

# *Forest and Trail Conservation*



*"Ask not what your country can do for you,  
ask what you can do for your country."  
John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 1960*

Offered by the  
**HIGH ADVENTURE TEAM**  
Greater Los Angeles Area Council  
Boy Scouts of America

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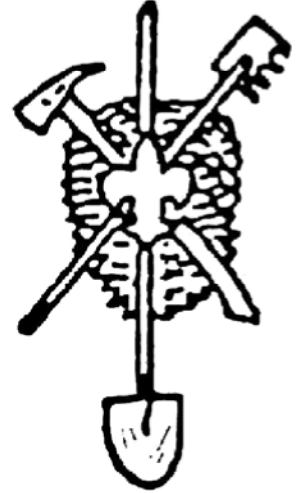
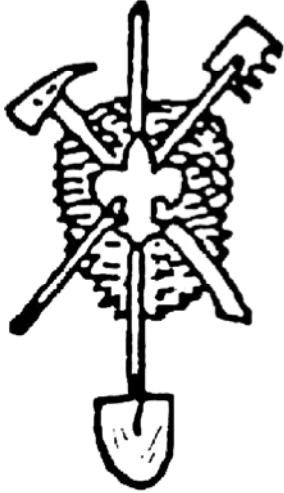
The High Adventure Team of the Greater Los Angeles Area Council-Boy Scouts of America is a volunteer group of Scouters which operates under the direction of GLAAC-Camping Services. Its mission is to develop and promote outdoor activities within the Council and by its many Units. It conducts training programs, sponsors High Adventure awards, publishes specialized literature such as Hike Aids and The Trail Head and promotes participation in summer camp, in High Adventure activities such as backpacking, peak climbing, and conservation, and in other Council programs.

Anyone who is interested in the GLAAC-HAT and its many activities is encouraged to direct an inquiry to the GLAAC-Camping Services or visit our web site at <http://glaac-hat.org/>. The GLAAC-HAT meets on the evening of the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Cushman Watt Scout Center, 2333 Scout Way, Los Angeles, CA 90026. These meetings are open to all Scouters.



#### REVISIONS

April 2017	Deleted Tour and Activity Plans.	Tom Thorpe
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*Forest and Trail  
Conservation  
A Guide to Unit Participation*

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*"The earth does not argue,  
Is not pathetic, has no arguments,  
Does not scream, haste, persuade,  
threaten, promise; makes no  
discriminations, has no conceivable  
failures."*

Walt Whitman

## Preface

Voluntary service is an essential part of Scouting (reference the third Scout Law). It is the act whereby the Scout and the Unit give something back to the community which provides them with support and encouragement.

The Forest/Trail Conservation Committee of the Los Angeles Area Council-High Adventure Team (LAAC-HAT) was established in the 1970's to promote service projects on public land, primarily the National Forests in Southern California. Its members work with representatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Forest Service (USDA-FS) and other agencies to identify projects and supervise their completion, and to train Scouters and other adults to independently undertake projects. The Committee develops awards for the performance of forest and trail conservation, and assists Scouts who wish to do conservation work as an Eagle project. The training program, called Trail Boss, was developed locally in collaboration with Arroyo Seco District (now a part of the Los Angeles River Ranger District) personnel of the Forest Service. It has proven so successful that it has been adopted by the Federal government as the model for a new national program to promote conservation work by volunteers.

The wide range of conservation activities provides the opportunity for the Unit Leadership to enhance its High Adventure program in ways that it may not have previously considered. Trail construction, tree planting, campsite rehabilitation, wildlife drinkers, habitat restoration, tree plantation clearing - these are just some of the different kinds of projects which are currently being accomplished by Scout Units.

This Hike Aid is your guide to becoming involved in a richly rewarding experience. It tells you what's involved in planning and performing a conservation project. The different awards that may be earned by completing a project are identified and their requirements listed. Trail Boss, the specialized training program for Scouters, is discussed.

Come on board with your Unit - make forest and trail conservation a part of its regular program.



**This brochure is dedicated to Jim Spencer, who continuously promoted conservation during his 50 year association with this organization, and to Don Gilliland and Chuck Shamblin of the U.S. Forest Service, whose advocacy was essential to the success of this program.**

## Introduction

The construction, restoration, and maintenance of trails and the conservation of forests in the local mountains are, in most locations, the responsibility of the USDA-Forest Service. However, budget constraints in recent years have caused the Forest Service to rely heavily on volunteers to perform much of this work. This has the dual benefit of causing the people who use these trails and forests to have a role in maintaining them and of enabling the USDA-FS to meet its responsibility for keeping them open to hikers, campers, and other users.

