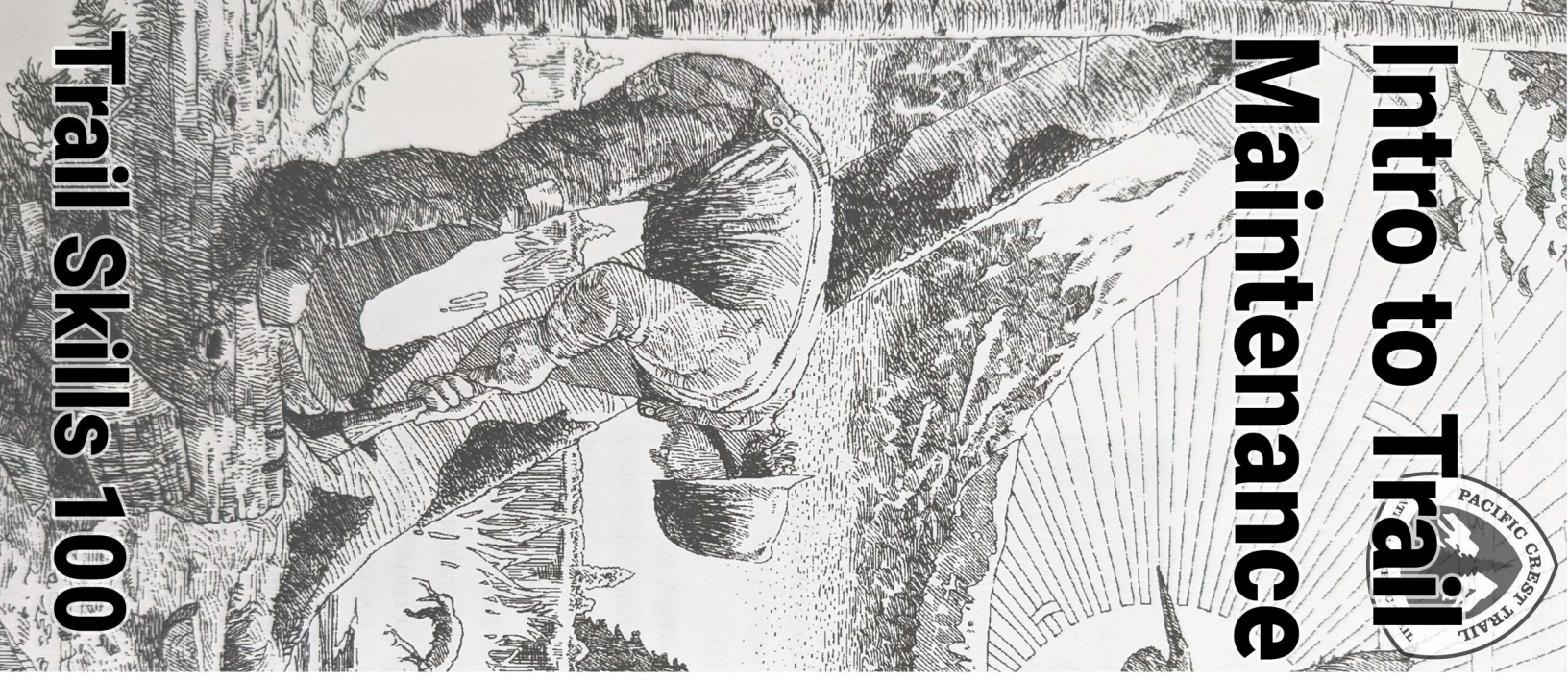




Intro to Trail Maintenance



Trail Skills 100

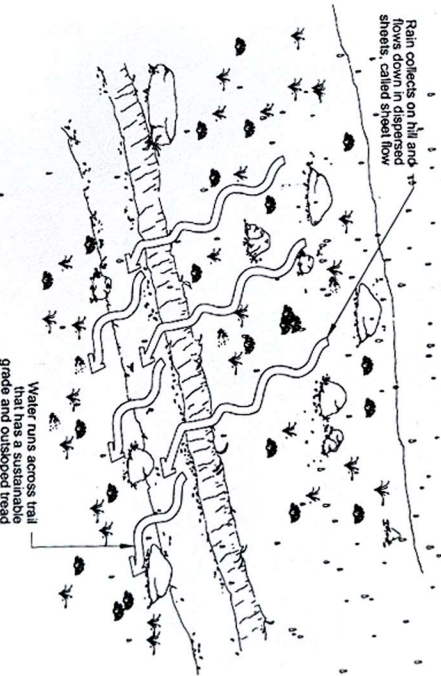
