

Founded in 2016, and for every year since, we have experienced growth in all of our program areas. 2024 was no different and we are excited to share some of the highlights including our **Youth Stewardship Project, National Forest Trail Work, and Board of Director Goals**.

## **Youth Stewardship Collaboration**

The Bigfoot Trail Youth Stewardship Project is a collaboration between eight organizations, based in rural communities, across the Klamath Mountains and along the Bigfoot Trail. Our focus is to better connect regional youth through place-based experiences, college/career awareness, and experiential summer programming.

This year, one of the highlights was our Science Backpacking trip with Ascend Wilderness. We brought eight youth from across the Klamath Mountains into the Trinity Alps for a 5 day/4 night trip. During the week, students collected vegetation data, met with a groups of scientists from Cal Poly Humboldt to learn about geology, and even earned a stipend! Stay tuned for news on how to register your high school student for summer 2025!





The **Youth Stewardship Scientist Backpacking and Work Trip** into the Trinity Alps Wilderness.



## **National Forest Trail Work**

In 2023 we secured a Regional Master Challenge Cost Share Agreement. This allows the Klamath, Shasta-Trinity, Mendocino, and Six Rivers National Forests to provide partner funds to the Bigfoot Trail Alliance to carry out projects on each forest. We have received funding from all these National Forests for various trail projects.

This year we held 14 trips varying from weekend warrior efforts to week long back-country adventures. The Yolla Bolly - Middle Eel trips were supported by the Shasta-Trinity, the Marble Mountain and Siskiyou Wilderness trips by the Klamath and Six Rivers. We have many exciting volunteer trips planned for next summer. Join our volunteer list (QR Code at right) to keep up with opportunities as they arise.





Volunteers



/ | Miles of trail



/62



4,087

Logs removed Volunteer hours



CCC Siskiyou Wilderness Collaborative Crew, October 2024



Family trip



Yolla Bolly Crew, June 2024



Siskiyou Crew, June 2024



Port Orford-cedar removal, Siskiyou Wilderness, June 2024



Trinity Alps Wilderness, October 2024







Before and after, Russian Wilderness. June 2024



Crew leader Jacob, Yolla Bolly, July 2024



Ken Graves packing the crew into the Yolla Bolly.

## **Volunteers of the Year**

We want to thank and congratulate Sylas Kauffmann (L) and Oliver Bullwinkle (R) for their dedicated service this year as volunteers. Together, they joined two trips and totaled 112 volunteer hours each. Their specialty is using the McLeod but they also love lopping, sawing, and rock kicking. Sylas lives in Kneeland, Ca and is a 7th grader at Jacoby Creek Middle School. Oliver lives in Freshwater, Ca and is a freshman at Redwood Coast Montessori.

**Sylas's Pro Tip**: Best part about the trips is coming back to camp, after a long day of work, to a delicious meal.

**Oliver's Pro Tip**: If you are a first time volunteer, remember to take your time, learn the tools, and drink lots of water!



## **Board Vision and Mission**

Some of our top priorities as a board are bulleted below.

- Prioritize recruitment of board members from underrepresented communities in the Klamath Mountains Region and strengthening relationships with those communities
- •Continue to work with local schools and the diverse populations we are reaching
- ·Increase hiker outreach
- Continue to develop youth programming



2024 Funding Sources 16% Membership and Donations

2% Merchandise Sales 47% Grants

35% Forest Service

\$220,400

Approximate 2024 annual budget