



# The Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Paddling News

December 2024

Co-Editors – Terry Oldfield and Sharon Burnette

[TEHCC.org](http://TEHCC.org)

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So much work! ...and so much more to do

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## Letter from the Chair

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Submitted by [Eric Dobbs](#) (2024 Steering Committee Chair)

Happy December dear outdoors folks! With the weather finally getting colder and the days getting shorter, we hope that you all can take some time to relax, reflect, and reminisce on the hiking and paddling you've done this year (and stay warm).

The start of the year was great for outdoor recreation, especially the spring and early summer. Mid-summer was just as fantastic, if not a bit hot and dry. Late summer and early fall were soured by Helene's unwelcomed arrival, but seeing the amazing outreach by members of the community has been truly heartwarming and inspirational. While the floodwaters have receded and roads and towns open back up, there's still a lot of work to do. Both in towns and on the trails: clearing debris, rebuilding structures, and fixing roads and trails. So go lend a helping hand if you can or donate to local organizations that are out helping our neighbors. Don't forget to go outside and enjoy the wonderful winter landscapes our area has to offer as well! Winter may not be as green or colorful as spring, summer, or fall, but it has its own charms. The cold can also be a welcome reprieve when doing a strenuous activity!

Lastly, **the TEHCC Steering Committee is seeking two new members** (for a two-year rotation) to join the five current during 2025. The Steering Committee guides the club through decisions as simple as what food to get and how much to charge for the two dinners, to as important as the club's budget and program (We now have kayaks to rent!). The commitment is light (less than four hours most months), so you'll have plenty of time to work and do things outside (like hiking!). You will also see how the club interacts with regional and federal organizations for maintaining our designated 134 miles of the Appalachian Trail. Finally, while any club member can lead outings, it is most often members of the Steering Committee who are guiding our hikes and paddle trips; so this a great opportunity that allows you to discuss adventure ideas with other leadership.

Thank you everyone for a great year so far! I hope you all have a great holiday season, stay safe, stay warm, and can go out and enjoy the winter wonderland that is quickly approaching (or already here up high)!

~Eric Dobbs

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## Hurricane Helene Recovery for the Appalachian Trail

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Submitted by Vic Hasler with input from Carl Fritz and Joe Morris

### Current Status

All sections of the Appalachian Trail within the Pisgah National Forest (North Carolina) officially remain closed, specifically TEHCC Maintenance Sections 14a to 16b, from Doll Flats to just north of Iron Mountain Gap.

While the A.T. is shown as “Open” for Cherokee National Forest (Tennessee), it does not mean it is safe and/or cleared for passage. Some sections yet to be cleared are reported to take four to five hours just to travel two to three miles.

Moreland Gap Shelter is closed due to roof damage. Cherry Gap Shelter is smashed down to the sleeping platform.

### Progress as of Mid-November

Club maintenance reports indicate that over 2,000 volunteer hours have been invested in 48 events to clear a basic path through 33 miles of the A.T. Sections that have been touched. These include: 2.3 miles north of Abingdon Gap Shelter to McQueens Gap, US 421 to Iron Mtn Shelter, Wilbur Dam Road to 2.75 miles north, Bitter End to Elk River, Curley Maple Gap Shelter to the former Chestoa Pike bridge, Nolichucky River to Cliff Ridge, and just south of No Business Knob Shelter to Devils Creek Gap. Note that these are not continuous and have difficult tangles left for professionals to resolve.

### Near-Term Efforts

Weather permitting (especially with winter approaching), crews of 4-10 members with multiple sawyers and swampers are being dispatched on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays. **Sawyers must have current First Aid training and certification by the US Forest Service.** Typically, 35-50 blowdowns are cut per day per crew with some filling in the holes caused by root balls torn out of the ground. Specific plans are not made until the week (or maybe two) prior. Volunteers are added to a distribution list, then reply when available (no need for regrets) to allow for the right group size and equipment. Inquiries have been received, including from OH and VT. **To be added to the volunteer distribution list, please contact [Joe Morris](#) or [Tim Stewart](#).**

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy is hiring a four-person professional saw crew (USFS fire fighters) for the first two weeks of December to clean up some of the challenging damage.

### Ongoing Plans

Four weeks of Konnarock Crew are to be scheduled for 2025.

Volunteers from other A.T. clubs can possibly be organized into crews, especially sawyers.

It is currently uncertain, especially with winter weather, if the entire A.T. path along the NC/TN border will be open when 2025 NOBO hikers begin to pass through the region; thus a partial “skip and return” hike may be recommended.



Cherry Gap Shelter – photo by Joel Zabel

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## Event Schedule – Next Two Months

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For the latest, up-to-date information, see [tehcc.org/schedule](http://tehcc.org/schedule).

For additional APES events and information on APES/TEHCC paddling events, see <http://www.riverapes.org/events>.

Date	Description	Contact	Telephone
December 12	Steering Committee Meeting, Noon – 1 pm	<a href="#">Eric Dobbs</a>	303-915-9208
January 9	Steering Committee Meeting, Noon – 1 pm	<a href="#">Eric Dobbs</a>	303-915-9208

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## Details of Upcoming Events

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### **TEHCC Steering Committee Meeting, Second Thursday of Each Month, Noon to 1:00 pm**

Contact: [Eric Dobbs](#), 303-915-9208

The Steering Committee guides the general program for the club. The committee normally meets at lunchtime, now on the second Thursday of each month starting with December. Meetings are open to all TEHCC members. Teams teleconferencing is used as the committee is spread across the Eastman plant site or working from home. If you want to listen/join in, please contact me.

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## Johnson City Kayak Roll Practice, Most Tuesdays, 7:35 – 8:45 pm\*

Contact: [Wesley R. Bradley](mailto:Wesley.R.Bradley@tehcc.org), 423-647-1321

\* **Note:** This event is cancelled on December 3 and January 7 due to swim meets.

