



2022 Hillbilly Rock Climbing Access Project Report

Overview

The Boulder Climbing Community's (BCC) Trail Program has completed a 3-week trail work project on the Hillbilly Rock Climbing Access trail in partnership with City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP). The primary objective for this project was to address the erosion issues on the main Hillbilly Rock access trail as well as closing of various undesignated trails and consolidate all downhill traffic towards the Hillbilly Rock trail.

Project Synopsis

Hillbilly Rock is a small outcrop of stone in the central Flatirons area with a large concentration of high quality routes in the advance to elite grade range. In addition to Hillbilly Rock, this area of the Flatirons, known as Skunk Canyon, accesses many long easy ridge routes that are popular with multi pitch climbers as well as scramblers/runners. Due to these ridges all topping out at various spots a large amount of undesignated trails have been created to descend back down to the canyon floor.

BCC was tasked with helping stabilize the initial few hundred feet of the Hillbilly Rock trail as well as closing down various undesignated trails and constructing a small section of trail that would funnel all downhill traffic onto the Hillbilly Rock trail. Due to the Hillbilly Rock trail being undesignated, trail work structures such as staircases had to be minimal and blend into the hillside. BCC's Trail Program rerouted a portion of the trail, constructing most of the trail in an adjacent talus field and laying stones down in a "paving" fashion to gain trail height versus a more traditional stone staircase approach (**Figure 1**). In addition to BCC's trail



Figure 1: Paving stones were used to gain trail height versus a more traditional stone staircase.

staff, various volunteer groups assisted with the work during volunteer trail days (**Figure 2**). The labor and planning for this project can be found in **Appendix A**.



Figure 2: Volunteers built the upper portion of trail that funnels downhill traffic towards the top of the Hillbilly Rock

Project Outcomes

At the end of the project, 477 linear ft of durable trail was built, including 115 steps and 192 sq ft of retaining wall. Please see the Total Project Outcomes in **Appendix B**.

Appendix A: Labor and Planning Hours Outcomes

Labor Type	Hours
Total Volunteer Labor	230
Total Volunteer Restoration Hours	98
BCC Trail Staff	420
BCC Trail Staff Planning	12
Total Labor Hours	662

Appendix B: Total Project Outcomes

Project Outcomes	Amount	Unit
Trail Improved	477	Ln ft
Rock Steps	115	#
Retaining Structure	192	Sq ft
Rubble Structure	630	Sq ft
Rocks Moved via Rigging	22	#
Trail Restored	150	Ln ft