

Dirty 13 Jeep Club Cleaning Up at Money Creek!



Before and after: Site rehabilitation work in progress.

Partners spend Mother's Day weekend rehabbing Money Creek Campground. John Robinson, Skykomish Ranger District Forestry Technician coordinated with "Dirty 13" a local 4 x 4 jeep club to assist us in getting Money Creek Campground open in time for Memorial Day.

The campground had suffered considerably from last winter's storms. Flood and wind debris was strewn throughout the campground, picnic tables were buried to their tops with sand and silt, entire trees had been blown down across access roads, campfire grills, and the entire campsite. The tent pads had also been washed away. Fortunately, the club had the equipment, along with human power, to rebuild the tent pads using some of the material that had washed up on the picnic tables.

All in all, "the Dirty 13" spent two days with 18 volunteers (about 217 volunteer hours) using two excavators, two loaders with buckets, a 5-yard dump truck and a gator (similar to an ATV with a small pickup bed attached) to transform the campground. The total cost to do the work would have been around \$8,000, total, but the value to the Forest was immeasurable, as we had few resources to get the campgrounds open this year with all the flood damaged areas."

The group has been a partner since 1975 and helped us out before, but never have we asked this much out of them. A long-time of the club, Mick Clapp says "This was great and we are willing to do more, call any time". *(Story and pictures courtesy John Robinson, Aleta Eng, Jerry Zimmerman and Cindy White, MBS)*