

08 Rabbit Hill Resort

Rabbit Hill Resort, Edmonton Alberta

After investing in both Hoots services and in their internal trail builders in 07, focus, flow and maintenance in their Bike Park created huge momentum from the riding community, enough so that the decision was made to bring Hoots in for 2008 to see what could be done! WICKED!



After some solid meetings with owners, builders and anyone else that wanted to give their opinion it was decided to build more advanced style jumps for the small/intermediate side and to make the big jumps more tech with a quarter pipe. The previous DH pump track received high reviews but people now wanted to rail berms so I sorted ways to move corners to make the course fast but still progressive, the more you learn the more control you have the faster you go...



The snow was still deep in many areas and the place was ravaged from massive water melt. The dirt jump lines and DH pump track had both been leveled for snow making and repairs were desperately needed for the lower skills area. This job was going to be monumental to get finished before grand opening and the weather did not look like it wanted to co operate!



With sun in the sky and some wind at our backs we built the beginner and intermediate jump line in a day! Polished and ride able! Truly a measure of how talented and motivated the Rabbit Hill guys have become in the dirt.



The week that followed was mixed with rain showers and rain storms! Sun would come in and out periodically but mud was the order of day and it seemed to go on forever. While the crew switched gears often and got all sorts of operational business done, I moved away from dirt and tried my hand at Display windows!



With no solid break in weather we bulked the last bits of material into place for the pump track and big jumps and then went trail building! Time was taken to stake out beginner trails creating and planning for future expansion. While checking trails I was taken to their new Expert trail which I gave feedback on and immediately grabbed tools and started busting a groove building.



Weather cleared at the end of my stay and the last two days were solid long days in the excavator trying to get everything finished and cleaned up after our mud slinging.



It was great to come back to build at Rabbit Hill. Even though we had some serious challenges we still got the job done and resort staff from managers to lifties and ticket sales all came together to make it go for season opening which included a Norco Demo day with United Cycle at the helm to get people stoked on riding!



I think it is a huge asset to the Edmonton area and it brings a huge value to the riding community. I can't wait to come back and try some even cooler lines!

Hoots

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