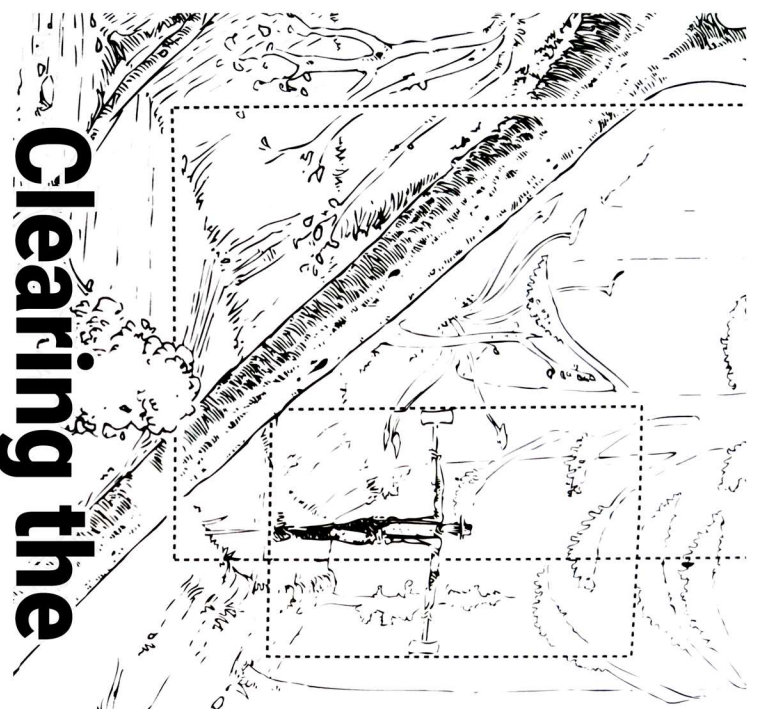
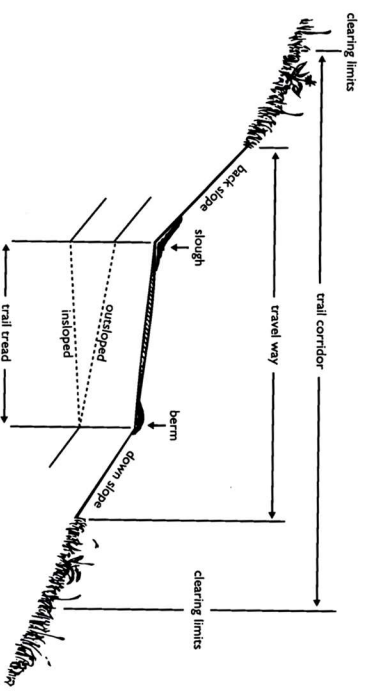
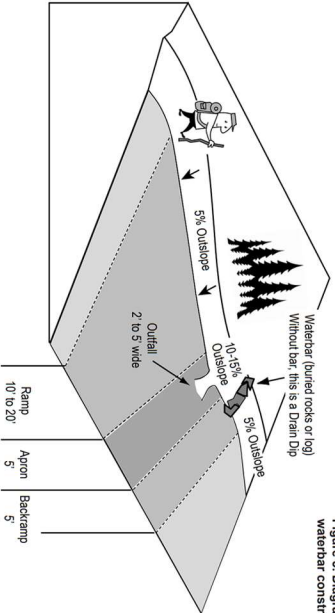
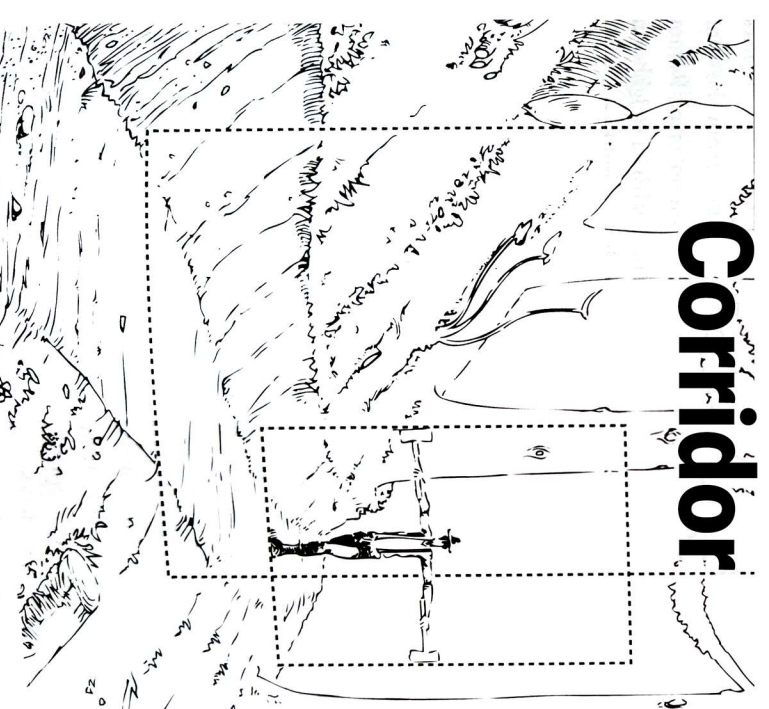


