

The Virginia Creek Trail Project

Report Date: June 9, 2022.

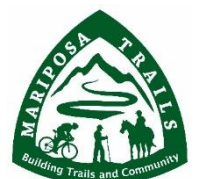
Trail Stats -- Mileage: 2.2 miles; Elevation Gain/Loss: 981 feet. 3,928' (top), 2,947' (bottom);
Estimated Duration: Going down (1.5 hours). Going up (2.5 hours)

Status: Much work is needed to remove brush and trees, and to widen the trail. The campground at Devil's Gulch is also overgrown. Hiking and backpacking is substantially hindered, whereas horse travel is not recommended.

Overall Goal -- To repair and maintain trail for non-motorized users (hikers, runners, mountain bikes, backpacking and equestrians).



Project History – The initial assessment of this trail by Mariposa Trails occurred on April 3, 2020. Approximately 70 trees had fallen over the trail; much “fire-soil” had deposited onto the trail for its entire length; 1 gully washout was present; and, the campground was overgrown. A trail (Granite Creek Saddle Trail) continues east across Devil's Gulch up the ridge to Granite Creek Saddle. A trail blaze was spotted on a tree across from the Virginia Creek Campground. As of June 2022, the rate of shrub growth and continued falling of trees are outpacing our work on the trail. Much poison oak is present.



Past Activities --

Except where noted, all categories are described as "number of."

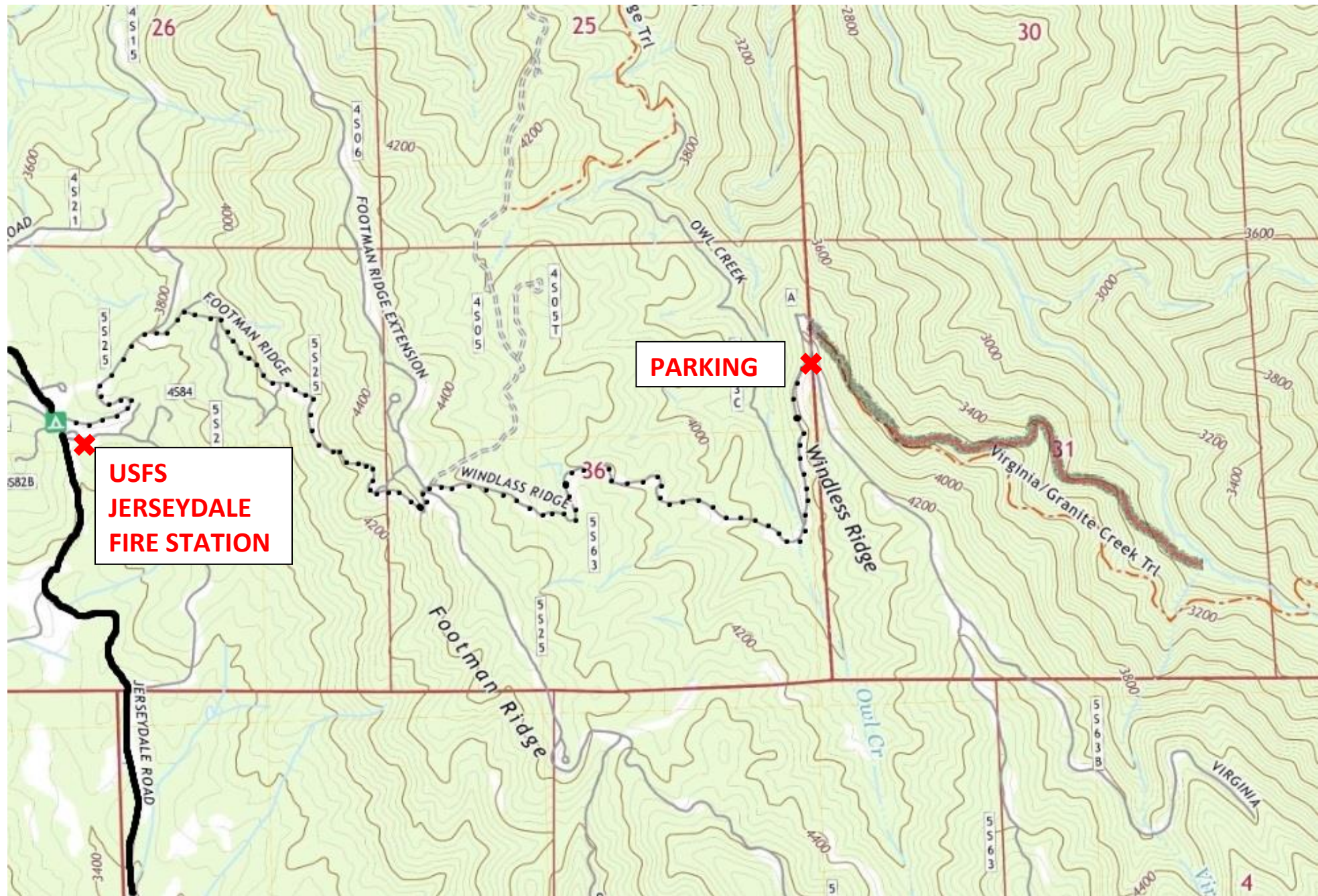
YEAR	OUTINGS	VOL-HOURS	TREES CLEARED	TREAD REPAIR (ft)	ROCKWORK	BRUSH REMOVED	CAMPSITE IMPROVE
2020	3	64	2	700-feet	0	0	0
2021	3	171	46	50-feet	1	604	3
2022	1	45	30	400-feet	0	30	0