Otherwise, come join the Jackson Action Wagon, [Mahoney's Outfitters](#), [APEs](#), and other paddlers from our region at Freedom Hall Pool for tips about basic kayaking skills. Have you already mastered the basics and have a bomb proof roll? There is still a lot of fun to be had at our pool session by practicing your flat-water freestyle moves and fellowshipping with other paddlers. Admission to the pool is \$2; rolling advice is free! Contact the pool office (423-461-4872) for confirmation or questions regarding the facility.

## Weekly A.T. Trail Maintenance, Most Tuesdays and Thursdays

Contact: [Joe Morris](mailto:Joe.Morris@tehcc.org), 423-571-5201, [atvolunteer@tehcc.org](mailto:atvolunteer@tehcc.org)

Join a group of maintainers who work somewhere on our 134-mile section each week, usually on Thursdays. **Note that Tuesdays have been added to the schedule for Helene cleanup work.** On-the-job training, tools, and protective gear are provided to allow everyone to quickly engage with the trail. Carpooling is available.

## Hiking with Tools! Second & Fourth Saturdays

Contact: [Tim Stewart](mailto:Tim.Stewart@tehcc.org)

While Hiking with Tools! has officially been discontinued for the season, there are many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors and help clear the trail. **Helene cleanup is being scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month, weather dependent.** Chainsaw sawyers require swamper to help with assessments, safety observance, and removal of cuts. In places, the trail needs to be temporarily relocated with ribbon placement and perhaps blazing. And of course, there is a lot of debris that requires removal. All tools will be furnished, and no prior experience is required! All are welcome. Email Tim for details.

## Bays Mountain Park Trail Maintenance, Third Saturday of Each Month, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Contact: [Tony Messina](mailto:Tony.Messina@tehcc.org), 423-677-6650

This event is family friendly across all of the park trails. We will meet in the mountain-bike parking area by the maintenance shed. Please bring gloves and safety glasses. If the task requires, hardhats and other safety equipment will be provided as necessary.

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## Appalachian Trail Stamps in 2025

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Submitted by [Vic Hasler](#)

For next year's Centennial Anniversary of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC), the United States Postal Service announced a panel of 15 Appalachian Trail forever stamps (currently 73 cents each) – one for each state plus the "green tunnel". Tennessee appears to be the Laurel Fork Falls. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps with images from various photographers.



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## Save the Date! A.T. Maintainer Kickoff, Friday, February 21, 5:30 pm

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If you look forward to trail maintenance in 2025, please put the following event on your calendar: A.T. Maintainer Kick off on Friday, February 21 starting at 5:30 pm with social time followed by dinner. The kickoff includes awards, training, and discussion of current issues regarding the Appalachian Trail. All maintainers or individuals interested in working on the A.T. next year are invited to attend. More details to come in the next club newsletter.

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## TEHCC/APEs/NOLI Wilderness First Aid and Responder Courses

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*Submitted by Andy Steffan*

Looking for the gift that keeps on giving this holiday season? Have you considered what you would do if you were on a hike or maintaining a trail and the unthinkable happens to you or someone else? Are you prepared? If you want to be an asset to yourself and others by being prepared to treat injury and illness when help is not close at hand, these classes are for you. The normal venues for NOLI classes have been wiped out by Hurricane Helene. To help out, TEHCC has partnered with APEs and NOLI to host a few classes early in 2025 at the Eastman Lodge, as follows.

- Wilderness First Aid: Feb 15-16 (CPR optional as an Add-On) [Wilderness First Aid Course - 2 Days](#)
- Wilderness First Responder Recert: Mar 7-9 (CPR optional as Add-On) [Wilderness First Responder Recertification - 3 Days](#)
- Wilderness First Responder: Mar 22-29 (includes CPR) [Wilderness First Responder Course - 8 Days](#)

All the specifics, including curricula, certification, packing list, class times, etc. are at the links above. Registration is available at the links also. Using the discount code TEHCCSPECIAL, TEHCC members can receive 15% off each of the classes, including the optional CPR classes. If there are any questions/concerns, feel free to reach out to [NOLI](#) or [Andy Steffan](#).

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## TEHCC Welcomes New Members

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Zachary Barton

Kala Wallace



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## A.T. Maintenance Reports

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**Reporting:** Scotty Bowman

**Date:** 10/8/2024

**Purpose:** Assess trail after Helene

**Location:** Section 7, Vandeventer Shelter to Wilbur Dam Road

**People:** Scotty Bowman

**Summary:** I hiked in to check the section for impacts from Helene. I made it 1.5 miles north of Wilbur Dam Road. Along the way, I cleared 12 tree tops that had fallen on the switchbacks and blocked the trail. Between 1.0 and 1.5 miles there are 5 blowdowns. I started to run out of daylight and decided to hike out. I will return to finish the assessment of the section.

**Reporting:** Scotty Bowman

**Date:** 10/12/2024

**Purpose:** Assess trail after Helene

**Location:** Section 7, Vandeventer Shelter to Wilbur Dam Road

**People:** Scotty Bowman

**Summary:** It was great day to be out finishing the assessment after Helene. Today I made it to Vandeventer Shelter after hiking, climbing, and crawling my way. Between the top of the switchbacks and Vandeventer there are 55+ blowdowns ranging in size from 12" to 46". The bulk of the trees down were live and have the rootballs attached. The areas impacted were those along the ridge on the lake side. Vandeventer Shelter took a hit but is still in sound shape. The front gutter was ripped off along with the board it was attached to. The area in front of the shelter is impassable by a debris field.

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**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 10/21/2024

**Purpose:** Rehabilitate bridge

**Location:** Section 13, US 19E

**People:** Jim McGuire, Mike K. Watson, Joe Morris, Tim Stewart

**Summary:** We created a temporary way for hikers to cross the creek just south of 19E after the 2020 bridge washed out during Helene.

**Reporting:** Rick Lott

**Date:** 10/23/2024

**Purpose:** Assess trail condition after Hurricane Helene

**Location:** Section 13, US 19E to Doll Flats

**People:** Rick Lott, Mike Watts

**Summary:** Overall, this part of the trail was in much better shape than we had anticipated. Being in the the holler and leeward of the Hump helped. As reported above, the bridge about 100 yards from US 19E was missing. The bridge remnants are about 50 yards downstream. Tim Stewart, et al, have put some steps in and out of the creek. It's no problem crossing if the water level isn't high. The new bog bridge over the small creek and next two log bridges were intact.

