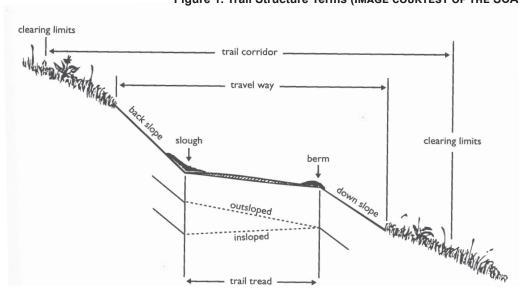
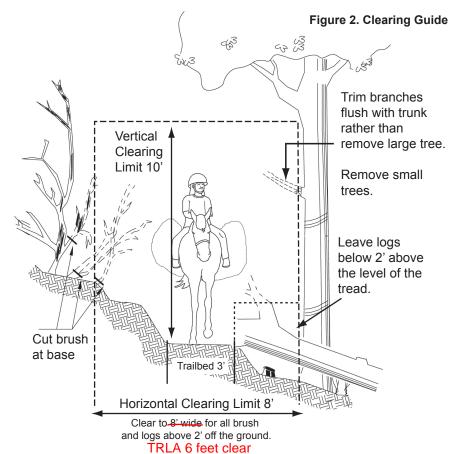
Criteria for Building our Trail

- A balance of constructable/hikeable/maintainable,
- Based on PCTA (Pacific Crest Trail) and Nat. Forest methods, we are modifying as needed,
- · Built for hikers and horses only (bicycle trails are built differently),
- Consideration to "flow" (gentle organic curves) no straight lines, no sharp turns etc.
- Desirable maximum slope 8%, with short lengths at 10% to avoid terrain obstacles,
- Climbing turns are preferable to switchbacks where possible.
- Switchbacks should be minimized, spread out,
- Trail should connect points of interest,
- Trail is private and does not connect to public trails outside Timberlake,
- Main trail to be along base of bluffs with side trails to points of interest,
- Comfortable easy-to-use trail that will appeal to many landowners,
- As far back as practical,
- Minimize view between the trail and houses/roads/power lines,
- Trail placement should make use of best possible arroyo crossing.
- Minimize extent of construction in areas along the National Forest boundary,
- Identify and avoid construction on unstable slopes,
- Maintain a natural appearance suitable to a forest,
- Keep the natural lichen patina visible when moving rocks if possible,
- Rake pine needles and duff aside, then replace after digging if possible,
- Toss slash with cut ends away from trail to extent possible,
- Build with hand tools and methods only (no heavy equipment).
- Build across the hill, not up the fall line,
- Building materials to be 'in situ' logs/rocks if possible (minimize new material brought in),
- Avoid building directly downhill of major trees,
- Major (live) trees are to be preserved,
- Douglas Firs are uncommon here and even small ones should be preserved if possible,
- Appurtenances (benches etc) to be natural and limited.
- Visual impact of signs should be considered.

Figure 1. Trail Structure Terms (IMAGE COURTESY OF THE SCA)





* These are general trail-wide clearing guidelines. Please work with your local land manager to determine if different guidelines are used in your local area.