

A-Frame Road Improvements

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) personnel at Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge have partnered with Dominion Power and Western Pocahontas Properties LP to make improvements to A-Frame Road in northeastern Tucker County to complete this year's work on A-Frame road. This important road is located off HWY 93/Corridor H north of Davis, WV. This road provides access to the northern areas of Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge for hikers, bikers, birders, hunters, and many others to enjoy the Refuge and all it provides. This road is also a main access for Mt. Top Hunt club and Old Stoney Hunt club.

Prior to this year's work, Old Stoney Hunt Club President, Pete Navolis has been working with Clyde and Gary Crossland, Luther and Joseph Long to repair the road to passable condition for the past few years. FWS is very thankful for their work in keeping part of this road in good condition. This year we would like thank the following people for their help. Clyde Crossland worked 149 hours, Gary Crossland worked 60 hours, Luther Long worked 154 hours, Joseph Long worked 20 hours, Terry Khou worked 16 hours, Jeff Barnes worked 8 hours, Pete Navolis, Pete Supac and seven others helped as well. FWS staff Daryl Johnson worked 213 hours, Michael Vanevander worked 213 hours, Richard Zane worked 127 hours, Jeff Graves worked 103 hours, Brett Hartwig worked 94 hours, and Amy Cimarolli worked 5 hours.

Starting from FWS boundary heading towards Hwy 93/Corridor H a goal of 1.2 miles was set to complete all ditch, culvert, shoulder, and crowning of the road including creating a road base. This goal was completed a head of schedule with the help of the many volunteers. After completing this goal, work continued towards Hwy 93/Corridor H. On the additional 3.1 miles of roadway several hundred rocks were removed from roadway, the uphill shoulder and ditches were reshaped to allow for better drainage, while adding drainage points on the downhill side. Every culvert point was cleared to control water flow, minimize damage, and improved drainage.

In total 1640 tons of gravel was placed on the entire 4.3 miles of road, 50 tons of 3-6 inch rip rap was used at culvert points, and compaction and grading of the gravel will allow for a much smoother ride for traffic.

FWS is hoping that this road will lessen equipment damage, improve community relations, increase visitation, and bring more light to what can be done with good partners. Thank you to all the people who were involved in the project. Please help all of us keep this vital access road in great shape by driving responsible on the road at reasonable speeds, and take your time to enjoy your visit to Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

Ron Hollis, Refuge Manager