



August 30, 2017

Memo regarding the clean-up of Cougar Creek undertaken by staff of the Town of Canmore on August 17, 2017.

The intent was to remove obvious human use of the Cougar Creek area in the vicinity of the Debris Net up to a kilometer upstream. This area sees a lot of human use and graffiti was present on one of the first small rock wall slightly upstream of the Debris Net. Moreover, a few fire pits, piles of woody debris, and random rock walls were discovered and dismantled. Finally, a small quantity of trash was picked up and carried out to be disposed of appropriately.

The following pages contain more detailed description of the work undertaken.

Graffiti

The team spent the morning scrubbing, removing and painting over some graffiti. The main area was located at UTM 617674 5661757, river's right side. Figures 1 & 2 below show the graffiti and Figure 3 shows after removal. Several other much smaller graffiti were found both upstream and downstream of that location. Coordinates and photos for the other graffiti were not taken.



Figure 1 – Main graffiti, left side



Figure 2 – Main graffiti, right side



Figure 3 - Main graffiti removed

Fire Pits

Three fire pits were discovered on the small wooded bench on the river's left side of the creek approximately 500m upstream of the Debris Net. Two of them had no sign of use in the last few weeks. However, the other one appeared to have been used not too long ago. Figure 4 shows the fire pit and Figure 5 shows the reclamation of the area.



Figure 4 - Fire pit



Figure 5 - Fire pit reclaimed

Other signs of human use

Several rock piles, such as walls and cairns, were destroyed and dispersed within the creek bed. Figure 6 and 7 is an example of a small rock wall. Some trees were also piled up together over a few large logs that have naturally accumulated near the Debris Net. They were also dispersed as shown in Figure 8 and 9. Finally, various items, mostly plastic, aluminum and glass, were picked up, carried out and disposed of in recycling or waste bins.



Figure 6 - Small rock wall



Figure 7 - Rocks dispersed



Figure 8 - Trees



Figure 9 – Trees dispersed