It appears that the USFS had already removed about 8 blowdowns ranging from 4-10". Three were about 1/2 mile in. Four were at mile 394 where a landslide had occurred. The other was about 2/3 of the way to Doll Flats. A four blowdown tangle was at the Wilder Mine Campsite and was removed with handsaws. Another blowdown was at the water source trail at Doll Flats. The top fork was removed by a handsaw that made access OK. Another 10" tree previously reported is still there, but easily ducked under.

The treadway had only one minor erosion before Wilder Mine campsite, about 20 yards long. Two large landslides were at mile 394, but were easily traversed. There is one other slide about 2/3 the way up where the slide above the trail had undermined the trail forcing a rock ledge upward. This is also easily negotiated. Mike has emailed Renee pictures and exact locations.

**Reporting:** Jim Foster

**Date:** 10/23/2024

**Purpose:** Survey trail for storm damage

**Location:** Section 16a, Hughes Gap to Little Rock Knob

**People:** Jim Foster

**Summary:** It took me 4 hours to get to Little Rock Knob. There were probably 100 blowdowns and 13 rootballs obstructing the trail. I cleared everything I could by hand, but it's just a mess.

**Reporting:** Greg Kramer

**Date:** 10/24/2024

**Purpose:** Continue to stabilize Roan High Knob Shelter

**Location:** Section 15a, Carvers Gap - Cloudland Hotel, Roan High Knob Shelter

**People:** Greg Kramer, Carl Fritz, Jim McGuire, Dan Firth, Tony Messina

**Summary:** We continued to put up stabilizing boards on the Roan High Knob Shelter. We cut a walking path from the shelter to Toll House Gap.

**Reporting:** Jim McGuire

**Date:** 10/28/2024

**Purpose:** Clear blowdowns and assess damage

**Location:** Section 12c, Sugar Hollow Creek to Campbell Hollow Road, Campbell Hollow Road

**People:** Jim McGuire, Richard Lott, Michael Watts, Jon Heidrick

**Summary:** We cleared about 50 blowdowns covering the first mile of the section (399 to 400). We were unable to clear two entanglements. At 399.3, there is a massive rootball and multiple large trees. At 399.7, there is a large entanglement with several large trees. We punched through both of these, but need to return with larger saws. The bridge at 399.4 is in good shape.



**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 10/29/2024

**Purpose:** Rehab section

**Location:** Section 17, Iron Mountain Gap to FS230 switchback

**People:** Joe Morris, Tim Stewart, Steve Domagala, Randy Allen, Van Hovey, Jon Heidrick, Olga Hunter, Jim McGuire, Sherri Millard, Michael Sink, Tony Messina, Carl Fritz, Gerald Scott

**Summary:** The Thursday crew gathered for planning purposes and cleared the trail of many challenging blowdowns.

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**Reporting:** Jim McGuire

**Date:** 10/31/2024

**Purpose:** Clear blowdowns and assess damage

**Location:** Section 12c, Sugar Hollow Creek to Campbell Hollow Road, Campbell Hollow Road

**People:** Jim McGuire, Richard Lott, Michael Watts, Jon Heidrick

**Summary:** We picked up where we left off earlier in the week at the top of the ridge. We cleared 55 blowdowns and all kinds of crazy tangled messes. We left about 18 step-overs. Some of them are more like crawl-overs. There were three good-sized rootballs in the middle of the trail. We punched through to the bridge at mile 399.9. The bridge is in good shape.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 10/31/2024

**Purpose:** Various Tasks

**Location:** Section 8, Wilbur Dam Road to US 321, Watauga Lake

**People:** Van Hovey, Jayson Vittori, Bill Murdoch

**Summary:** This crew hiked from Shook Branch around the lake to Wilbur Dam Road. They removed some obstacles and assessed damage from Helene. Bill Murdoch submitted a detailed report via email.

**Reporting:** Tony Messina

**Date:** 10/31/2024

**Purpose:** Define temporary re-route for Pond Mountain

**Location:** Section 9b, Hampton Blue-Blaze to A.T. and on to Pond Flats

**People:** Tony Messina, Tim Stewart, Olga Hunter

**Summary:** Tim, Olga, and I hiked up Pond Mountain from the Hampton Blue-Blaze. Along the way, we removed some obstructions using loppers and a silky saw; but mostly we pushed through to assess hurricane damage at the top and establish a temporary bypass as appropriate. Turns out someone had already flagged a bypass. In our opinion, it bypassed too much of the A.T. (approx 0.3 miles). We found the devastation extended south from the water source for only about 0.1 miles. We flagged a new bypass which skirts around the devastation and removed signs of the unauthorized relocation. We used about 100 yards of their work. If made permanent, this bypass would need further evaluation and digging.

Near the top, there was evidence of chainsaw work, probably done by USFS as they did their assessments. The trail is passable for hikers from the blue-blaze to the water source, though it requires stepping over or climbing around several blowdowns. Being in the wilderness, if handsaws were used to remove them, it would likely be two days of work for 4 people. A couple of blowdowns have moderate complexity due to size and rootballs, and require crosscut. With a chainsaw exemption, it could probably be cleared in a long day, especially if the crew was equipped with a 3-foot chainsaw. Tim Stewart is going to email a more detailed summary of the work with photos and waypoints.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 10/31/2024

**Purpose:** Mortar Laurel Fork Shelter

**Location:** Section 10, Hampton trailhead to Dennis Cove Road, Laurel Fork Shelter

**People:** Joe Morris, Randy Allen, Jennifer Baird, Dean Baird, Michael Sink, Kent Gardner

**Summary:** This crew repaired the mortar joints on the Laurel Fork Shelter and reinforced the front corners of the shelter. Kent Gardner and Randy Allen received patches. (See photos, Laurel Fork Shelter and Kent and Randy)



**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/31/2024

**Purpose:** Stabilize Roan High Knob Shelter and remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 15a, Carvers Gap - Cloudland Hotel, Southern part of section

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**People:** Bettye Boone, Saylor Fox, Sherri Millard, Rick Mulholland, Dan Firth, Carl Fritz, Greg Kramer, Elzear Lemieux, Steve Perri  
**Summary:** We split into two crews. The chainsaw crew led by Elzear cleared blowdowns from Cloudland to Roan High Knob Shelter. The other crew continued to stabilize Roan High Knob Shelter with vertical 4x6s. We completed that task and sealed the shelter until we start further repairs. The shelter crew then started cutting blowdowns. All blowdowns have been cut on this section. Some leaners and other obstacles could be addressed in the future, but there is no urgency since the path is open.