In recognition of this situation and of the fact that the BSA is the largest group using these locations, the GLAAC-HAT entered into a partnership in mountain stewardship with the Forest Service. The program includes identifying the need for, and supervising the performance of, conservation projects, training Scouters and other adults in performing these tasks, promoting Scout Unit involvement, and sponsoring awards that recognize individual and Unit accomplishments. All of this occurs with the active participation and approval of the Forest Service. The program celebrated its fortieth anniversary in 2013. During these years, it has stimulated the contribution of over 250,000 hours of volunteer work.

Less than 100 years ago, during the golden age of hiking in Southern California, the trail network in the Angeles National Forest was twice what it is today. The mountains were dotted with hike-in resorts, such as Hoegee's and Switzer's. All of this was highlighted by the Mt. Lowe incline railroad and hotel. The loss of the resorts and most of the trails was due to the major floods and forest fires in the 1930's. Neglect during World War II did the rest. Imagine the additional loss if volunteers had not helped to maintain what remains.

The Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and other government agencies that administer public lands have absolute responsibility for all activities that take place on them. An individual, Scout Unit, or other group must never undertake any conservation activity without prior approval, in writing, from the cognizant agency for the location. Failure to obtain this approval can result in administrative or legal action on the part of the government, regardless of the well intentioned nature of the effort. The one exception to this need for prior approval is picking up trash, your own and other persons. This should be a part of every outdoor activity. The GLAAC-HAT will obtain agency approval for a project and can help you plan it, arrange for tools and materials, and provide supervision for completion of the work.

Doing a conservation project in the proper manner will ensure a high quality of work, as well as the safety of participants. It will be a lasting source of pride and add another dimension to your Unit's outdoor program. These voluntary acts provide a gift from Scouting to the community, which benefits everyone.



## Conservation Projects

Trail projects are initiated to maintain, restore, or improve existing trails, to re-route or replace a section of a trail, or to establish a new trail. A forestry project may involve such diverse tasks as campsite rehabilitation, tree plantation clearing, and construction of wildlife habitat. They may involve tasks as simple as brush trimming and weed clearing or as difficult and complex as to require the use of power tools. A project may be of a size to be done in a single day of

work or involve multiple days, spread over several weekends. A large project, such as establishing a new trail, may be broken into a set of projects for performance by several Units.

In discussions between the Unit Leadership and the Trail Boss, the size and nature of a Unit's project can be tailored to its interests, size and abilities. However, when the Unit accepts the project, it also accepts the obligation to complete it, even though it may require greater effort than initially expected. Unforeseen problems or other events may alter this expectation; final judgment will be made by the assigned Trail Boss.

A typical work day is a minimum of six hours of on-site effort. A portion of this time will be devoted to instructing the participants in such matters as the safe transportation and use of tools, worksite safety, risks and hazards, and details of work assignments. Where the site of the project is a distance from a trailhead, the time required to get participants, tools, and materials to it is considered as productive effort. When a project will last for several days, arrangement for the safe and secure storage of tools and materials at the site may be made with the Trail Boss. However, unused or excess materials are never to be left at the site of a completed project.

Specific responsibilities for the Project Leader, Unit Leadership, Trail Boss, and participants are listed in the following paragraphs. The Project Leader is, typically, a member of the Unit doing the work, either an adult or a Scout who desires to do forest or trail conservation as an Eagle project. The Trail Boss is assigned by an authorized Forest Service representative. Where the Unit has a registered Scouter who is a Trail Boss, it may be that person. Once the Unit has expressed a desire to perform a trail project, successful project completion is dependent upon the collaborative effort of all these people.

### **Project Leader Responsibilities**

- ◆ Contact the GLAAC-HAT and request a conservation project.
- ◆ With the assistance of your assigned Trail Boss, survey a candidate project location and define the intended scope of work.
- ◆ Arrange for transporting tools and materials to the worksite.
- ◆ Recruit volunteers to perform the work, with a minimum of two adults and three Scouts, as required by BSA-National Council policy (one adult to have current American Red Cross Community First Aid and CPR Certifications).
- ◆ Explain the project and the nature and scope of the work to the participants.
- ◆ Make individual work assignments.
- ◆ Supervise the on-site effort, in coordination with your Trail Boss.
- ◆ Complete the project, as planned or as modified by agreement with the Trail Boss.
- ◆ Prepare an award application and obtain GLAAC-HAT approval for any awards earned from the project. Your Trail Boss will normally approve your application for conservation awards.

