

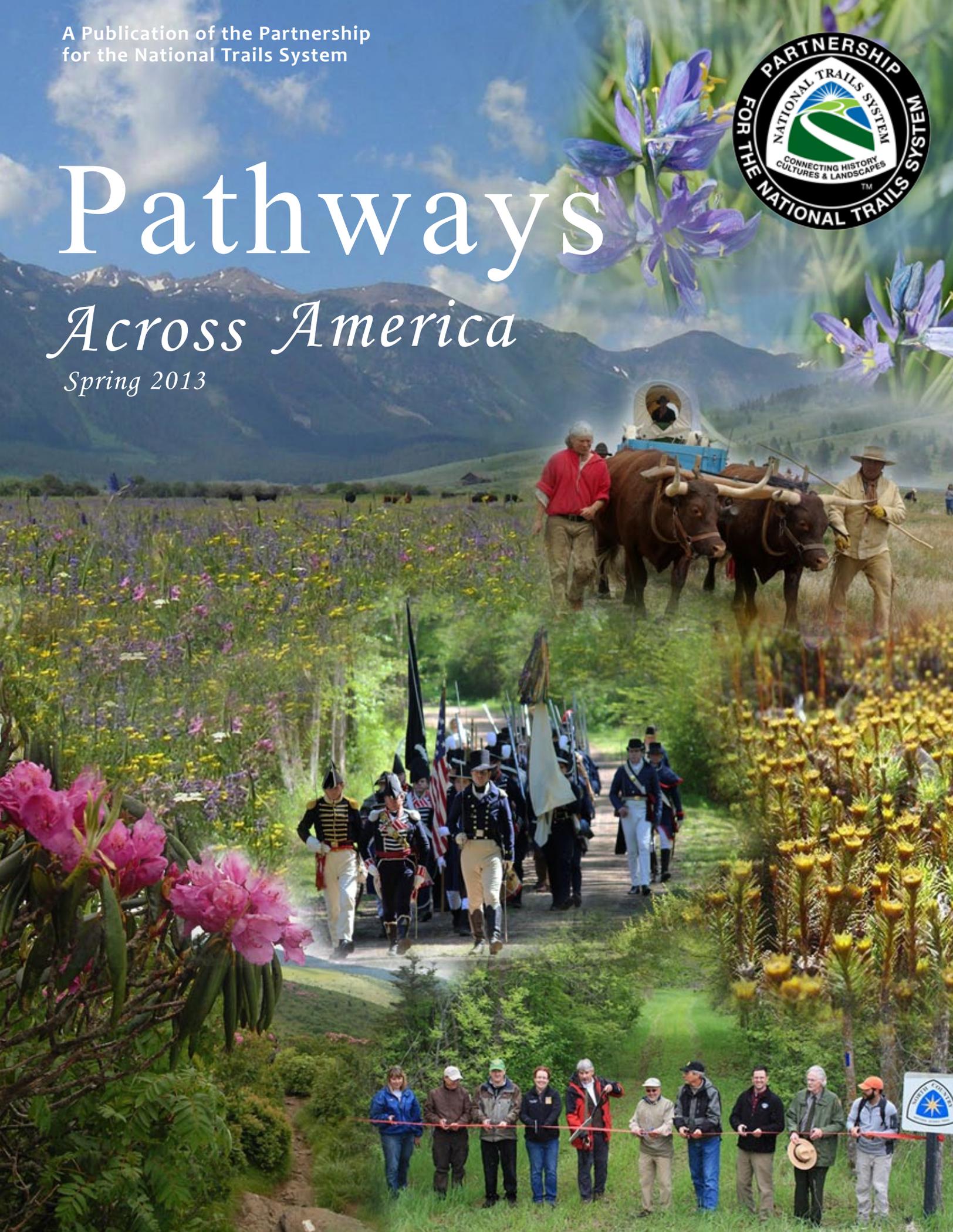
A Publication of the Partnership
for the National Trails System



Pathways

Across America

Spring 2013



Pathways Across America

Pathways Across America is the only national publication devoted to the news and issues of America's national scenic and historic trails. It is published by the Partnership for the National Trails System under cooperative agreements with:



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Pathways serves as a communication link for the major partners of the following national trails:

Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail

Appalachian National Scenic Trail

Arizona National Scenic Trail

California National Historic Trail

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail

El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail

Florida National Scenic Trail

Ice Age National Scenic Trail

Iditarod National Historic Trail

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail

Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail

Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail

New England National Scenic Trail

Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail

North Country National Scenic Trail

Old Spanish National Historic Trail

Oregon National Historic Trail

Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail

Pony Express National Historic Trail

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail

Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail

Santa Fe National Historic Trail

Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail

Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route

National Historic Trail



Building Community...