**Reporting:** Scotty Bowman

**Date:** 11/2/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 7, Vandeventer Shelter to Wilbur Dam Rd, One-mile trail north of Wilbur Dam Rd

**People:** Scotty Bowman, Michael Appleby, Daniel Appleby, Tyler Cairnes, Chris Bowman, Nyal Barber

**Summary:** This was an impromptu volunteer event and it was a great day for it too. We road-walked up to the trailhead and began our ascent to the top of the switchbacks where we tackled a tree cluster of two 40" white oaks, an 18" white oak, and a 12" sourwood. We divided up into two teams with one working on the trees and the other working on clearing the smaller stuff from the trail for the next 3/4 mile. This section became a full-days work, removing the heavy limbs and branches. With the gate closed, it adds a 1.2-mile road-walk before hitting the trail.

**Reporting:** Joel Zabel

**Date:** 11/2/2024

**Purpose:** Recon on Helene damage

**Location:** Section 17, Iron Mountain Gap to Cherry Gap shelter

**People:** Yong Li, Stacy Fowler, Marianne Huff, Joy Zabel, Joel Zabel, Denny Samuel, Jeff Miller, Jeff Bennett, Zach Duncan, Sami Haldonado

**Summary:** We set out south on the A.T. from Iron Mtn Gap with the intent of documenting in detail the Helene damage as far as Cherry Gap Shelter (3.1 miles), and beyond if time permitted. The TEHCC crew had cleared and rehabbed the trail 0.15 miles to GPS 36.14244,-82.23436. Over the next 300 yards (to 36.14099, -82.23602), we cataloged 17 rootballs requiring treadway rehab, forty 6-to-9" diameter blowdowns requiring cutting, twenty-nine 10 to 19", twenty-one 20 to 23", and three 24 to 30". We ignored everything smaller than 6" and anything that could be walked under. Over that 300 yards, we found it extremely difficult to follow the old treadway, as we were climbing over, under, through, and around the almost continuous obstacles. At that point we realized that we had little chance to make it to Cherry Gap Shelter and back before dark if we continued cataloging in such detail; so we focused on making better time, sacrificing detail. The next 250 yards were just as bad, so you could roughly double the blowdown/rootball count for that 550-yard bad stretch. The trail opened up near the point where Beans Creek Rd comes within about 15 yards of the A.T. (36.13962, -82.23585, bear box location). If, from that point south, the A.T. was cleared, Bean Creek Rd could serve as a temporary A.T. reroute.

Continuing south 100 yards, it became just as bad again. This nasty section continued 0.4 miles to (36.13592,-82.243330), where we reached the leeward ridge side, protected from Helene's wrath. We had a clear trail for 0.35 miles to (36.13426.-82.24389). The next 1.3 miles to the junction of FS230D (36.13391,-82.26015) alternated between good (about 70%) and bad (30%). The last 0.4 miles to the shelter got worse as we neared it, to the point that I was sure I should be able to see it, but couldn't until I was 50 feet away. See pic, it's been crushed! At least the bottom 3 courses of cinder block are intact on all sides, as well as the sleeping platform, but the rest is a goner. It was a perfect weather day for our adventure, but with all the obstacles, it took us nearly 5 hours to cover the 3.1 miles from Iron Mtn Gap.



Cherry Gap Shelter ... Crushed!

**Reporting:** Steve Perri

**Date:** 11/2/2024

**Purpose:** Attend ATC Regional Partnership Committee (RPC) Meeting

**Location:** Cosby, TN

**People:** Steve Perri, Steve Wilson, Vic Hasler

**Summary:** Steve Wilson, Vic Hasler, and I attended the Fall RPC meeting hosted by ATC at the Soak Ash facility. There were 25 attendees in-person and about 12 online on-and-off over the day. USFS partners and ATC described initial meetings and strategic discussions that occurred at different stages of Hurricane Helene recovery. The USFS is continuing to survey the impact in NC in order to seek funds for recovery efforts from outside resources. The USFS in TN has access to outside resources and is rotating their assistance with trail clearing. ATC shared several efforts to provide more sustainable resources as more visitors impact the A.T. Konnarock may need to flex projects in 2025 due to Helene impacts. ATC is continuing to pursue the new proposal for the

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national trails act legislation. They are hoping next year to make another attempt, as 2025 is the 100-year anniversary of ATC. Many clubs will need sawyer recertifications since Covid delayed courses. Clubs will likely pool together for trainings. The next RPC meeting will be in Blowing Rock, NC, March 21-23.

**Reporting:** Steve Wilson

**Date:** 11/4/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns after Hurricane Helene

**Location:** Section 2b, McQueen's Gap to Abingdon Gap Shelter

**People:** Scott Huskey, Ted Malone, Steve Perri, Ed Speer, Steve Wilson

**Summary:** We parked at McQueens Gap and hiked north to the Abingdon Gap Shelter where we continued our blowdown removal efforts. We had two sawyers and three swampers, so made reasonable progress and cut 24 blowdowns. Some of the larger blowdowns were entangled trees and it was useful to have two chainsaws due to the odds of logs twisting and the saw binding. So far, we've found no damage to the trail's treadway due to rootballs. We have now cleared 2.25 miles of trail hiking north out of McQueens Gap.

