of the riparian area. These turnpikes are found in the same area as the bridge.





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF



Twin Creek Turnpikes; These turnpikes are found in the same area as the bridge.

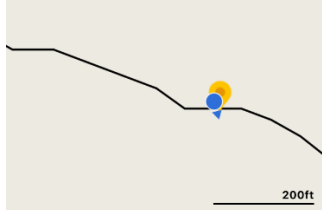


45.6257 -114.0251  
LATITUDE LONGITUDE





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF




45.6246 -114.0212  
LATITUDE LONGITUDE

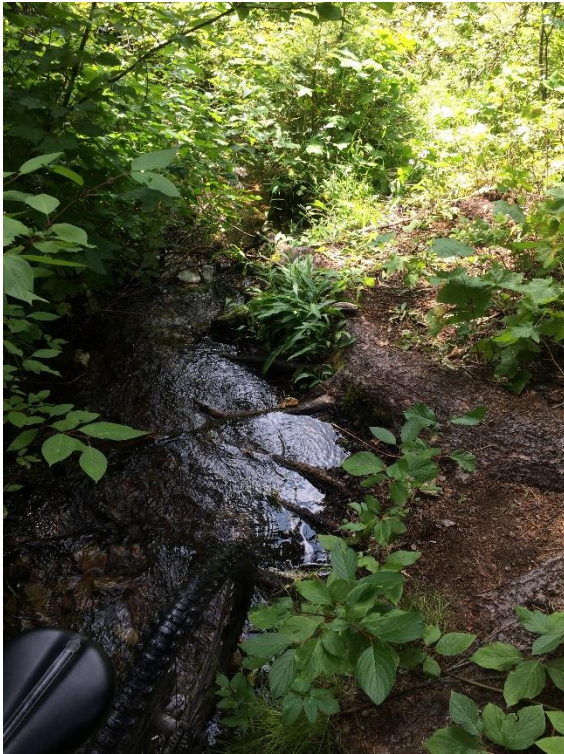
Twin Creek: This creek flows in both directions of the trail. The Riparian vegetation is thick, blocking the water from flowing across the trail. The vegetation needs to be cut back and the old creek channel cleaned out for proper flow.





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

 45.6246 -114.0212  
LATITUDE LONGITUDE



Twin Creek, just below the turnpikes. Creek flowing on the trail for about 100 feet.







## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF



Twin Creek: Trail-creeping has narrowed this section of trail. The side-hill trail will need to be Dug-out so users can travel on a solid tread.

 45.6204 -114.0095  
LATITUDE LONGITUDE

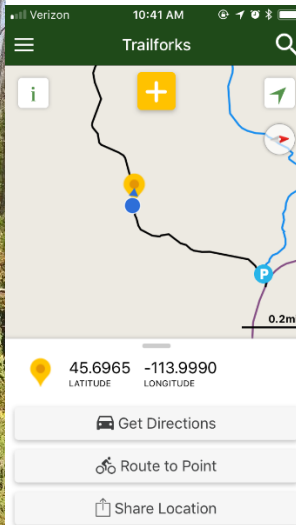




## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

**Divide 6106:** This trail was documented in the [2017 Volunteer Projects Report](#). We have additional information to add about this trail. We were only able to document sections from Lost Trail to twin creeks. Additional information on this trail will appear on our GIS program as we collect it.

All the trail issues are the same; fall-line trail with little or no drain features, creating trail-braids and deep trenches in the trail. The photos will start from Lost Trail and head south to Twin Creek. There are about 11 sections that are fall-line trails with braiding, trenching, or both.

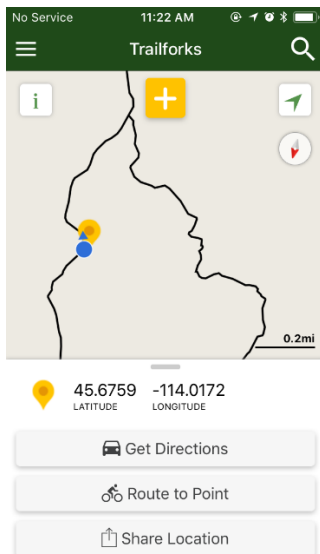


Divide 6106; fall -line trail that is about 1200 feet long.