The National Trails Pathways Nationwide for

What is the

National Trails System?

The National Trail System includes 3 main types of national trails: Scenic Trails, Historic Trails, and Recreation Trails.



Categories of National Trails:

National Scenic & Historic Trails

NSTs and NHTs are designated by Congress (see specific descriptions below). The Partnership for the National Trails System (see left) is the nonprofit dedicated to facilitating stewardship of the Scenic and Historic Trails as a group.

National Recreation Trails

Offer local and regional trail experiences in thousands of locations around the country. The nonprofit American Trails encourages the stewardship of the National Recreation Trails (NRTs). NRTs are designated by the Secretary of Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture.

19 National Historic Trails

Ala Kahakai NHT

California NHT

Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT

El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT

Iditarod NHT

Juan Bautista de Anza NHT

Lewis and Clark NHT

Mormon Pioneer NHT

Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT

Old Spanish NHT

Oregon NHT

Overmountain Victory NHT

Pony Express NHT

Santa Fe NHT

Selma to Montgomery NHT

Star-Spangled Banner NHT

Trail of Tears NHT

Washington-Rochambeau

Revolutionary Route NHT

National Historic Trails may be foot or horse paths, travel routes, roadways, or a combination of both designated as a route retracing a part of American history. Many National Historic Trails have interpretive centers and regular events to immerse you in the past. While historic trails may run through urban and suburban settings, they boast wilderness and hiking opportunities as beautiful and diverse as the National Scenic Trails.



Heritage • History • Hiking • Culture • Reenactments



Keeping History Alive...



Preserving Biodiversity

System... Discovery, Learning, & Understanding

Strengthening Communities

through heritage and ecotourism, public involvement, and community collaboration.



Enhancing Access

to natural areas and historic treasures through innovative interpretation and community outreach efforts.



Facilitating Public-Private Partnerships

for preservation of history, natural environments, and human health through outdoor recreation.



11 National Scenic Trails

The National Scenic Trails represent some of the most magnificent long-distance hiking trails anywhere in the world. Virtually every major ecosystem in the US is traversed by a National Scenic Trail, from deserts, temperate rainforests, tundra, mountains, prairies, temperate deciduous forests, wetlands, and rivers. The National Scenic Trails offer natural corridors for wildlife preservation and unspoiled views, and they create fitness and outdoor leadership opportunities for all ages.

- Appalachian NST
- Arizona NST
- Continental Divide NST
- Florida NST
- Ice Age NST
- Natchez Trace NST
- New England NST
- North Country NST
- Pacific Crest NST
- Pacific Northwest NST
- Potomac Heritage NST

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THE PATHWAYS COVER

The Spring 2012 *Pathways Across America* cover depicts a blend of national scenic and historic trail views and activities. From top left to bottom right: camus flowers along the Nez Perce NHT, photos courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service; Wagons Ho event at Bent's Old Fort along the Santa Fe NHT; photo by Ruth Friesen of the Santa Fe Trail Association; azalea flowers along the Appalachian NST, photo courtesy of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy; bicentennial commemoration march of Andrew Jackson along the Natchez Trail Parkway, courtesy of the Natchez Trace Parkway Association; yellow flowers along the North Country NST, courtesy of the North Country Trail Association; and Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge segment dedication of the North Country NST, courtesy of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Inside cover photos from left to right: A youth-oriented Leave No Trace Workshop at Florida Trail Days, photo courtesy of the Florida Trail Association; Handcart treks along the Mormon Pioneer NHT, courtesy of the Mormon Historic Trails Association; and the California Trail, courtesy of the National Park Service.



CONTRIBUTIONS MADE IN 2012 TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM BY NATIONAL SCENIC AND HISTORIC TRAIL ORGANIZATIONS