**Reporting:** Vic Hasler

**Date:** 11/5/2024

**Purpose:** Fall 2024 A.T. Partnership Discussion

**Location:** Teleconference

**People:** Vic Hasler, David Allen

**Summary:** A virtual partnership discussion was held roughly five and half weeks after Hurricane Helene impacted the region. Twenty-six to twenty-seven folks (with an AI bot taking notes) covered a range of topics. Ranger Morgan told about the extensive damage, noting that approximately 700 miles of roads were affected and 52,000 acres experienced significant vegetation loss in the Cherokee NF North Zone. Rhododendron Gardens had minor damage to recreational features and road, but should be less than a few weeks of additional work. Pisgah NF is going to try to open that site by June. We learned that Survey 123 GIS data can be transferred between RIMS app that was piloted this past summer in the Roan Highlands. CSX Railroad is reconstructing track and the bridge along the Nolichucky, first by collecting ballast and rails washed into the river. It will be a challenge to remove larger items (parts of houses, tractor trailers, and mobile homes) from the gorge. Assessing the changed conditions will impact several current initiatives. A news agency is planning a story focusing on the effects of downed trees on the A.T. TVA is switching their representative to Austin Jenkins. David Allen joined in this conversion for the first time. The Spring A.T. Partnership will be on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, hopefully in a renovated Watauga RD office building.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/5/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 4b, TN 91 to Double Springs Shelter, Cross Mountain

**People:** Joe Morris, Rick Mulholland, Jon Lukas, John Beaudet, Benj Lipchak, Kent Gardner

**Summary:** This crew removed 32 blowdowns cutting to within 1.3 miles from Double Springs Shelter. A patch and metaphorical long-distance travel award was given to Benj Lipchak. Benj, who plans to thru-hike in 2025 drove from the Outer Banks in North Carolina to participate.



**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/5/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 5, From TN 91 to Iron Mountain Shelter

**People:** Todd Gray, Sherri Millard, Matt Moody, Bill Murdoch, Greg Kramer, Carl Fritz



**Summary:** This sawyer crew covered a little over a mile and cut maybe 40 blowdowns with 28" being the largest. There was only some treadway damage. We did bypass the locust-log bridge area which will take a day of cutting with two crews plus some rootball repair. There was a second smaller tree tangle near the start of Iron Mountain ridge that was bypassed.

**Reporting:** Tim Stewart

**Date:** 11/5/2024

**Purpose:** Helene Repair

**Location:** Section 5, TN 91 to Iron Mountain Shelter, Cross Mountain Rd

**People:** Tim Stewart, Tracy Harris, Lori Mirrer, Carol Geiger, Jack Geiger, Pat Lepley

**Summary:** We were the assessment/lopper team. We went in via the short access trail approx one mile south of the Cross Mountain Rd trailhead. We used loppers and handsaws to clear some of the debris ahead of the sawyers. There were two bad areas where we used orange-flagging tape to create short detours. We made it as far as the short switchback, where one of the bad areas is (the other bad area is at the newer bridge). As we hiked out, it began to rain lightly. We encountered the sawyer team at the top of the steep section. Great progress was made, but there is still much to do. Great Day!

**Reporting:** Joel Zabel

**Date:** 11/5/2024

**Purpose:** Post-Helene A.T. recon

**Location:** Section 17, 1.8 mile stretch from mile 359.9 on Unaka Mtn's east side to Cherry Gap Shelter

**People:** Yong Li, Joy Zabel, Joel Zabel

**Summary:** The only unscouted Helene A.T. damage between Indian Grave Gap and Iron Mtn Gap at this point was this stretch to Cherry Gap Shelter. We parked on a sharp U-bend on Red Fork Road (36.13612,-82.28348) and bushwhacked through light rhodos upslope for 100 yards to hit the A.T. at mile 359.6. (If Red Fork Road is used as a temporary A.T. reroute, this could be used to connect to the A.T. around the damage. We marked it with yellow tape).

To make documenting the damage more efficient than recording blowdown/rootball number and size, we used a 1-to-10 scale with 10 the worst. For reference, the stretch immediately south from Iron Mtn Gap where many of the top TEHCC maintainers sawed through blowdowns and repaired rootball damage on 10/29/2024 was set at 7.

As previously reported, the A.T. had blowdowns cleared to mile 359.9 (36.12975,-82.28072). On the 0.4 miles to 360.3 (36.13115,-82.28075) there were a few rootballs and blowdowns under 16" (rated 2 out of 10). Oddly, at 360.3, sawyers had cleared a dozen blowdowns, but hadn't cleared anything else in either direction. It was bad (7 out of 10) for the 0.3 miles from there to Low Gap, 360.6 (36.12898,-82.27691). It was mostly clear (rated 2 out of 10) north from Low Gap for 0.2 miles to 360.8 (36.12963,-82.27539), then very bad (8 out of 10) with continuous large blowdowns and rootballs for 0.1 miles. There is light damage (2 out of 10) for the next 0.35 miles to (36.12812,-82.26982), then very bad (8/10) for the last 0.45 miles to Cherry Gap Shelter.

Overall, it was worse than from Iron Mtn Gap to the shelter. That took us a bit under 5 hours to cover 3.1 miles; this took 4 hours to cover 1.8 miles.

Rather than returning the difficult way we came, which would have taken us until after dark, we bushwhacked WNW about 400 yards to FS4344. It was clear and drivable. We walked 1.1 miles to the gated junction with Red Fork Road, then walked up Red Fork Road 2.2 miles to our car. There may be some options to use both FS4344 and some old trails off Red Fork Road to temporarily reroute back to the already cleared A.T., around much of the worst damage, without walking so far on Red Fork Road.

**Reporting:** Jon Heidrick

**Date:** 11/5/2024

**Purpose:** Clear storm debris from the A.T.

**Location:** Section 12c, Sugar Hollow Creek to Campbell Hollow Road, MM 400.0 to 400.4

**People:** Jon Heidrick, Rick Lott, Mike Watts, Randy

**Summary:** We hiked in from Cambell Hollow to the 400 mile mark and continued to cut blowdowns, approximately 45 blowdowns over 0.3 mile.