An essential consideration for the Project Leader is the need to provide a meaningful and enjoyable experience for each participant. Conservation work can be fun, as well as challenging. A few suggestions for achieving this include: set a good personal example; explain what is being done and why; give everyone the opportunity, within his/her ability, to perform different tasks; and, provide leadership - not hassle, harangue, bully, or browbeat.

### **Unit Leadership Responsibilities**

- ◆ Arrange participation as a Unit activity, by complying with the same basic rules and requirements which apply to any Unit activity.
  - ◇ Ensure that all participants are registered with the BSA.
- ◆ Ensure that the participants at all times conduct themselves in a safe and responsible manner.
- ◆ Ensure that everyone takes regular breaks to rest and drink water.
- ◆ Watch for any signs of excess fatigue or the onset of heat exhaustion.
- ◆ Understand and accept that the responsibility for the overall direction of the project and the quality of the workmanship are with the assigned Trail Boss. This includes a decision to terminate it, as a condition of weather, safety hazard, or other unanticipated event.
- ◆ Ensure that participants are properly clothed and equipped (excluding project tools and materials to be provided by the USDA-FS/GLAAC-HAT) appropriate to the nature and location of the activity.
- ◆ Transport participants to and from the worksite, in compliance with BSA-National Council policy.

The likelihood of a successful project is greater when the Unit Leadership has integrated it with its on-going program, as part of a conservation/community service ethic. *“Do a good turn daily”* is more than a phrase, it is a prescription for both the Scout and the Unit. There are many good reasons for doing conservation work on a regular basis, rather than as an occasional project to the benefit of a Scout aspiring to the Eagle rank.

### **Trail Boss Responsibilities**

- ◆ Assure the safety of participants, as well as of other persons who may pass by or near the worksite.
- ◆ Assist and counsel the Project Leader in performing a project survey and in determining what tools and materials are needed.
- ◆ Provide training and instruction in the proper use of tools and in correct construction/maintenance techniques, with emphasis on safe practices.
- ◆ Arrange for all tools and materials to be made available for the project.
- ◆ Approve and oversee the authorized use and application of all power tools or other special equipment, to assure that their use is with the proper safety items.
- ◆ Terminate a project, as a consequence of weather, safety hazard, or other unanticipated event.
- ◆ Inspect and approve all belays and anchors, when climbing ropes and equipment are being used.
- ◆ Assure that the quality of work performed meets applicable Forest Service standards.
- ◆ Leave a safe worksite at the end of each work day, as consistent with the project and planned subsequent activities.
- ◆ Account for, verify the condition of, and properly store or return all tools at the end of each work day.
- ◆ Ensure that any materials left at the worksite are stored in a safe and secure manner for future use.
- ◆ Secure all gates, doors, etc., and return the keys to their proper location.
- ◆ Obtain all approvals from the USDA-FS or other cognizant agency for the worksite.
- ◆ Provide necessary notices to be placed in vehicles, which identify them as performing authorized conservation work.

The Trail Boss will be a volunteer who is trained and approved by the Forest Service to oversee forest and trail conservation. He/she deserves the Unit’s consideration and respect.



The Trail Boss, in turn, understands and respects the Unit Leadership's responsibility for the health and safety of its members.

**Participant Responsibilities**

- ◆ Conduct oneself in a safe manner at all times.
- ◆ Use all tools safely and in a proper manner.
- ◆ Understand the nature and purpose of the project and its importance to the community and to Scouting.
- ◆ Keep track of all personal belongings and assigned tools.
- ◆ Notify the Project Leader immediately of any injury, illness, or other problem.
- ◆ Accept direction and supervision from the Project Leader.
- ◆ Perform all work to USDA-FS standards.
- ◆ Cooperate as a responsible member of the team in meeting the project objectives.

The amount and quality of work performed is dependent upon the interest and enthusiasm of these participants. They need to be told what is to be done, why it is beneficial to themselves and their community, and how to do it properly and safely. They need to be dealt with positively, by recognizing work accomplished at the project site and by a suitable award (to be discussed later) or other recognition within the Unit.



**Reservations and Permits**

The Unit Leadership has decided to do a conservation project, so what next? This is when you involve the GLAAC-HAT by calling the High Adventure Team Chairman. See the HAT website (<http://glaac-hat.org/Roster.html>) for contact information. A member of the Forest/Trail Conservation Committee will get back to you to discuss your objectives, interest, abilities, etc., and help you select a project.