Figure 3. Diagram of modern waterbar construction



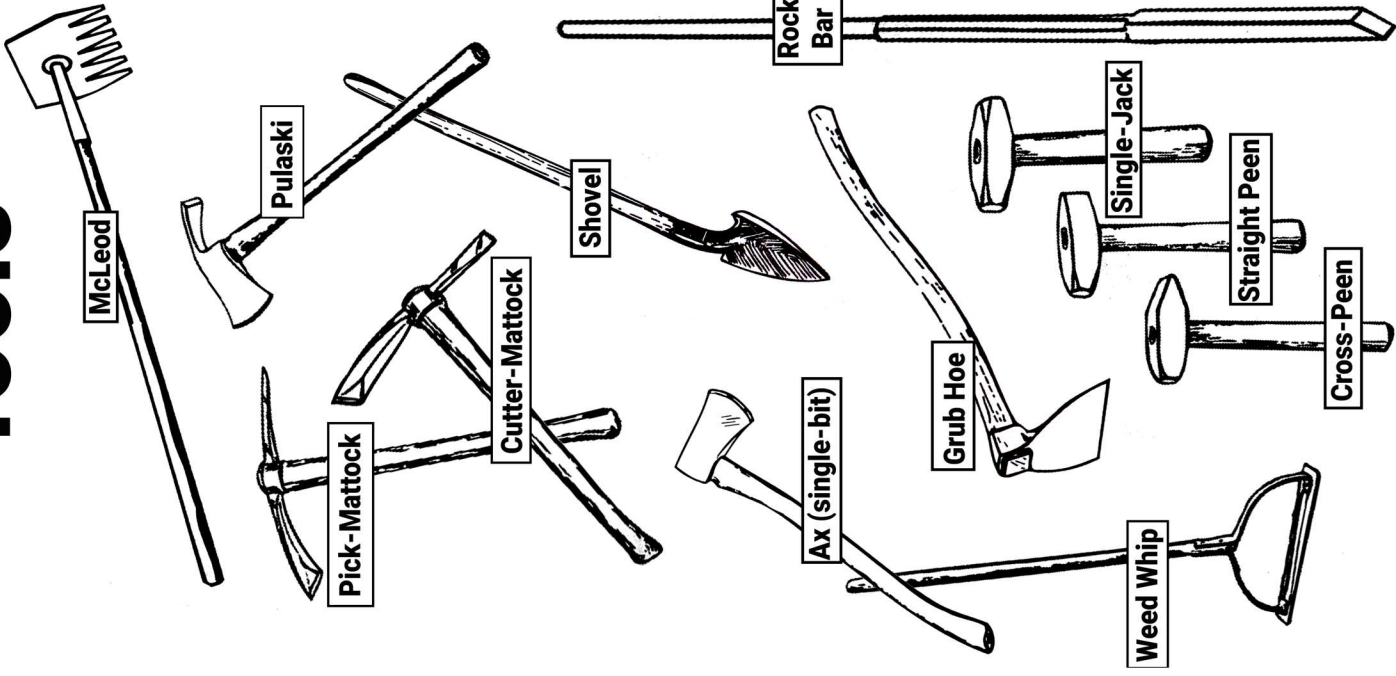
Clearing the



Corridor

Tools

Trail Terms



Trail Eyes: The ability to see how a trail is functioning in the landscape, and most importantly what trail work needs to be done to bring it into good shape. Primarily includes attention to clearing limits and drainage, but also tread condition, hillside hydrology, and intended use.

Corridor: The full dimensions of the trail, including the area (2 to 3 feet) on either side of the tread and the space overhead (10 to 12 feet) from which brush and obstacles need to be cleared.

Bench Cut: A relatively flat, stable surface (tread) on a hillside made by excavation. When excavated often referred to as full, half, or partial bench to describe the proportions of excavation and fill comprising the trail bed.

Brushing: The process of clearing the trail corridor of plants, trees, and branches that could impede the progress of trail users.

Outslope: A method of tread grading that leaves the outside edge of a hillside trail lower than the inside to shed water. The outslope should be barely noticeable—usually no more than about one inch of outslope for every 18 inches of tread width.

Berm: The material formed on the outer edge of the trail that projects higher than the center of the trail tread. Typically caused by tread compaction and soil displacement during trail use, a berm can trap water on the trail and lead to erosion.

Slough (pronounced "Sluff"): Material/debris collecting on the uphill (inside) edge of the trail tread. Slough may raise the height of the tread relative to the original level and result in water pooling on the trail or be sufficient to block the trail.

Trail Braiding: Multiple parallel paths created by users who have deviated from the main trail, often to avoid an undesirable feature (e.g. downed log, mud hole, sand) within the main trail causing erosion and expansion of the existing trail around the feature.

Braided Trail Before Repairs



Braided Trail After Repairs