ORGANIZATION	VOLUNTEER HOURS	ESTIMATED VALUE OF VOLUNTEER LABOR	FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Ala Kahakai Trail Association & E Mau Na Ala Hele	10,090**	\$223,393	\$8,000
Appalachian Trail Conservancy	239,109	\$5,293,873	\$4,236,000
Arizona Trail Association	11,234	\$248,720	\$113,415
Camino Real Trail Association	5,050*	\$111,807*	\$4,000*
Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association	2,773	\$61,394	\$29,771
Continental Divide Trail Partner Organizations	26,952	\$596,717	-
Florida Trail Association	43,070	\$953,569	\$173,803
Ice Age Trail Alliance	69,896	\$1,547,497	\$521,014
Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance	15,780	\$349,369	\$24,170
Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona, Anza Trail Foundation, and other trail partners	22,295	\$493,611	\$26,170*
Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation	133,381	\$2,953,055	-
Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc.	6,000	\$132,840	\$13,000
Mormon Trails Association and Mormon Trail Partners**	\$50,975**	\$1,128,587**	\$56,000**
Natchez Trace Parkway Foundation	1,610	\$35,645	\$16,379
National Pony Express Association	35,000**	\$774,900	\$11,280
New England National Scenic Trail (CFPA + AMC)	7,851	\$173,821	\$47,000
Nez Perce Trail Foundation	14,337	\$317,421	\$4,240
North Country Trail Association	73,274	\$1,622,286	\$352,204
Old Spanish Trail Association	19,450	\$430,623	\$62,649
Oregon-California Trails Association	92,046	\$2,037,898	\$477,453
Overmountain Victory Trail Association	11,915**	\$263,798**	\$34,000**
Pacific Crest Trail Association	92,418	\$2,046,135	\$939,540
Pacific Northwest Trail Association	34,533	\$764,560	\$18,800
Potomac Heritage Trail Association	14,000*	\$309,960*	\$825*
Santa Fe Trail Association	61,640	\$1,364,710	\$360,949
Trail of Tears Association	73,846	\$1,634,950	\$23,950
Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT Association (W3R-US)	16,850*	\$373,059*	\$11,165
TOTALS	1,185,375	\$26,244,198	\$7,565,777

* 2011 data **estimate

Note: value of Volunteer Hours calculated using the national 2012 value of volunteer time of \$22.14 published by the Independent Sector.

About the “GOLD SHEET” of Volunteer Hours and Contributions

The trail stewardship organization partners of the national scenic and historic trails provide the critical private support of the unique public-private partnerships that have characterized the National Trails System since its inception. Together, these partners contribute over a million volunteer hours each year, organizing outreach events, building and maintaining trail, working to protect ecosystems and viewsheds, and interpreting the trails. Many of these invaluable volunteer hours are performed in collaboration with Federal projects; volunteers provide critical assistance for many of the functions of the land management agencies. These hours do not represent all of the volunteer hours performed on behalf of the National Trails System, only those recorded by the official stewardship organizations affiliated with each trail. Many other organizations have invested considerable time, energy, and funds into the national scenic and historic trails.

The strong volunteer involvement on the National Trails System leverages Federal, State, and local investment in the trails. While the process of recording volunteer hours can be an arduous and complicated one, particularly given the vast range of activities of trail volunteers, the Partnership for the National Trail System is proud to be able to demonstrate the commitment of its private partners in its advocacy efforts on behalf of the trails.

2013 National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference

November 3-6, 2013
Tucson, Arizona



National Trails: Weaving the Tapestry of America's Cultures, Histories, and Landscapes

Workshops and speakers will address three main conference tracks:

- Telling our stories and engaging new partners
- Preserving special places and protecting the tapestry of the land
- Strengthening our trail organizations and our trail communities

Where: The Westward Look Wyndham, an Arizona Hotel & Lodging Association green hotel
For information: Visit the conference web site:

www.pnts.org/conference

or contact Liz Wessel, lizmwessel@gmail.com

Autumn in Southern Arizona is a trail enthusiast's dream come true. From the mild temperatures of the saguaro-studded Sonoran Desert to brisk mornings among pine forests within the sky island mountain ranges, there are few places that feature the biodiversity and outdoor recreation potential like Tucson. Whether you want to walk in the footsteps of early explorers along the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail or find solitude on the 800+ mile Arizona National Scenic Trail, Tucson is an ideal gateway for trail adventures. That's why the 14th Conference of the Partnership for the National Trails System is happening in "the Old Pueblo" on November 2-7, 2013. In addition to dynamic speakers and exciting mobile workshops, the core tracks of this conference are not to be missed. Local food, culture and history will be woven into the tapestry of the conference, including the All Souls Procession (the largest Day of the Dead celebration outside Mexico City). We hope to see you in Tucson!

- Matthew Nelson, Executive Director
Arizona Trail Association

A Special Thanks to Our Conference Hosts, Partners, and Sponsors

Hosts

Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona
Anza Trail Foundation
Arizona Trail Association
Old Spanish Trail Association



National Trails Stewards

Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
USDA Forest Service
Arizona State Parks



NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS



National Trails Blazers

Friends of the Sonoran Desert National Monument
Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation
Rockart Signs and Markets



ROCKART®
SIGNS AND MARKERS

National Trails Enthusiasts

Western National Parks Association



Scenic History, Historic Hikes:

Converging resources and opportunities along National Scenic and Historic Trails



During the mid 1990s – in the early years of the Partnership for the National Trails System – whenever a group of scenic and historic trail organization leaders met invariably a spirited discussion would ensue about whether and how these two types of Congressionally authorized national trails belonged together in one organization. Thoughtful, experienced leaders from both scenic and historic trails would eloquently describe characteristics of their trails they believed made them special and unlike the other trails. At times it seemed as if the only things national scenic and historic trails had in common were their authorization by Congress and their nonprofit organizations of dedicated and zealous supporters.

