

Roads and Trails- Our road has recently been graded by Anaya Contracting and its travel is greatly improved! Likewise, the Red and Green trails have had trimming, weed whacking, and raking completed to make them ready for class visits. The White trail has had an explosion of annual grasses on its first half and general overgrowth on its second half, so it is not an ideal place for class visits. The Blue trail can only be accessed from the White Trail crossing, and is in acceptable condition for the mostpart.

Buildings/grounds/equipment- In general, our site is experiencing Spring conditions and there is no new damage or issues to report. The paving of the Forest Service road mentioned above also allowed for a bit of smoothing of the dirt road on our site. Geotechnical consultants were onsite to take soil samples in anticipation of future repairs to our damaged buildings and pavilion structure.

Gold Creek Usage- On May 3, our annual Open House hosted 91 (at latest count) of our district's faculty, staff, and families. A bird walk, Green and Red trail tours, children's activities, and our veggie burger grill prepped the attendees for Edgar McGregor's talk about micro-scale meteorology and the Eaton Fire. Attendees included first-time visitors as well as Gold Creek legends such as Ron Bigelow and herpetologist and former Workshop speaker Russ Smith. Thanks to a great pitch-in from the committee on our May 2 Work Party, the site was showing very well for our visitors. On May 9, my Geography 20 class met onsite, toured the weather station, and hiked the White and Blue trails. Grace Sroya's Bio7 class was scheduled to visit the site on Thursday 5/15. The contractors have not been seen onsite in the last couple of weeks.



Abiota- Just under half an inch of rain has fallen since our last meeting; spread out over several days, it is not enough to have any visual effects on our road, creek, or grounds. The creek is still flowing throughout the site, and its gentle sound can be heard from most areas in our site. Although the last week has been more mild, temperatures ventured as far into the 90's as 95.3F last week.

Biota- Despite little recent rainfall and a temporary spike in temperatures, vegetation is still green and lush onsite. Annual grasses are much more prominent than earlier in the Spring. More shrubs have started flowering, and the Bush Poppies (some of the earliest) are still blooming. Mallow is one of the few that is slower to bloom. I did see a garter snake onsite recently.