A forest or trail project is a Unit activity and all of the usual rules and requirements for a Unit outing apply for it. If the Unit plans to camp overnight at or near the worksite, it must have or obtain a Fire Permit from the Forest Service. Be certain to have it with you at the project site, as it must be in your possession when any type of fire is used.

The GLAAC-HAT will make necessary arrangements with the Forest Service and other agencies. Your Trail Boss will provide you with notices to be placed in your vehicles, which will identify you as an approved Conservation Crew. They eliminate the need for Adventure Passes for this activity.



**Tools and Equipment**

Each tool which you use in conservation work has a specific purpose, and functions best when used for it. Most of them are sharp, heavy, and awkward. When used properly and with care, they will help you complete your project more easily and quickly than if you did not have them to use. They are also expensive and not easily replaced, when damaged, broken, or lost. Any participant who deliberately misuses or abuses a tool may be removed from the worksite or from project participation.

Your Trail Boss will demonstrate the proper handling and use of each tool, prior to starting work on a project. This is a mandatory activity, which will stress the safe methods for transporting, using, and storing them. It is the Trail Boss's responsibility to determine the kinds and quantities of tools which are needed to perform the project and arrange for their availability. Only those tools determined necessary, and provided to the Unit, are to be taken to, and used at, the work site. In some situations, the project may necessitate the use of power tools or other special equipment. They may be used only with the approval of the Forest Service and under the specific, direct supervision of the Trail Boss. All power tools have associated safety equipment that must be taken and used. Per the BSA brochure, Guide to Safe Scouting, chainsaws may be used only by trained persons over the age of 18 who will use proper protective gear.

There are several possible locations where the tools that you will be using may be stored. They will be checked out to you by the Trail Boss, and it may be necessary for you to transport some of them to and from the worksite. They are bulky, heavy, and sharp, so a truck is the best vehicle for this activity. Power tools must be lashed down, to prevent movement during transit. Participants may not ride in the truck bed; BSA-National Council policy forbids it.



### **Personal Clothing and Equipment**

Proper clothing and personal equipment are important to the comfort and safety of each participant. The Unit Leadership has a responsibility to inform everyone prior to the activity as to what they will need to bring. These items are the same as required for any outing, with special emphasis on the health and safety of each participant in this strenuous activity.

- ◆ For protection against insects, dirt, brush, and the sun
  - ◇ long-sleeved shirt
  - ◇ long pants
  - ◇ hat with a full brim
  - ◇ bandanna
  - ◇ sunglasses
  
- ◆ For safety
  - ◇ boots (no sport shoes!)
  - ◇ work gloves (in good condition and that fit the wearer)
  
- ◆ Other items
  - ◇ rain gear
  - ◇ jacket
  - ◇ water - two quarts (Unit to provide additional water)
  - ◇ lunch and snacks
  - ◇ insect repellent
  - ◇ sun screen
  - ◇ first aid items (plus, Unit first aid kit)
  - ◇ day pack

Everything not worn goes into the day pack. All of the participants will share in carrying tools and materials from the trailhead to the worksite. The above list assumes a one-day project. Camping overnight will require additional clothing and equipment to accommodate the overnight stay.



### Safety

“Safety, safety, safety”. “Safety first”. “Safety always!”

Say whatever you need to make this point: “A Safe Project is A Successful Project.” This includes safety in getting the participants, tools and materials to the worksite, safety in using the tools and performing the project, and safety in returning the participants and tools at the end of the workday. It is a responsibility of every participant. Each person must look for and immediately identify an unsafe work condition or work practice and notify the Project Leader. Fatigue and dehydration can be causes of an accident. Unit Leadership must insist that everyone take regular rest and water breaks. The last hour of work can be the most dangerous in this regard.

Safety must also be extended to others who may come into the area:

- ◆ Store unused tools and personal belongings safely, off the trail
- ◆ Stop work and allow hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians to pass
- ◆ Advise all who pass of any safety hazard
- ◆ Post a lookout on a downhill trail or canyon bottom, when rocks or debris from your worksite could cause a threat to anyone passing through the area.