During a particularly energetic discussion, Nancy Dupont, an avid equestrian and leader in the Amigos de Anza made a seminal observation. “You know,” she said, “We have some of the most scenic places in America along national historic trails.” Her comment prompted North Country Trail Association leader Derek Blount to respond “And there are many historic places along our national scenic trail.” These two simple observations changed the whole tenor of the discussions from emphasizing differences to recognizing commonalities and shared values.

As a community we have gradually begun to appreciate that national scenic and historic trails share several critical characteristics inherent in their national authorization. Like national parks, these trails are special places due to the national significance of the natural, cultural, and historic resources along them and the landscapes they pass through. Like national parks they exist to provide a special authenticity and quality of experience that connects people to major travel episodes that shape our history and culture and to the plants and animals that inhabit the major physiographic features of the Nation. Increasingly the integrity of both scenic and historic trails is threatened by disruptive development that will destroy their important resources and the quality of their landscape settings. More and more time is spent by trail organizations and Federal trail managers working to protect these essential qualities of our trails.

To help us all appreciate the rich truth of Nancy and Derek’s important observations we are beginning a new feature in two parts in this issue of PATHWAYS. We call these “Scenic hikes (or rides) along National Historic Trails” and “Historic Places along National Scenic Trails.” Our first installment features two places along the Ice Age National Scenic Trail that inspired the lives and work of leaders of the environmental movement and favorite hikes along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

Thanks for all your good work on behalf of America’s premier trails! - Gary Werner, Executive Director, PNTS

Landscapes that Inspired the Environmental Movement: The Ice Age National Scenic Trail

While the Ice Age trail is most known for its scenic hikes across Wisconsin, it also passes along two locations that inspired the lives and work of towering leaders of the environmental movement – John Muir and Aldo Leopold.



John Muir Memorial Park

The Ice Age National Scenic Trail features a loop trail around Ennis Lake, called Fountain Lake by John Muir when he lived there as a boy and young man. John Muir’s family moved from Scotland to Wisconsin in 1849, and he wrote eloquently of his strong feelings of awe and his connection to the landscape surrounding his homestead. John Muir tried to purchase the land several times to protect it but was not successful; today his dream to preserve the area is a reality with the John Muir Memorial Park along the Ice Age NST.



Ennis Lake photo by Kathleen McGwin, www.kathleenmcgwin.com.

“Oh that glorious Wisconsin wilderness! Everything new and pure in the very prime of spring when Nature’s pulses were beating highest and mysteriously keeping time with our own! Young hearts, young leaves, flowers, animals, the winds and the streams and the sparkling lake, all wildly, gladly rejoicing together!”
-John Muir, *The Story of My Boyhood and Youth*

The Aldo Leopold Shack

In 1935, Aldo Leopold and his family purchased what was then an ailing, depleted piece of land along what is now the Ice Age NST as a farmstead. In an effort reflected in his ground-breaking environmental book, *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold and his family worked to restore the bleak landscape to health, ultimately planting over 40,000 trees.

The Leopold family fixed up a dilapidated chicken coop to stay in while working on the land on weekends and holidays. Now known as the Aldo Leopold Shack, The Shack was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2009.

Aldo Leopold Cabin photo courtesy of the Aldo Leopold Foundation, www.aldoleopold.org.



Favorite Hikes of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail

Submitted by Joanne VanCoevern, Manager, Santa Fe Trail Association



There are many places along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail (SFNHT) to enjoy a hike, ride a bicycle or a horse, have a picnic, or just enjoy the view. Because the terrain, climate, and vegetation along the SFNHT are so varied, it is hard to pick “one favorite hike”. Here are just a few of the possibilities...



ABOVE: A visit to the Cimarron National Grassland, near Elkhart, KS will provide you with an expansive vista of the plains, as well as an opportunity to experience the Trail far away from populated areas. There are 23 miles of Santa Fe Trail on the Grassland, which is the largest section on public land. A 19-mile companion trail is available for horseback riding, hiking, and mountain biking, and limestone posts mark the original trail route. Well-preserved ruts are visible along many segments of the Trail.



ABOVE: One area that provides the opportunity to experience multiple national historic trails is Kansas City, Missouri. Nine wayside exhibits were installed at Westport Landing, also known as Town of Kansas, in September 2012. A panoramic view of the Missouri River from an overlook makes it easy to imagine the historic scene that would have taken place here during Trail days. Via steps, or an elevator, visitors can descend to the improved trail and continue to enjoy the interpretation, as well as hiking and/or biking. Included is interpretation of Lewis and Clark who used the waters of the Missouri as they journeyed on their epic adventure.



