

Asst. RDM Report July 2020

By Ethan Doty

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Phil just left early Tuesday morning. He's once again earned the nickname, "Logger Phil". Over the past two weeks he has been here, trees and limbs have been falling on almost a daily basis. Greg has helped some too, while Phil and I have hauled all the cuttings out to the parking lot. I've spent probably close to 15 hours or more in the backhoe hauling that stuff, cleaning up the limb pile from where Greg, David and I cleaned up at Milward along the Inside Balloon limbing trees to clear 1503, and cutting down weeds and brush with the backhoe. Sight lines have returned in places Steve said he hasn't seen in like 30 years. We're not done yet, but we've made significant progress in the last few weeks and the property is looking better for it and better protected against fire. With the amount of brush, limbs, and trees in the parking lot, it will probably be necessary to hire a tree company to chip all the stuff and let them haul the chips off to sell them to reduce (hopefully) our cost for having them come in. See photos sent to Paul in the "Around the Museum 2020" album by Greg and I for reference.

David and I spent about an hour Monday afternoon discussing plans for cleaning up the balloon boneyard. I'll let him go into more detail about it if he wants too, but the ties will get reorganized and some of the extra roads/ramps will get extra attention from the backhoe since with the new tires I can actually grade a decent road that doesn't have automatic trenches on each side.