

Fall 2014 Update Part 1

The three photographs (below) are of volunteers working on the re-opening the old Olivine Trail which completes the eastern end of the Hudson Bay (1849) Brigade Trail to Tulameen. Tulameen was the fifth camp of the brigades travelling east from Fort Hope to Fort Kamloops. Over 500 volunteer hours have gone into locating, flagging and then cutting out this ancient trail over the past three years. This last summer Hope Mountain Centre along with the Back Country Horsemen of BC and volunteers from Princeton held a weekend work party and campout that re-opened over 10 kilometres of trail with 326 hours of combined volunteer hours. Travel, supplies and equipment required to get the job done was also donated by these dedicated volunteers. Two local private citizens are sponsoring the last two historical kiosks at Lodestone Lake and Tulameen.

The historical interpretive signs are being developed now and the structures have been built and will be installed early next summer. The Olivine Trail is one of the three possible routes the brigades used to descend into the Tulameen River Valley from Lodestone Lake. Hand built rock walls and well shaped switchbacks are still evident today on many sections of this old trail. The other two routes, Owls head and Collins Gulch have large sections destroyed by industrial use and only short sections remain today. The Olivine Trail has been affected by industry but it is pretty much intact and will now allow recreational users good access to both ends of the HBC trail.







Part 2

Many hikers travelled the HBC Trail this past summer, two groups hiked the entire 86 kilometres from Tulameen to Peers Creek, just outside of Hope. More trail and infrastructure improvements were completed by volunteers this past summer. Members of OSPS were seen on the trail as well!





Part 3

The Old Tulameen Trail which connects the Dewdney Trail and the Hudson Bay Brigade Trail was located and flagged this past summer. Volunteers are scheduled to clear the 4.8 km trail early next summer. This will allow people to hike or horseback ride from Manning Park to Tulameen and also do loops on all of the oldest main routes in the province, HBC, Dewdney, Blackeyes, Whatcom and Hope Pass Trails. A map of these trails and surrounding area is also being developed this winter which will show all the adjoining trails.