ABOVE: A few miles away from Westport in Kansas City is another opportunity for hiking on both a short, easy hike with new interpretive waysides, or a more traditional hike through the wooded pathways on the Blue River Parkway Trail. Located in south Kansas City, Missouri, the trail is used by not only hikers, but also mountain bikers, horses, trail runners, and nature lovers. The newly-constructed “Red Bridge” offers several interpretive wayside exhibits, and visitors can view the old “Red Bridge”, as well as beautiful swales left behind by the many wagons heading to Santa Fe, Oregon, and California.

LEFT: Southwest of La Junta, CO, SFNHT travelers note the changing horizon from plains to mountains. Historically, it was a major milestone on their journey. One of their guiding landmarks was the distant Spanish Peaks, which came into view along this section of the trail. A short walk up the side of a bluff gives a stunning view of the Rocky Mountains and surrounding prairie. Hikers and horseback riders can follow a 3-mile section from Sierra Vista to Timpas Picnic Area.



RIGHT: For those visiting Santa Fe, a short hike will provide not only an opportunity for some exercise, but will provide an outstanding view of Santa Fe and the area. Heading north from the Plaza, one can follow the steps and trail to the Fort Marcy park. Several new interpretive wayside exhibits have been installed to let the visitor know more about Fort Marcy, why the location was chosen and the historical significance of the site to the nearby city of Santa Fe. A nice hike with a beautiful view – a must for everyone who visits Santa Fe.



National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning Initiatives –

Components of the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning (CLP) Proposal

- Overview of the National Trails System
- Introduction to the Proposal for the NTS
- Letters of support from the participating national scenic and historic trail stewardship organizations
- NTS map with proposed segments marked (see opposite page)
- Profiles of each proposed segment, including features, potential benefits, and current threats, and photographs
- Individual maps of each proposed segment

FY2014 NTS CLP Proposal at a Glance:

- Requested \$61,601,508 for land acquisition
- 120 parcels in 17 States and 28 Congressional Districts
- 11 national scenic and historic trails represented, including the Ala Kahakai NHT, the Appalachian NST, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT, the Continental Divide NST, the Florida NST, the Ice Age NST, the Lewis and Clark NHT, the New England NST, the Nez Perce NHT, the North Country NST, and the Pacific Crest NST

Conservation or preservation of large landscapes is one of the key elements of the America's Great Outdoors initiative. America's Great Outdoors is a major interdepartmental and interagency collaborative initiative begun early in President Obama's first administration and carried out enthusiastically by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture and the Council on Environmental Quality. The large landscape conservation idea is to strategically coordinate the resources of the Federal agencies and nonprofit organizations in various regions to multiply their respective efforts to preserve natural ecosystems for public benefit.

The President's Fiscal Year 2013 Budget implemented this conservation approach through two multi-million dollar Collaborative Landscape Planning (CLP) projects included in the requests for Land & Water Conservation funding for the National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. The two CLP projects funded for 2013 are the "Roof of the Continent" along the Continental Divide in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming and the "Longleaf Pine Ecosystem" in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. The Administration continued the CLP initiative for Fiscal Year 2014 and we were encouraged by Washington land acquisition staff to submit a National Trails System proposal.

The National Trails System CLP Pre-proposal submitted at the end of May 2012 was one of several out of the 40 proposals chosen by an interagency screening team to be considered for inclusion in the President's 2014 Budget. The National Trails System program leaders for the four land agencies were asked to submit a Final Proposal by early August 2012.

In an unprecedented land conservation effort, the Partnership for the National Trails System and Interagency Trails Council collaborated intensively on the NTS CLP proposal to identify and gather detailed information about priority parcels from both public agency and private trail stewardship organization partners. Parcels were selected based on immediate development threat, scenic, or cultural significance to their respective trails, recreational potential, biodiversity, consideration of adjacent protected or high-potential sites, and endangered and threatened species protection areas. In line with the partnership-fostering goals of America's Great Outdoors, parcels with many interested and invested parties were given particular priority.