**Any participant who deliberately misuses tools or conducts himself/herself in an unsafe manner may be removed from the worksite. A trail project can be fun, but is not the place to tolerate horseplay or hazardous conduct.**

The Trail Boss is responsible for providing training in the safe transport, use, and storage of all tools and equipment. He/she will also discuss and provide instruction on general worksite safety and identify any special hazards. Climbing ropes and hardware may occasionally be used to provide the necessary safety margin.



### Quality and Workmanship

Better to upgrade 100 feet of trail properly than to do a mile poorly. A project is more likely to be judged highly for the quality of work rather than the quantity. A project poorly done, at best, will have to be re-done or, at worst, may present an unsafe condition. It will certainly represent a waste of valuable time.

All projects are to be done to USDA-FS standards of workmanship. Your Trail Boss will explain the work procedures and proper techniques as a part of the orientation provided at the beginning of the project. These techniques are discussed briefly in Trail Boss - Program and Practices and Forest Conservation, training syllabuses that are available from the GLAAC-HAT.

Conditions at the worksite may require some different approach, a decision to be made by the Trail Boss. Quality and workmanship are of special importance in our local mountains, where soil instability and erosion are constant problems. Good workmanship will also result in an attractive appearance, and a trail or campsite which people will enjoy using. The last hour or so of a project, devoted to the finishing touches, is most important to completing a quality job.

The GLAAC is justifiably proud of the work that has been done, and is presently being done, by its Scout Units. Your cooperation and assistance are essential to the continuation of this reputation for outstanding performance.



### **Environmental Health Factors**

Conservation work takes you into direct contact with nature. In order of likelihood, you will encounter sunshine, poison oak, insects, rattlesnakes, and, possibly, rain and lightning. Awareness is an important factor in avoiding them as potential health problems.

The sun is always there, whether you see it or not. The higher the elevation, the faster exposed skin will redden and blister. A sunburn will develop just as fast, or faster, on a cloudy day. Proper clothing and a quality sunscreen will significantly reduce the risk. Remember that very light-weight or open-weave shirts do a very poor job of keeping out the sunlight.

Poison oak can be found just about anywhere below 6,000 feet, and certainly in the vicinity of water. It must be removed when it encroaches on a trail, campsite, or tree plantation. All participants are to be advised of its appearance and of the need to wash after contact with it. If sufficient water is available, tools should also be washed. If yours is a weekend project, participants must be reminded not to wear any work clothes to bed. Tools that come into contact with it must be identified so that they can be de-contaminated when returned.

There are lots of different insects, but ticks and fleas are of special concern. Participants should brush off anything that they see or feel crawling on them, and should tell others of the presence of an insect. While usually dormant during the winter, you can stir them up even then. If a tick becomes embedded, remove it immediately and save it for medical examination. Local ticks are of a variety that does not generally carry Lyme's disease. Avoid contact with sick or dead animals, as they are a prime source of fleas. Bees, wasps, and their relatives, of course, are plentiful in the local mountains. Leave them alone, avoid swift movement, and wear light-colored clothing. If stung, perform first aid promptly. If the person exhibits any symptom of shock, get medical care immediately.

The noise of your conservation work will generally scare off all snakes long before you know of their presence. However, as you forage for rocks as construction material, you may encounter them. Look before you reach or step. If you meet a rattlesnake, back off and let it leave; do not kill, or try to kill, it.

Should an unexpected summer shower come near your worksite, everyone must stop work and move to a safe location. This must be away from all tools and any other metal objects. Lightning is generally a feature of these storms, and is a risk on the worksite. It may make it

unsafe to resume work after the storm has moved on. This decision is to be made by the Trail Boss.

Hike Aid 9, "Risk, Health, and Safety", contains a more complete discussion of these and other outdoor problems.



### **Award Programs**

The GLAAC, and other Southern California Councils, sponsor special awards for forest and trail conservation work, and have it as a requirement for earning many other High Adventure awards. These on-going awards are occasionally supplemented by special, limited-time awards. The reasons for these awards are to encourage participation, to promote the conservation ethic, and to recognize accomplishments by individuals and Units.

Each sponsor Council develops the requirements for its awards, carefully controls the patches, and may have specific application forms for obtaining them. You must refer to the specific literature for an award, as issued by the sponsor Council, to ensure that all requirements are properly met. If you have any questions, you should contact that Council's Camping Services directly. The GLAAC-HAT can assist you in arranging a trail project, but the Unit Leadership is responsible for assuring that it complies with the requirements which the sponsor Council has established for the award.

