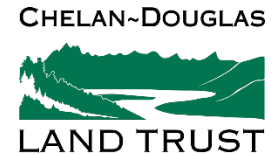


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Trail upgrades in progress at Home Water Preserve

WENATCHEE, WA — Trail season is here, and exciting improvements are underway at Home Water Preserve to create better, more sustainable trails for riding and hiking.

As of April 1, Sage Hills Trail is open. Other trails at Home Water Preserve will be closed while crews restore habitat and upgrade trails for long-term use. The 960-acre Home Water Preserve is owned and managed by Chelan PUD as a wildlife preserve that's open for public recreation between April and November.

Chelan PUD, Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, and Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance are teaming up on the multi-year project. The goal is to provide:

- **A better recreational experience:** Smoother trail flow, angled turns and fewer steep climbs.
- **Durability:** These trails are designed to last longer with less maintenance, better water drainage, and soil composition that holds up under tires and boots.
- **Habitat protection:** Decommissioning unsustainable trails will restore habitat, increase separation between wildlife corridors and recreation, and protect the area's fragile ecosystem.

"We're creating a win-win for people and wildlife," said Kelly Cordell, Senior Wildlife Biologist for Chelan PUD. "The wait will be worth it in the long run."

"When folks go around the closure points, it delays the work and creates serious safety risks," Trails Project Manager Ryan Graig added. "Staying off closed trails helps us finish faster, and when the work is done, riders and hikers will enjoy smoother, more sustainable trails built to last."

The project will decommission about four miles of unauthorized and unsustainable trails, while improving and authorizing four miles of existing trails for future public use.

Trail work is scheduled between April and June 2026 on these trails:

- Coyote Canyon
- Lightning
- Snakebite
- Heart Murmur

Opening dates will be announced after the work is finished.

By December 2026, several unauthorized trails will be permanently closed and restored to natural habitat, including:

- Upper Blue Sage

- Short Toss
- Jackhammer
- Upper Maiden Ridge

Riders and hikers can help by staying on open trails, and respecting posted closures during construction. **Maps and project information are available at www.cdlandtrust.org.**

About the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust is a local nonprofit working to conserve our land, our water, and our access to natural areas. The Land Trust has a 40-year record of working collaboratively with property owners and communities to identify and permanently protect the region's most important natural lands. CDLT is a membership organization that relies upon the community's support to continue to preserve and care for lands in Chelan and Douglas counties. The lands that make this area unique. For more information: www.cdlandtrust.org

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