New England National Scenic Trail
Land and Water Conservation Fund
FY2014 Request



National Trails System
Land and Water Conservation Fund
FY2014

New England National Scenic Trail

Connecticut



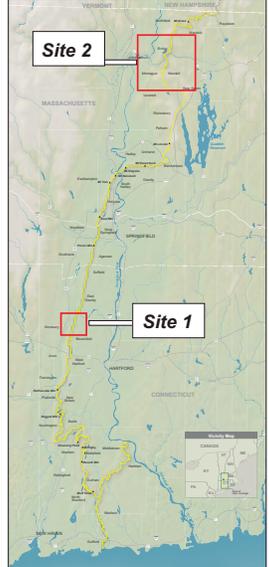
Project Details
LWCF Request: \$2,000,000
Congressional District: CT-5, Representative Esty
Acres: 91
Miles of Trail: 2
Acquiring Agency: NPS
Landscape Characteristics: The New England Trail winds its way along the rocky ridges off the 800-acre Penwood State Park. This key property, adjacent to the Park, offers a critical trail connection to the west and is imperative to the scenic viewshed of the trail. Geological features on the property include the west slope traprock ridge, a lateral moraine, and a deep stream ravine. A significant elevation change from 170' at the Farmington River floodplain to 600' at the rim of traprock ridge is dramatic. Diverse habitats on the property include deciduous forest in all stages of succession, Lucy Brook with three tributaries, and two vernal pools. The State of Connecticut lists nine animals and eight plants as endangered, threatened, or of special concern on or adjacent to this site.

Benefits of Protection: Protection of two miles of the New England Trail corridor and adjacent scenic and natural resources and preserving the sensitive traprock ridge and the watershed of Lucy Brook.

Threats to the Landscape: Destruction of natural and heritage resource, residential development, visual intrusion, and loss of habitat for threatened and endangered species.

Partner Contributions: The Simsbury Land Trust will provide at least \$100,000 toward the purchase of this tract and another \$150,000 for a dedicated stewardship reserve.

Prepared by the Connecticut Forest & Park Association | (860) 346-2372 | www.ctwoodlands.org and the Partnership for the National Trails System | (800) 348-7878 | www.pnts.org



NEW ENGLAND TRAIL TRACTS
FY2014 National Trails System
LWCF Collaborative Funding Proposal
MAP 1 OF 3

This map depicts the approximate locations of proposed acquisitions for Sites 1 & 2 (New England National Scenic Trail).

Partners

- Appalachian Mountain Club
- Connecticut Forest & Park Association
- National Park Service Region NER
- US Fish and Wildlife Region 5
- CT Dept of Energy & Environmental Protection

Legend

- New England Trail
- Proposed Acquisition Projects

Disclaimer
Original data was compiled from multiple source data and may not meet the U.S. National Mapping Accuracy Standard of the Office of Management and Budget. This map has no warranties as to its contents or accuracy.

Sample of a segment profile for the CLP proposal

The CLP National Trails System Proposal included details of each trail segment proposed for acquisition, organized by trail. Each parcel had a profile page describing features, opportunities, and threats to the landscape, as well as a photo of the parcel. Agency staff created and submitted the maps of the parcels. Above: a sample of the format featuring the New England National Scenic Trail.

Arizona Trail Association Launches Seeds of Stewardship Program to Engage Youth



In November 2012, the Arizona Trail Association launched a youth outreach, education, and stewardship initiative. Thanks to two grants from Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI) and Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Foundation, this new program will encourage youth participation in the Arizona Trail through a three-tiered approach: experience, education, and stewardship. The intention is to empower the next generation to take an active role in the enjoyment, development, and protection of the Arizona National Scenic Trail as well as other parks, trails, and public lands throughout the State.

Seeds of Stewardship Step 1 - EXPERIENCE

Deborah Oslik and Kristen Widmark, the ATA's Youth Outreach & Education Coordinators, coordinate the participation of youth from schools, clubs, and organizations within Arizona Trail Gateway Communities. To help connect youth, families, and communities with their backyard natural resources, student participants experience various forests, canyons, mountains, of the Arizona Trail through hiking, biking, and equestrian day trips and overnight camping adventures.



Seeds of Stewardship Step 2 - EDUCATION

After youth become familiar with Arizona Trail, hands-on educational activities, materials, and instruction in ecology, botany, biology, geology, and earth sciences are integrated into the outings. Beyond earth sciences, educational lessons will include STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) based curricula, as well as adventure education and team-building opportunities.

Through the educational component, youth get to know their local trail and its biotic communities more intimately, develop a greater appreciation for the natural systems in place, and build critical thinking skills. Just as the Arizona Trail connects the Grand Canyon with Mogollon Rim, and the Gila River with the Sonoran Desert, youth will learn how they, too, are connected to all of these places and people throughout Arizona.

Seeds of Stewardship Step 3 - STEWARDSHIP

Once youth have successfully completed the first two components of the program, the third step focuses on stewardship, giving youth an opportunity to play an active role in maintaining, developing, and protecting the Arizona Trail through service projects. From basic trail maintenance and construction to removal of invasive species, youth learn how they can leave a positive impact on their environment. Working alongside professionals from the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and the Arizona Trail Association, youth participate in a series of hands-on projects to build a sense of ownership of the trail and their public lands and learn firsthand what it means to be a "steward." After a year of experience, education, and service learning, youth will feel that the Arizona National Scenic Trail is their trail.