**Reporting:** Jon Heidrick

**Date:** 11/7/2024

**Purpose:** Clear storm damage

**Location:** Section 12c, Sugar Hollow Creek to Campbell Hollow Road, mm 400.3 to 400.7

**People:** Rick Lott, Mike Watts, Randy Allen, Jon Heidrick

**Summary:** We hiked back in to where we left off Tuesday (11/5) and cut through 35 blowdowns. Jones Branch is now in sight and we can hear the waterfalls.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/7/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 4a, US 421 to Double Springs Shelter, US 421

**People:** Bill Reagan, Joe Morris, Dan Firth, Dean Baird

**Summary:** This crew removed 30 blowdowns from US 421 to within 0.9 mile of Double Springs Shelter. They covered 2.6 miles. Bill Reagan joined from Maryville, TN for his first maintenance work, earning TEHCC and USFS patches.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/7/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 4b, TN 91 to Double Springs Shelter, Cross Mountain

**People:** Scott Huskey, Van Hovey, Jerry Anderson, Jon Lukas

**Summary:** This crew hiked Section 4b to roughly Mile 451.1 to continue the mission of removing tree blowdowns across the trail. The group removed four simple blowdowns and five complex groups of blowdowns (large trees intertwined/canopies). We stopped at Mile 451.9, where we began the removal of another complex group; we only partially removed it.

Based on a previous assessment I did, there are 11 more spots ahead where there are either single blowdowns or groups. The last one, a group of three trees, is at Mile 452.2 (Lat/Lon 36.505833N 81.985278E).



November 7<sup>th</sup> crews assembling at Cross Mtn, TN 91



Photo by Steve Domagala

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 11/7/2024

**Purpose:** Cut blowdowns

**Location:** Section 5, TN 91 to Iron Mountain Shelter, mm 448 to mm 447

**People:** Tony Messina, Greg Kramer, Bill Murdoch, Carl Fritz, Sherri Millard, Steve Domagala, Colleen Dilmore

**Summary:** We successfully cut out 48 blowdowns in one mile leaving some step-overs. We are still short of the Grindstaff Monument by a mile. Colleen was from Florida and assisting her son and a couple of friends who are flip-flopping and headed south. She is shuttling them, if necessary, around difficult sections due to Helene. We only saw one day-hiker today.

**Reporting:** Tim Stewart

**Date:** 11/7/2024

**Purpose:** Helene Repair

**Location:** Section 5, TN 91 to Iron Mountain Shelter, Iron Mountain Shelter

**People:** Tim Stewart, Michael Sink

**Summary:** We hiked in from the access point to Uncle Nick's. From there, I started using the Survey 123 App to assess conditions to Iron Mountain Shelter. There are at least 11 areas that require blowdown removal. After lunch at the shelter (which survived Helene), we hiked down to the water source and removed a couple of small blowdowns and other debris. On the way back to Uncle Nick's, we did some lopping. From Uncle Nick's, I resumed using the Survey 123 App all the way to the top of the switchback. There were an additional 15 areas that require attention. From the top of the switchback to the Cross Mountain Rd trailhead still needs to be assessed. I should be able to do that on Saturday. Long hike but it was a good day!

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/9/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 4a, US 421 to Double Springs Shelter, Locust Knob

**People:** Joe Morris, Dan Firth, Carol Geiger

**Summary:** We continued removing blowdowns from the area around Locust Knob, approximately 0.5 mile north of Double Springs Shelter. It was slow progress today. The trail is now clear from US 421 Low Gap to 3 miles south.



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**Reporting:** Van Hovey

**Date:** 11/9/2024

**Purpose:** Clear blowdowns

**Location:** Section 4b, TN 91 to Double Springs Shelter

**People:** Megan Krager, Wesley Miller, Tom O'Day, Teri O'Day, Elisabeth Lloyd, Van Hovey

**Summary:** Our primary task was to continue clearing blowdowns to Double Springs Shelter. We walked in from Osborne Farm to approximate mile 451.9 where the crew had stopped work on Thursday, 11/7. We began work there and managed to cut approximately 25 trees, which was inclusive of individual blowdowns and trees with branches and leaf canopies intact. The objective of clearing to the shelter was achieved. Volunteers new to maintenance, Tom, Teri, and Elisabeth did a fantastic job with swamping - big help! Experienced maintainers, Wesley (sawyer) and Megan (swamping) on loan from Bays Mountain, were instrumental in making it happen. Thanks to all for a safe and productive day .... Cheers

**Reporting:** Tony Messina

**Date:** 11/9/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 5, TN 91 to Iron Mountain Shelter, Tangle about 1.5 Miles North of TN 91

**People:** Tony Messina, Aaron Fermin, Kelsi Fermin, Rebecka Powell

**Summary:** This crew was a subteam of the larger group that hiked farther toward Uncle Nick's and Iron Mtn Shelter. We removed a seemingly impenetrable tangle of trees near the log bridge about 1.5 miles north of TN 91. All in all, there were about 12 significant trunks removed, plus a large amount of canopy and a few saplings. The largest trunk was about 15-inch diameter. One rootball completely blocked the trail and another partially scoured the treadway. We were able to remove weight from both rootballs by digging/cutting. We pretty much destroyed a chainsaw chain, but were able to push/roll the obstructing rootball to the side of the trail, and to dig around and fill in the void left by the other. Two larger overhead trunks were left extending above the south end of the bridge. They share a large rootball mass towering above the trail and will be tricky to remove. However, they do not obstruct the trail and are fine to leave for now. Great work by everyone involved. It was a glorious day to be in the woods.



November 9th crews assembling at Cross Mtn, TN 91

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 11/9/2024

**Purpose:** Cut blowdowns

**Location:** Section 5, TN 91 to Iron Mountain Shelter

**People:** Rick Mulholland, Tracey Harris, Steve Perri, Gerald Scott, Elzear Lemieux, Carl Fritz

**Summary:** Thanks to everyone for the hard work, the entire Section 5 is now open! We cut out 41 more blowdowns mostly near Iron Mountain Shelter. The only tangle remaining is at mm 448.1. Currently, it has a simple 100-foot bypass, so it is not a priority. We left about 30 to 40 step-overs which are also not a priority.

