



Partnership for the National Trails System

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Sustaining Our Trail Resources

A DECADE FOR THE NATIONAL TRAILS GOALS and ACTIONS

To guide our collective efforts to prepare for the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System in 2018 the Partnership for the National Trails System in 2008 adopted “A Decade for the National Trails System” initiative with these three Goals and major Actions to implement them.

GOAL ONE: Increase public awareness of the National Trails System and its component trails so that it becomes well known to every citizen and community in the United States.

ACTIONS:

- Develop and market a series of PBS films with an interactive website depicting each national scenic and historic trail and the National Trails System.
- Develop programs and activities to engage and involve youth (especially urban youth) in appreciating, using, and helping to sustain national scenic and historic trails.
- Work with the Department of the Interior Office of Youth in Natural Resources to share and spread information about opportunities for youth involvement in the National Trails System.
- Work with local, regional, or national health organizations to demonstrate how NSHTs can promote personal and community health.

GOAL TWO: Complete and enhance the designated National Trails for public appreciation and enjoyment.

ACTIONS:

- Complete inventories of the natural and cultural resources and mapping of the routes of all national scenic and historic trails.
- Develop and implement land protection plans for all national scenic and historic trails.
- Collaborate with federal agencies to include mapped corridors to preserve the integrity and aesthetic quality of all national scenic and historic trails and their adjoining landscapes in agency land management plans.
- Complete construction of all scenic and historic trails and necessary interpretive and other support facilities.

GOAL THREE: Build the capacity of the organizations and federal agencies involved to better administer, manage, and sustain national scenic, historic, and recreation trails.

ACTIONS:

- Regularly provide training for trail organizations to enhance their ability to recruit and retain leaders, to raise funds to sustain their efforts, and to better govern themselves. Provide training for organization leaders and agency staff in trail land and resources protection techniques.
- Enhance the volunteer programs and volunteer coordination staffing of the federal agencies and the trail organizations to significantly increase volunteer recruitment, training, empowerment, and retention.



Affiliate Members:

American Discovery Trail Association
Carson Valley Trails Association
National Frontier Trails Museum
Back Country Horsemen Association
Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association
Tahoe Rim Trail Association
Smoky Hill Trail Association

National Scenic Trail Organizations:

American Hiking Society
Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Appalachian Mountain Club
Arizona Trail Association
Continental Divide Trail Alliance
Continental Divide Trail Society
Florida Trail Association
Ice Age Trail Alliance
Natchez Trace Parkway Association
North Country Trail Association
Pacific Crest Trail Association
Pacific Northwest Trail Association
Potomac Heritage Trail Association
Connecticut Forest & Park Association

National Historic Trail Organizations:

Ala Kahakai Trail Association
E Mau Na Ala Hele
Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona
Anza Trail Foundation
Heritage Trails
Camino Real Trail Association
El Camino Real De Los Tejas
Chesapeake Conservancy
Iditarod National Historic Trail, Inc.

Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
Mormon Trails Association
Nez Perce Trail Foundation
National Pony Express Association
Old Spanish Trail Association
Oregon California Trails Association
Overmountain Victory Trail Association
Santa Fe Trail Association
Trail of Tears Association