

Roads and Trails- As we start the Fall semester, the dirt road approaching our property remains in condition to be easily passable by 2wd automobiles. There are a couple of small ruts, and it is a little bumpy in places, but it has held up well this summer. The paved portion on our property is still undercut and traffic is routed to the lower dirt road. Trails, in general, are tricky to follow and have been encroached on significantly by vegetation (even since this Spring). This certainly is due to the deep recharge to our groundwater table initiated by a series of Winter atmospheric rivers and followed up with tropical summer rainfall. Currently, the Green trail is accessible with only a couple of tight passages. The White trail is difficult to follow where trees have fallen on its former path. The Red trail is hard to access from the typical trailhead, as seeping water makes the slope slippery. Although it was manicured during an April work party, it is hard to get to the fig tree when taking the clockwise route. The Blue trail access is very difficult, and I did not inspect the rest of the trail. Please reach out to me about the schedule and goals for your field trips, so that trail clearing can be prioritized where it is needed most.

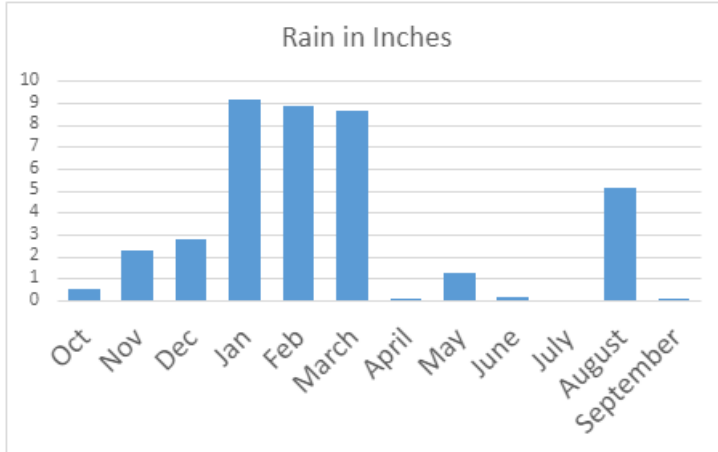


Buildings/grounds/equipment- I do not have any current-year update on the garage roof, pavilion roof or paved road repair. I plan to meet with Sarah Song during the week of September 11-15 to clarify our needs and the path forward on returning the site to a useable condition. The porta potty is currently functional and has been serviced. The large fallen sycamore(s), creekside near the start of the Red Trail, are gone. There are not any noticeable signs of how or when they were moved. I had planned to use them in a stabilization project.

Gold Creek Usage- On June 10, Rob West and Pavla Hoyer were the sole participants in our June Work Party and provided some much-needed maintenance to the Red and Blue trails, as well as work on the amphitheater seating. I am not aware of any student usage.

Abiota- Since our last meeting, we had an unexpected tropical storm due to Hurricane Hilary. The storm brought more than 5 inches of rainfall to the weather station, much at an incredibly high rate. Our Water Year total (since October 1) sits at 39.26 inches. It seems possible that in the next few weeks we could gain the 3mm needed to bring us to an even meter of rainfall and

maybe the 19mm needed for an even 40 inches. There is still flow in Gold Creek in all areas of our property. Depending on the timing of Fall rains, we could see year-round flow. There is also a small amount of flow from Center Creek.



Biota- Unlike the start of most Fall semesters, vegetation is lush. The annual invasive grasses are not as noticeable as the Artemisia, Black Sage, Buckwheat, Bush Poppies, Mallow (currently flowering), and other vegetation. Bees are pollinating shrubs and flowers throughout the site. Our oaks are producing a good amount of acorns as well. I have noticed a few examples of very large burrows/tunnels opening out of the ground. Although the dirt was fresh outside of them, I was not able to identify a clear footprint.

