

July 2011 Overview

Stanislaus Backcountry trail Crew

Cesar Ramirez: Supervisor

The last of the outside world skin is beginning to fall to the wayside. The backcountry life and spirit is taking over now. We are all at ease with our surroundings and enjoying more and more its tranquility, sights and sounds.

We have all been busy growing in our own way – some more than others as we can tell in our hiking and work accomplishments. The rock work at Kennedy Meadows proved tedious but all were happy to learn and showed their exuberance in completing projects. There were frustrations as well, like pissanting rocks all day, only to end up using just one.

We moved to Bell Meadows and started just like before to open trails back up. We have had long days brushing and making sure we leave quality work behind. We have worked on the Bell Meadows Trail, Aspen Trail and Crabtree Trail making our way to Piute Meadow and our destination Cherry Creek.

The snow has finally agreed to grant us in to the Backcountry – better late than never. We caught a couple of snow drifts here and there but the nine-mile hike in was good and everyone was eager to get to camp and set it up. We are all now in our happy homes and all of us are being asked for more production and understanding of this new life. Everyone is doing well and we look forward to the transformation that being back here can only bring about. We shall make the last push towards our goal but we don't worry about the time.

CURRICULM: We have had the pleasure of having various classes this month. Kathleen (BC Alumni) Wilderness Ranger taught a class on "Leave No Trace." George "the Boot Fairy" showed up and did a class on saving boots for the remainder of the season and also some massage techniques for those aching bodies. Local Stanislaus biologist Adam did a class on the elusive and endangered spotted owl that lives in the Stanislaus Wilderness. We continue with our own personal stories and also trying to finish "Into the Wild".

Personnel Changes: None to report. We are in it to win it.