All of these awards may be ordered through the Scout Shop in the Cushman Watt Scout Center; however, this must be done according to the sponsor's requirements, from whom it will obtain the awards. The prudent course is to contact the sponsor Council's Camping Services and learn from it the process for obtaining an award. This will save time, and you may want to get it directly, rather than through the Scout Shop.

The Unit Leadership should maintain a record of each member's participation in conservation projects, to facilitate recognition of individual accomplishment. This will also help reduce confusion about how hours were used, as these hours may only be used for one award or advancement. The Service Project Hour Record form which can be found at the GLAAC-HAT web site (<http://glaac-hat.org/ApplicationForms.html>) is suggested for doing this. Copy and use, as appropriate to your situation.

#### **GLAAC Sponsored Awards**

Please refer to the GLAAC-HAT Hike Aid 6, "High Adventure Awards Program", for a complete discussion of all of their awards, the requirements to earn them, and how to obtain them.

##### **◆ TrailSaver**

The TrailSaver Program was developed in coordination with Forest Service personnel in the Arroyo Seco District of the Angeles National Forest. The awards are earned in six hour increments, on a cumulative basis:

Silver TrailSaver



Cumulative hours:  
6 hours

Forest Conservation



12 hours

Gold TrailSaver



18 hours

Trail Blazer



24 hours

TrailSaver Medal



30 hours

◆ ForestSaver

The ForestSaver program was developed to recognize individual participation in forestry and associated construction and maintenance projects. There are three categories of projects:

- ❖ Campsite: campground or trail camp development, improvement, maintenance, and rehabilitation.
- ❖ Wildlife: habitat restoration, browse-way improvement, construction and maintenance of feeders and waterers, etc.
- ❖ Forestry: plantation clearing, tree planting, tree thinning and pruning, etc.



Awards are earned on the following basis:

- ❖ Campsite Award: six hours of effort in that category.
- ❖ Wildlife Award: six hours of effort in that category.
- ❖ Forestry Award: six hours of effort in that category.
- ❖ ForestSaver Award: earn the Campsite, Wildlife, and Forestry Awards and do an additional six hours of ForestSaver Project work (total of 24 hours).
- ❖ ForestSaver Medal: earn the ForestSaver Award and do an additional six hours of ForestSaver project work.



These awards are for conservation projects approved in advance by the GLAAC-HAT and performed under the direction of an assigned Trail Boss. Units in other Councils may request other arrangements, depending upon their location.

◆ Jim Spencer Conservation

This is a Unit award, issued upon accumulation of 1,000, 2,000, and 5,000 hours of HAT approved conservation work, with a Unit Leader who is Trail Boss trained.

◆ Combination Awards

The GLAAC-HAT sponsors several High Adventure awards which have a conservation work requirement, or recognize its performance. They are identified in the table later in this section.

◆ Trail Boss

The Trail Boss Service Pin is given to a Scouter who completes Trail Boss training and subsequently oversees two trail projects in the Angeles National Forest, each of a minimum of six hours.



Pin size: 1" x 1 1/2"  
Color: Pewter

◆ Master TrailBuilder

A special award, Master TrailBuilder, is presented to Scouters, by the Forest/Trail Conservation Committee for continued service to the conservation program of the USDA-FS/GLAAC-HAT.

All applications for awards with a trail conservation requirement must be approved by an authorized member of the GLAAC-HAT.

**Other Council Sponsored Awards**

The Western Los Angeles County Council sponsors award programs for trail conservation work. The National Resource Trail is patterned after the TrailSaver Program, with comparable requirements. They also have a Disaster Conservation award for an 8 hour project, a Ranger Jim award for a 12 hour project, and a Jr. Trail Boss award for an 18 hour project.

The Orange County Council sponsors a Trail Builder program which offers awards for 25, 50, and 100 hours of cumulative effort.

The San Diego-Imperial Council sponsors the Pacific Crest Trail Builder award for a 12 hour project on the Pacific Crest Trail.

Several Councils sponsor High Adventure awards which include a conservation work requirement. These awards are also identified in the table later in this section.

**BSA-National Council Sponsored Awards**

The BSA-National Council sponsors the 50-Miler Afoot/Afloat award, which requires 10 hours of conservation work. It also sponsors the Historic Trails award, which has a requirement which can be met by doing conservation work. This work does not require HAT approval or Trail Boss supervision. However, if the Unit expects to do the work in a National Forest or other public lands, it must obtain written approval in advance from the administering agency for the location. These ongoing awards may be purchased at the Scout Shop. For additional information about them, please refer to the Boy Scout Handbook.