Assessment of Program Outcomes

Measureable outcomes include:

- Number of participant days on the trail
- Miles of trail traveled
- Number of adults engaged in the program (parents, teachers, educators, mentors and partners)
- Miles of trail positively impacted by service learning projects
- Amount of educational material learned and retained over the course of the project

Indirect outcomes will include:

- Better physical and emotional health of participants
- Better test scores from participants
- More positive interaction and camaraderie among participants
- More positive interaction between participants and their teachers
- Positive engagement between youth, their families, and Federal land management agencies
- Increased pride in self, community and state

Results from the assessment of this project/service will be used to develop similar programs in other gateway communities along the Arizona Trail and to help secure funding from local, regional, and national sources.



One School's Journey with the Seeds of Stewardship Program

January 18, 2013

The Arizona Trail Seeds of Stewardship Program and Vail Blended Learning joined forces to offer 14 middle school students a day out on the Arizona Trail. This first outing focused on building a sense of place for the students; program facilitators led a series of activities, such as creating a sound map by sitting in silence and mapping the sounds one hears. Students also hiked 3.5 miles of the Arizona Trail. At the end of the day, the students had an overwhelmingly positive feeling about their experience on the trail and were already eager for their next outing together in March!

March 15, 2013

Students from Vail Blended Learning gathered at the Gabe Zimmerman Memorial Trailhead for their second educational outing on the Arizona Trail. With biodiversity as a core theme for their science curriculum, students learned to identify native plant species along the trail and monitored temperature along different portions of the trail. They visited a creek along the trail to learn the significance of water in the desert ecosystem and discuss water use issues and compared species found along drier portions of the trail with those of the creek oasis.



Learn more about the Seeds of Stewardship Program at <http://www.aztrail.org/stewardship/seeds.html>

Detailed accounts of each Seeds of Stewardship expedition are available online.

All photos are courtesy of the Arizona Trail Association.

April 12, 2013

For the final portion of their introduction to the AZT through the Seeds of Stewardship program, students focused on service to the trail, meeting with a natural resources specialist at Colossal Cave Mountain Park to learn trail work techniques and tool use. Students split into two groups: "The Loppers" and "The Rockers." The "Loppers" meandered down the trail with loppers and handsaws to trim brush away from the trail so that all users, including horseback riders, could enjoy the trail without being scratched by branches. The "Rockers" went to a trail section suffering from erosion and worked together to collect the appropriate rocks and to fit them together for stability. After finishing their projects students' participation was honored through a recognition ceremony. To conclude the day, students cooled off from the hot day by exploring the cool interior of the Colossal Cave.



This trail success helps achieve

**Decade Goal #1
OUTREACH**



New Segment of the North Country NST through Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge Officially Opened on National Trails Day!

By Matthew Davis, ND/MN Regional Trail Coordinator for the North Country Trail Association and Kelly Blackledge, Visitor Services Manager for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge



Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) has been on the North Country National Scenic Trail's (NCT's) route since the National Park Service (NPS) published the Comprehensive Plan for the Use and Management of the NCNST in 1982. It wasn't until the Laurentian Lakes Chapter (LLC) was formed in early 2007, however, that the dream of the NCT traversing the Refuge really began to take shape. As the LLC worked to extend the NCT on other public lands drawing nearer to the Refuge, conversations were started with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) staff about the NCT's potential route. Acknowledging the FWS's primary mission to protect wildlife habitat, careful consideration was given to the route location through the refuge. By mid 2009, the proposed Refuge route was settled upon and the NCT sought grant funding to help construct the NCT northeast of the Refuge boundary and within the Refuge itself.

Legacy Funding springs the project forward

Minnesota voters in 2009 passed the Legacy Amendment which provides dedicated sales tax funding for outdoor heritage, clean water, parks and trails, and projects for the arts. Working through Becker County, the LLC applied for and received a Legacy grant through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to construct 40 new miles of the NCT using the services of contract crews from the Conservation Corps of Minnesota & Iowa (www.conservationcorps.org). After Minnesota's environmental review process was completed, several private landowners south of the NWR rescinded their verbal permission and the project was shortened to 25 miles.

