

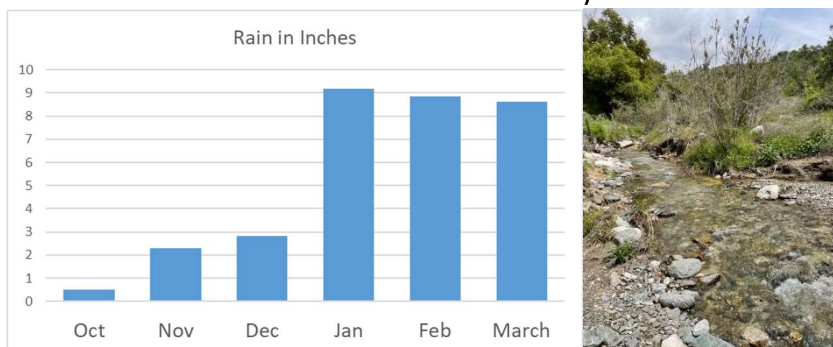
Roads and Trails- The dirt road is currently very dried out. Johnson has completed some recent work on it, so that the road is passable by 2wd vehicles. There is one deep rut, parallel to the roadway, that would be bad to drive into. All of the ruts that cross the roadway can be passed with some care. On our property, the paved road has been undercut by erosion where the Green Trail crosses. Please drive on the “uphill” side of the road, away from the direction of Gold Creek itself until this is fixed. There has been an explosion of vegetation, and access to most trails is more difficult than it was just a month ago.



Buildings/grounds/equipment- All main buildings are in good shape. The pavilion roof has deteriorated further and is continuing to split. The porta potty is currently functional and has been serviced.

Gold Creek Usage- On March 17, we had a return of Faculty Workshops to our site. We had presentations of three of the Learning Activity awardees: Dustin Lehren (Nature Journaling), Mike Farrell (Population Modeling Game), and Bob Gorcik (Hydrology and Geomorphology). Our fifteen attendees included veteran Gold Creek faculty as well as newer recruits. It feels great to begin our normal operations again.

Abiota- . Since our last meeting, the weather station has received more than 7 inches of additional rain, although the last three weeks have been much less eventful, and the near-term lookout does not include any more rain. Our Water Year total (since October 1) is just over 32 inches. The straw wattles, previously installed without proper authorization across the Spring Creek have been removed by the restoration contractors. Gold Creek itself has receded enough that it can be crossed without much difficulty.



Biota- There is much flowering of the Coastal Sage Scrub community, as well as a continued explosion of invasive annual grasses. The grasses are still very green, but eventually they will constitute a fire hazard.