From time to time, the BSA-National Council sponsors special awards with a conservation work requirement. Awards of this nature are usually announced in Scouting magazine and are available through the Scout Shop. GLAAC-HAT approval is not required to receive them.

## Award Summary

### Awards for HAT approved conservation work

<u>Award</u>	<u>Sponsor Council</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Comments</u>
TrailSaver	GLAAC		Cumulative hour awards
Silver TrailSaver		6	
Forest Conservation		12	
Gold TrailSaver		18	
Trail Blazer		24	
TrailSaver Medal		30	
ForestSaver	GLAAC		
Campsite		6	
Wildlife		6	
Forestry		6	
ForestSaver		24	Cumulative hour award
ForestSaver Medal		30	Cumulative hour award
Jim Spencer Conservation	GLAAC	1000	Unit ribbon; cumulative hours
		2000	Unit ribbon; cumulative hours
		5000	Unit ribbon; cumulative hours
Trail Builder	Orange County		Cumulative hour awards
25 hour		25	
50 hours		50	
100 hours		100	
Ranger Jim	Western LA County	12	Other requirements
Jr. Trail Builder	Western LA County	18	Other requirements
Disaster Conservation	Western LA County	8	Requires prior HAT approval
National Resource Trail	Western LA County		Cumulative hour awards
Green border		6	
Silver border		12	
Red border		18	
Gold border		24	
Hat pin		30	
Pacific Crest Trail Builder	SD-Imperial	12	Must be done on the PCT

### Awards which include a HAT approved conservation work requirement

<u>Award</u>	<u>Sponsor Council</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Gabrielino	GLAAC	6	Must be done in Angeles N.F.
Backpacker	GLAAC	12	Concurrent award
Advanced Backpacker	GLAAC	24	Concurrent award
Mini-Peak Bagger	GLAAC		
8 peaks		6	
16 peaks		6	
24 peaks		6	
Silver Moccasins Medal	GLAAC	12	
Lyle N. Whited Hiking	GLAAC	30	Concurrent award
Jim Hawkins Mountaineering	GLAAC	12	Concurrent award
Condor	Ventura County	8	Do in Ventura County
Pacific Crest Backpacker	SD-Imperial	4	Must be done on the PCT



Golden Boot	Western LA County	10	
50 Miler-Afoot/Afloat	BSA-National	10	HAT approval not needed

Notes

1. Refer to the specific literature for an award, as issued by the Sponsor Council, to ensure that all requirements are properly meet.
2. HAT approved conservation work hours may not be used to qualify the person for more than one HAT award, excepting on concurrent and cumulative hour awards.
3. Hours performed to meet the advancement requirements for Star, Life, and Eagle ranks may not be used to also qualify the person for a High Adventure conservation award, and vice versa. However, all other persons who work on an Eagle Project may receive conservation award credit for the time.



Training

The GLAAC-HAT cooperates with the USDA-FS in providing Trail Boss Training. Its purpose is to train adults in the techniques of trail construction and maintenance and to qualify them to organize and supervise projects at the Unit level. This training is conducted as a series of Saturday field exercises. Participants may begin at any time and proceed through it at the convenience of their own schedule and interests. At the student’s initial session, he/she is given instruction in the proper use of tools and in the Forest Service standards of workmanship, safety, and construction. Subsequent instruction has the objective of developing proficiency and knowledge in determining the need for, performing, and reporting the results of, different types of trail maintenance and construction projects. The dates for it are published in The Trail Head and Scouters' News.

There is no separate formal training program in forest conservation. Unit Leaders interested in doing projects are encouraged to take Trail Boss Training. Training is provided in specific forestry techniques, tools use, and safety before each project.

There is no charge for this training. All special tools and materials are provided by the Forest Service and the GLAAC-HAT. Additional information about it may be obtained by contacting a member of the GLAAC-HAT or GLAAC-Camping Services.