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

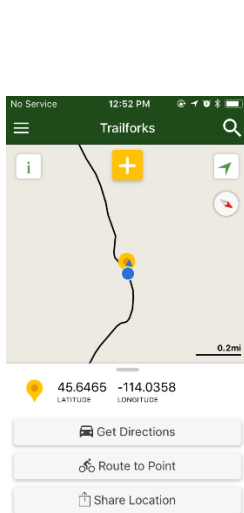
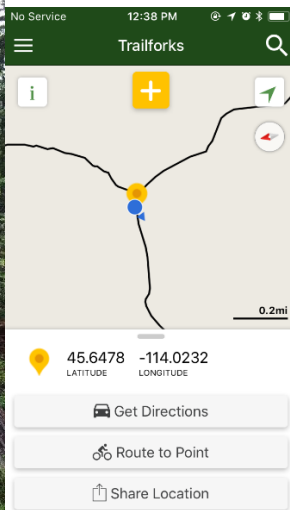
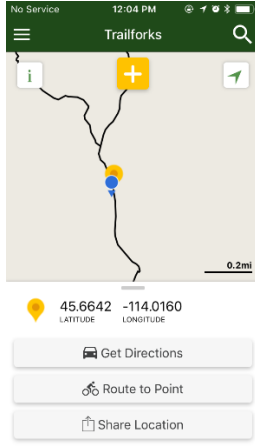


Divide 6106; All three locations have trail baiding and rutting/Trenching





# 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

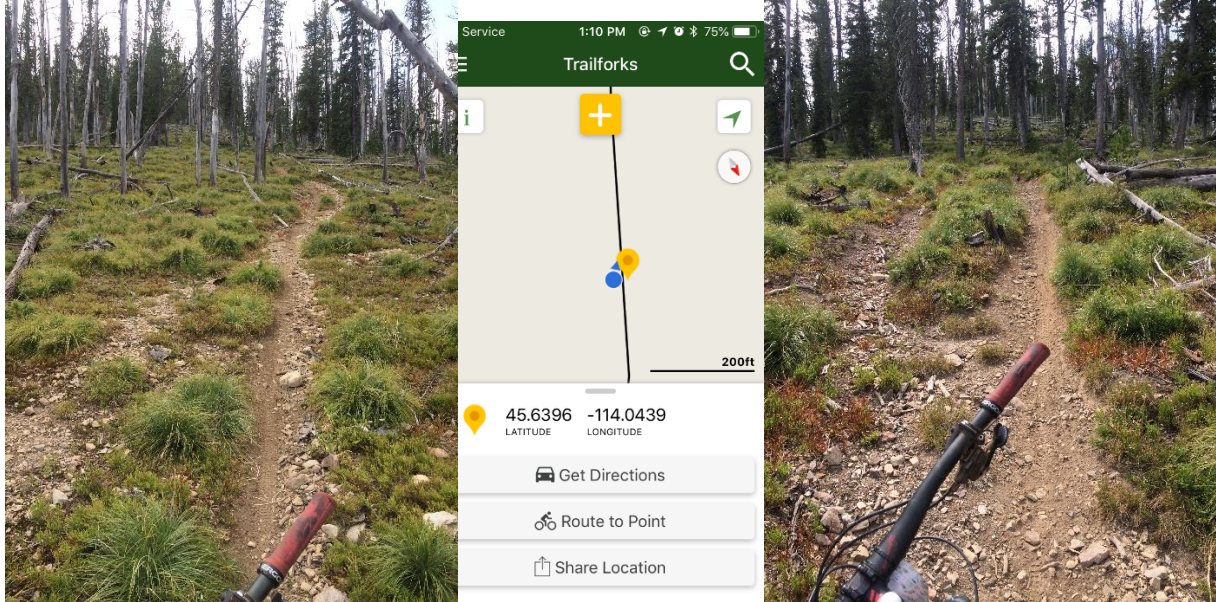


Divide 6106; This is all one location. Its between Twin Creek Ridge 6109 and Twin Creek 6108





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF



Divide 6106; This is all one location. Its between Twin Creek Ridge 6109 and Twin Creek 6108





## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

Divide 6106; Same location between Twin Creek Ridge and Twin Creek

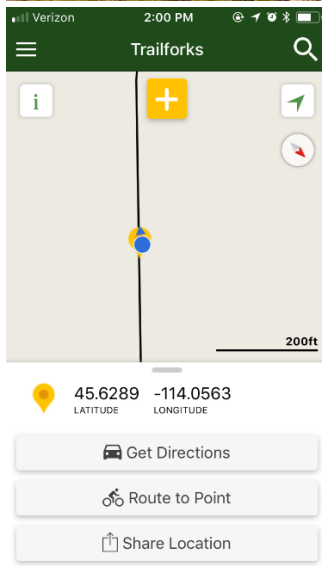






## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

Divide; This is North of the junction for Twin creek 6108. The side-hill trail needs to be re-dug. Trail-creeping has made it narrow, forcing users to travel on the berm.







## 2L Trails 2018 Volunteer Report, S/CNF

**Tin Can Springs 6213;** This non-motorized trail connects Butcher Knife Ridge to Henderson ridge, eliminating the steep climb to the Divide trail. It is also a water source for trail users and wildlife. Tin Can is used mostly by mountain bikers to access the Divide trail without climbing up the steep grade at the top of Butcherknife. Only half the trail is visible due to trail creeping and lack of use. There are a few locations where the side hill trail is too steep. It is recommended that the trail be restored by digging out the sloughing material on the existing trail bench, realignments in places where the grade is too steep, and cut a tread into open areas that will give the trail continuity.