**Reporting:** Tim Stewart

**Date:** 11/9/2024

**Purpose:** Hiking with Tools! and Helene Repair

**Location:** Section 5, TN 91 to Iron Mountain Shelter, Iron Mountain Shelter

**People:** Tim Stewart, Richard Bowerman, Addy Wygmans, Alex Krug

**Summary:** Another great outing for the final Hiking with Tools! event for the year. Survey 123 assessment was still needed from TN 91 to the top of the switchback hiking south. Most of this had already been cut. Once the assessment was completed, we had lunch and then caught up to the sawyer teams near Uncle Nick's. Continuing south to Iron Mountain Shelter, we assisted the sawyer teams with removal of blowdowns and debris. We finished and hiked out. But ... there was one more blowdown. A 25-incher fairly close to the trailhead. Carl cut it to finish this section with the exception of leaners and stepovers. Helene did alot of damage on this section, but with multiple crews, we cleared it in 3 days!

**Reporting:** Craig Haire

**Date:** 11/9/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 20a, Nolichucky River to Temple Hill Gap, North half of section

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**People:** Craig Haire, Jessica Fowley

**Summary:** All the switchbacks on Cliff Ridge are clear. Along Temple Ridge, there are several blowdowns, and it looked like someone had already done some cutting on them. Near the middle of Temple Ridge, we turned back because of time constraints. The weather was pleasant. Starting up the trail, we ran into Drew with two of his dogs, who we had met before. He lives and works at Uncle Johnny's.

**Reporting:** Steve Wilson

**Date:** 11/12/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns after Hurricane Helene

**Location:** Section 2b, McQueen's Gap to north of Abingdon Gap Shelter

**People:** Debbie Douglass, Jay Douglass, Scott Huskey, Steve Perri, Ed Speer, Steve Wilson

**Summary:** We continued our blowdown removal efforts north of Abingdon Gap shelter. Starting at roughly one mile north of the shelter, we found and removed 34 blowdowns in a half-mile stretch with plenty of entangled trees. Scouting ahead, Ed found an additional 53 blowdowns in the next half mile. He found no damage to the trail treadway due to rootballs.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/12/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 11b, Canute Place to Bitter End, Bitter End

**People:** Joe Morris, Randy Allen, Bob Peoples, John Beaudet, Richard Lott, Van Hovey, Tim Stewart, Cheryl Ramsey, Tony Messina

**Summary:** This crew cleared from Bitter End, miles 409.2 to 412.7. Several blowdowns were removed and rootballs were made passable. The southern part of this section was relatively clear. Rick and Tim, unfortunately encountered several tangles. They removed 26 trees covering 0.3 mile to a point 1.3 south of Moreland Gap Shelter at mile 414.0.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/12/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12a, Bitter End to Walnut Mountain Road

**People:** Jon Heidrick, Jonathan Lukas, David J. Smith USFS-MA, Greg Kramer, Todd Gray, Jim McGuire, Jayson Vittori, Carl Fritz

**Summary:** This crew cleared the entire 3.2-mile section with teams starting at both the north and south ends. There was some tread repair related to rootball damage. David Smith, a USFS employee from North Adams, Massachusetts, was passing through and stopped to volunteer.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/15/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12b, Walnut Mountain Road to Sugar Hollow Creek

**People:** Joe Morris, Randy Allen, Bob Peoples, Rick Lott, Juliane Arnold, Dennis Whittington, Bill Reagan, Jon Heidrick, Gerald Scott, Tim Stewart, Dan Firth, Carl Fritz, Joseph Baghetti, Michael Sink, Jim McGuire, Todd Gray, Sarah Baker

**Summary:** This crew started clearing the section south of Walnut Mountain Road. Numerous tangles and large trees were removed. A team hiked to Mountaineer Falls Shelter and found it in reasonable condition. However, the shelter is surrounded by a devastating number of downed trees. It will take a significant effort to remove the trees from the shelter to 0.4 mile north of the shelter and the trees blocking the water source.



**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/15/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 20c, No Business Knob Shelter to Spivey Gap, Devils Creek Gap

**People:** Chad Goare, Dennis Boone, Nina Gerli, Van Hovey, John Beaudet

**Summary:** A team from Carolina Mountain Club joined John and Van to assist with the removal of 27 blowdowns between Devils Creek Gap (Kan Lot) to within 0.5 mile of No Business Knob Shelter.

**Reporting:** Scotty Bowman

**Date:** 11/16/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 7, Vandeventer Shelter to Wilbur Dam Rd

**People:** Scotty Bowman, Jack Bray, Dick Ketelle, Juliane Arnold, Taylor Weatherbee, Adena (Addy) Wygmans, Alex Krug, Megan Juneau, Anthony Kack, Tracy Harris, Isaac Wood

**Summary:** There were 11 of us representing TEHCC, SMHC, ATC, and a few others. TVA left the gate dummy locked so that we could drive to the trailhead, which meant no road walk. This provided us with more trail time. It was the perfect day to be out in the woods. We divided up into 3 saw teams and worked to clear blowdowns on the section. The goal was to clear as much as we could and make as much passable as possible. We were able to clear 12 blowdowns that were blocking the trail and worked to make a few others passable. The first 2.75 miles of the section are clear.

**Reporting:** Steve Mahan

**Date:** 11/17/2024

**Purpose:** Survey storm damage and clear small debris

**Location:** Section 11a, From Canute Farm to Dennis Cove Trailhead

**People:** Steve Mahan

**Summary:** There are numerous blowdowns from Canute Farm to Coon Den Falls Trail. Starting at 0.04 mile to 2.9 mile, there are 17 blowdown areas, including a few rootballs turned up in the trail. The worst section is approximately 2 miles into the trail. The area is completely obstructed for a distance of 0.4 mile. It was difficult to see the trail through the mangled trees. From Coon Den Falls Trail to Dennis Cove trailhead there are a few trees in the trail, and one tree hung up and leaning over the trail. The leaning tree is 0.33 mile from Coon Den Falls Trail, near the previous area of blowdowns.