*“The story of this century has been the struggle... to find an acceptable definition of wilderness that can satisfy our culture’s seemingly insatiable desires... The proper meanings and uses of wilderness are not yet settled.”*

Paul Schneider, The Adirondacks: A History of America’s First Wilderness

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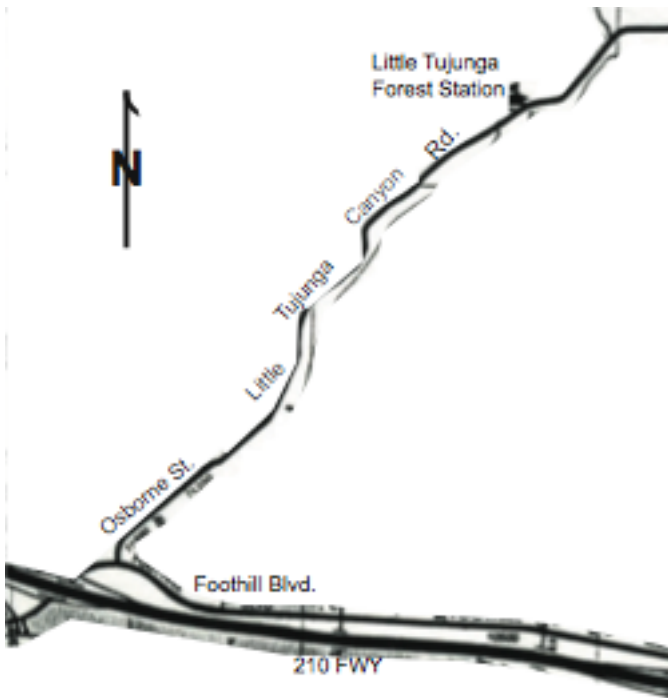
Trail Boss-Program and Practices, USDA-FS/LAAC-HAT, Los Angeles, CA.



*" I know a mountain thrilling to the stars,  
Peerless and pure, and pinnacled with snow;  
Glimpsing the golden dawn o'er coral bars,  
Flaunting the vanished sunset's garnet glow;  
Proudly patrician, passionless, serene;  
Soaring in silver steeps where cloud-surfs break;  
Virgin and vestal - Oh, a very Queen!  
And at her feet there dreams a quiet lake."*

Robert Service

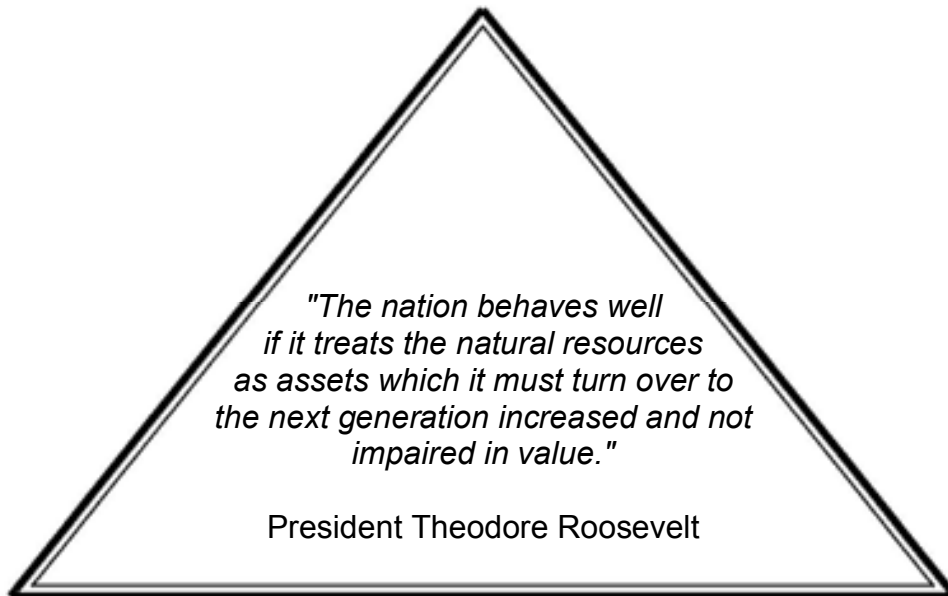
## Little Tujunga Forest Station



Foothill Fwy. (210), Lake View Terrace, at Osborne St. off-ramp	<u>miles</u>
Osborne St. (north) to Little Tujunga Canyon Rd.	0.9
Little Tujunga Canyon Rd. (north) to Forest Station	1.1

Note: As you proceed north on Osborne from the freeway, watch for the Forest Station sign and make a left turn. Osborne St. becomes Little Tujunga Canyon Road at the L. A. City/County boundary.

Address: Los Angeles River Ranger District  
Little Tujunga Forest Station  
12371 Little Tujunga Canyon Road  
San Fernando, CA 91342  
Telephone: 818-899-1900





*"We should all realize that every right implies a responsibility, every opportunity an obligation, every position a duty, and the most effective sermon is expressed in deeds instead of words."*

Waite Phillips, 1883 - 1964