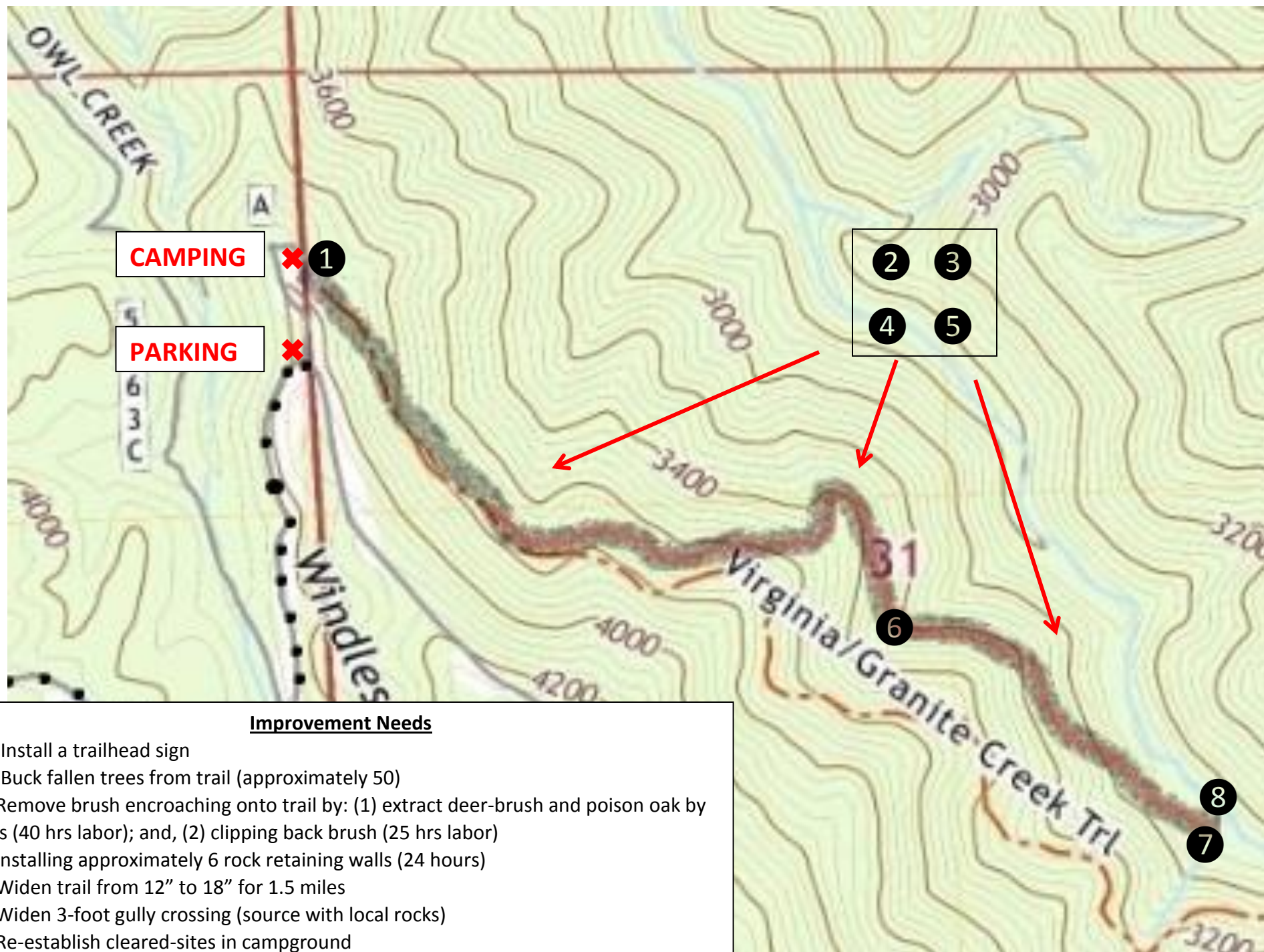


Future Objectives --

1. Install trailhead sign
2. Buck fallen trees from trail (approximately 50)
3. Remove brush encroaching onto trail by: (1) extract deer-brush and poison oak by roots (40 hrs labor); and, (2) clipping back brush (25 hrs labor)
4. Installing approximately 6 rock retaining walls (24 hours)
5. Widen trail from 12" to 18" for 1.5 miles
6. Widen 3-foot gully crossing with second row of rocks (source with local rocks)
7. Re-establish cleared-sites in campground
8. Install way-finding sign (after trail to east is improved)

GETTING TO THE VIRGINIA CREEK TRAIL





Improvement Needs

- ① . Install a trailhead sign
- ② . Buck fallen trees from trail (approximately 50)
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Buckingham Mountain USGS 24K Topo Map