

Trail Building

Written by Administrator
Tuesday, 28 March 2006 04:27



We build trails at Black Rock according to an agreed upon standard or "build spec" which is part of the Oregon Department of Forestry adopt-a-trail agreement which grants us the right to build and maintain these trails.

Build Specification: [ODF Adopt-a-Trail Agreement](#)

These are the general guidelines...

To Minimize Liability:

- 1.) Mark trails clearly according to ODF Sign Design Manual. Trailhead signs that alert visitors to technical challenges are helpful and may reduce liability.
- 2.) Build technical trail features to accepted standards. (As described in Section 6.0) Both natural and non-natural additions to trails must be durable, predictable and designed to minimize injuries when trail users fail to negotiate them properly.
- 3.) When constructing or implementing natural or manmade technical obstacles, make sure to offer easier alternate routes that avoid the feature.

To Maximize Safety:

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- 1.) Don't surprise trail users with unexpected technical trail features. Challenging trails should be properly signed. Make sure that people can see technically challenging trail sections well in advance. Don't put advanced technical challenges on trails designed for beginners or intermediates.
- 2.) Make the entrances to technical trail features difficult. This will prevent lessskilled riders from overreaching their abilities.
- 3.) Designing proper flow into trails is important. Abrupt transitions from open and flowing to tight and technical may increase the chance of injuries.
- 4.) Offer technical riding skills clinics. In addition to riding techniques, include tips on responsible, low-impact, safe riding.

To Reduce User Conflict:

- 1.) Maintain clear communication among the club, freeriders, ODF, Camp Tapawingo, other adjacent landowners and other trail visitors to keep relations positive.
- 2.) Work to develop a varied trail system that disperses visitors and reduces user conflict.
- 3.) Produce accurate trail maps and post these at the trailhead. Also provide trail signage that give visitors a clear sense of what to expect.
- 4.) Provide a purpose-built freeride trail that is single-use. This type of trail will be unsuitable for horse use and may not provide an enjoyable experience for hikers.

To Improve Communication and Partnerships:

- 1.) Freeriders should be encouraged to participate in mountain bike club activities and decision-making.
- 2.) By consulting with freeriders and incorporating their suggestions into trail management decisions, the club and ODF can develop a trail system that has broader appeal. This effort will also reduce unauthorized trail construction.

If you would like to volunteer to help build, check out the **Event Calendar** for an upcoming "build day". Or, contact a trail manager to learn when other trail work is taking place (see **Contact Us**).