**Reporting:** Steve Wilson

**Date:** 11/18/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns after Hurricane Helene

**Location:** Section 2b, McQueen's Gap to north of Abingdon Shelter

**People:** David Allen, Carl Belcher, Kevin Boyd ("Minion"), Ken Costello, Jay Douglass, Scott Huskey, Steve Perri, Tara Spears ("Butterfly"), Ed Speer, Steve Wilson

**Summary:** With ten people and three sawyer teams, we were able to clear the rest of Section 2b which extends three miles north of McQueens Gap. We removed 47 blowdowns in a half-mile stretch, but had to leave 12 large "duck-under" logs. The trail was damaged by three rootballs, but the rootballs are not blocking the path. Repair will be required later. Special thanks to the 2024 thru-hikers, Butterfly and Minion, who were a great help.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/18/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12b, Walnut Mountain Road to Mountaineer Falls

**People:** Joe Morris, Gerald Scott, Greg Kramer, Jon Heidrick, Jim McGuire, Van Hovey, Carl Fritz

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**Summary:** The section is passable from Walnut Mountain Road to Mountaineer Falls Shelter with the removal of many tangles and downed trees from the Helene storm damage.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/19/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12b, Walnut Mountain Road to Sugar Hollow Creek, Mountaineer Falls

**People:** Joe Morris, Van Hovey, John Beaudet, Dennis Whittington, Juliane Arnold, Jon Heidrick

**Summary:** This crew cleared an additional 0.5 mile, ending up at mile 404.0, beyond Mountaineer Falls. John cleaned up the blue-blaze to the shelter and cleared out an area adjacent to the front of the shelter. We ended the day at the midpoint between Walnut Mountain Road and Sugar Hollow. Numerous blowdowns and tangles were removed and 3 large rootball cavities were filled.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 11/19/2024

**Purpose:** Cut blowdowns

**Location:** Sections 12b and 12c, From 0.8 mile south of Sugar Hollow Creek to 0.3 mile north

**People:** Todd Gray, Jim McGuire, Tracey Harris, Michael Sink, Greg Kramer, Carl Fritz

**Summary:** We accessed the trail near Elk River and walked north along the river and north of Sugar Hollow. We only got 0.3 miles north of Sugar Hollow. Sugar Hollow back to the trucks is still a mess of blowdowns and debris that will take at least a day for six people. The river damage is unbelievable, with debris and ten-foot-deep holes in the field.

**Reporting:** Tony Messina

**Date:** 11/19/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12c, Sugar Hollow Creek to Campbell Hollow Road, 0.3 mile from Elk River access

**People:** Tony Messina, Dean Baird, Tim Stewart, Tara Spears, Kevin Boyd, Randy Allen, Bob Peoples, Richard Lott

**Summary:** We splintered a subteam off the main Tuesday group effort, daring the forecasted rain which never occurred! We entered from the Elk River access and were amazed by the devastation seen from the drive along the river road. It was very sad to see the damage and brought home the human toll quite vividly. We worked south about 0.3 miles along the A.T. from the access point and ended up cutting about 30 blowdowns. The most complex was elevated about a foot off the ground and was 27-inch diameter with a combination of top bind, side bind, and end bind. We stuck two saws, but eventually got'r'dun! Tim and Kevin scouted farther south about 0.25 mile and encountered more of the same damage, but did not make it as far as Jones Falls. On this trip, we concentrated on making the trail passable, and left several step-overs and duck-unders for future work. There were also four areas of significant rootball damage to the trail which will require much future rehab. Bob mitigated a couple of the smaller ones, but there are two that will require major effort. Kevin, Tara, and Randy were outstanding swampers and sherpas (they graciously helped carry the chainsaws for the sawyers).

**Reporting:** Steve Wilson

**Date:** 11/25/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns after Hurricane Helene

**Location:** Section 3, Low Gap (US 421) to one mile north

**People:** David Allen, Carl Belcher, Ken Costello, Scott Huskey, Ted Malone, Scott Morie, Steve Perri, Ed Speer, Steve Wilson

**Summary:** With nine people and three sawyer teams, we started to clear Section 3. We removed a remarkable 97 blowdowns in roughly a one-mile stretch clearing the trail to mile 456.9.



Before



After



and More

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/25/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12b, Walnut Mountain Road to Sugar Hollow Creek, Mountaineer Falls

**People:** John Beaudet, Gerald Scott, Bill Murdoch, Carl Fritz, Joe Morris, Franklin Tate - ATC, Jacob Stowe - ATC

**Summary:** This crew cleared 1.5 miles to 403.5. A half-mile is left to connect to the work from previous outings. We were pleased to be joined by Franklin and Jake of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.



**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/25/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12c, Sugar Hollow Creek to Jones Falls

**People:** Van Hovey, Ken Murray, Joseph Baghetti, Randy Allen, Rebecka Powell

**Summary:** This crew cleared from Sugar Hollow to Jones Falls. There is approximately 0.25 mile left to connect to the work from the previous outings.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/26/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Sections 12b and 12c, Walnut Mountain Road to Sugar Hollow Creek, Elk River and Mountaineer Falls

**People:** Joe Morris, Michel Denizot, Heather Hendrix, Tony Messina, Todd Gray, Greg Kramer, Jim McGuire, Bill Murdoch, Tim Stewart

**Summary:** This crew split into two groups. One crew cleared storm debris near the creek and attempted to reestablish the trail in its original position and clear the river. They built temporary stairs at the stile. The other group headed toward Mountaineer Falls and cut 66 trees. As has continued to be the case, approximately 0.2 mile remains between the end point of this outing and the work accomplished in previous outings from the other side. Heather and Michel received TEHCC patches.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 11/26/2024

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 12c, Sugar Hollow Creek to Campbell Hollow Road, Elk River

**People:** Kate Bergbower, Dean Baird, Randy Allen, Scott Huskey, Van Hovey

**Summary:** The crew removed another 32 trees and, finally made it to the Jones Falls sidetrail intersection completing Randy's quest. The farther they get, the more storm damage presents. It's estimated another 0.3 mile needs to be cut beyond today's end point. Next outing will begin from Campbell Hollow Road.