

Whiskey Springs Post Fire Restoration Status 7-18-2023

From Judy Meredith

Laurel and I spent some time today at our springs. Bird activity was slow while worked inside but busy when we watched from the car on the roadside. Just a reminder that Whiskey Springs is private property, and any birding must be done from the road.

Noon, checked on water flow x3, with 1 cup measure. Average fill time was 11.95 seconds. Camp Sherman temp 73 degrees at the time. Water flow seemed 3 or 4 seconds longer than Mike and I got separately about 10 days ago. Nothing out of the white pipe again, which may be related to changes above in water pools and mud from runoff etc. It used to drain into that pipe from the upper "sedge pool" area but water is widely dispersed now.

We looked at plants and found very little cheat grass. Thanks Diane! The tarweed is dense near the tub but we left it as it is a native but in some areas like the west side and in California, it is considered invasive. If the group thinks we should manage it, we have a week or so before it goes to seed.

Laurel had glued the rain gauge but she checked it today and it was still leaking. I have it and will try patching it. Despite some browsing on the shrubs, the growth is still vigorous. We were pleased to see 2 elderberry shrubs starting on the upper left side and not browsed. Yet.

There was a bit of dirt settled at the bottom of the tub but no algae regrowing. Thanks Craig (?) for the thorough cleaning a while ago. Laurel can discuss why she thinks we should not change the tub slant or shore up the base. What a great season with yet again, no need to haul water!

Here is the bird list from our time working. <https://ebird.org/checklist/S144958256>

Judy Meredith



Whiskey Springs Post Fire Restoration Status 7-18-2023 Photo, Judy Meredith