The next step was the Sec. 106 Cultural Resources Review on the 25 miles, which was jointly paid for by the two Federal agencies, both in the Department of Interior. The NPS paid for the initial Phase 1a review for the entire project and detailed surveys for the Refuge's "Johnson Tract" and for all of the trail outside the Refuge. The FWS paid for detailed surveys within the main Refuge. Not unexpectedly, several cultural sites were discovered during the detailed Refuge survey and FWS staff and the NCTA and NPS worked together to re-route several short sections to bypass the cultural sites. The partners also agreed upon a plan to protect a large cultural site through the construction of a long turnpike. Required follow-up surveys for this section within the Refuge were paid for by the NPS while the NCTA and Becker County obtained additional Legacy grant funding for building these structures. After obtaining the approval of the State Historic Preservation Office, trail construction was allowed to commence in June of 2012. The entire approval process took approximately 3 years.

In addition to serving as the applicant and fiscal agent for the Legacy grant funded project, Becker County's Natural Resources Management Department agreed to host

The partners responsible for the new section of the North Country Trail cut the ribbon at the grand opening event. Among the many partners are the Detroit Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, North Country Trail Association, Friends of Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge, and the National Park Service. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

NCT Grand Opening Event at Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge

The amount of new trail being opened, use of Legacy funds, the variety of partnerships, and the fact that Tamarac is the only National Wildlife Refuge that the NCT currently crosses warranted special celebration. A committee with representation from the NCTA, the LLC Chapter, Tamarac NWR, Friends of Tamarac, and the City of Frazee worked for 6 months to pull together the National Trails Day weekend event.

Noted Minnesota naturalist and nature photographer Stan Tekeila's presentation on "the Lives of Wolves, Coyote, and Fox" on Friday night in Frazee (a future North Country Trail trail town south of Tamarac NWR) drew over 150 people. A program held on Saturday morning featured an overview of the NCT and NCTA and messages from several of the partners, including the FWS Regional Director Tom Melius, Refuge Manager Neil Powers, and NCNST superintendent Mark Weaver, with NCTA Executive Director Bruce Mathews as MC. Following the remarks, a ribbon strung across the NCT was cut and then cake was enjoyed to celebrate the Tamarac Refuge's 75th anniversary. Participants enjoyed hikes throughout the day.

Other components of the event included a 14-mile thru-hike across the Refuge and a variety of guided hikes focusing on birding, history, nature photography, hiking with GPS, hiking with kids, and wildflowers. All of these hikes were co-led by volunteers from Tamarac Refuge and the NCTA's LLC. There was also a short "taste of the trail" hike that left right from the ribbon cutting ceremony that featured edible wild foods. Volunteers with the Friends of Tamarac were on hand to help organize the event.

significant additional segments of the NCT on its tax forfeited lands northeast of the Refuge. Several different Divisions of the Minnesota DNR also agreed to host segments of the NCT on their lands including Forestry, Wildlife, and Ecological and Water Resources (within a Scientific and Natural Area). Two private landowners also agreed to allow short yet critical segments of the NCT to pass through their property. One even allowed for a campsite to be established just east of the Refuge boundary to aid long-distance hikers.

Once conditions warranted last year, LLC volunteers started clearing the NCT corridor while Conservation Corps of Minnesota & Iowa crews worked behind them constructing the trail tread. Despite the busy 2012 field season, the NCT through the Refuge was not completely finished as the long turnpike was left until the (unfortunately, very late) spring of 2013. LLC volunteers were working on the turnpike right up until the Grand Opening event.



This trail success supports

**Decade Goal #2
PROTECTION**

Steve Elkinton Receives Lifetime Achievement Award at the International Trails Symposium

Adapted with permission from the original American Trails press release.

On April 16, 2013, during the 21st International Trails Symposium, American Trails, Inc., awarded Steven Elkinton its Lifetime Achievement Award to honor 24 years of service with the National Trails System.

As program leader for the National Trails System in the National Park Service's Washington headquarters since 1989, Steve has provided leadership and worked tirelessly to further the intentions and spirit of the National Trails System Act within the context of public land management. His key contributions to trails include:

Helping grow the national system of trails. At the start of Steve's tenure there were 16 National Scenic and Historic Trails; today there are 30. The National Park Service budget for the trails was \$1.1 million; today it is \$14.5 million. More than 500 National Recreation Trails have been designated in this period of time.

Building interagency collaboration and coordination. The National Trails System is an interagency effort. In 1990, Steve helped resurrect the Federal Interagency Council on Trails. Currently operating under a six-agency Memorandum of Understanding, the Council has become a vibrant instrument for information exchange and the building of interagency trust for the benefit of all types of trails. Steve has served as the "chairman for life," providing big hiking boots for his successor to fill.

On April 16, 2013, at the 21st International Trails Symposium in Ft. McDowell, Arizona, Candace Mitchell and Robert Searns of American Trails present Steve Elkinton (right) with American Trail's Lifetime Achievement Award. NPS photo courtesy Diane Banta.



Increasing communication and sharing of best practices. Steve continues to bring people together for a common cause through conferences and meetings that foster exchange, collaboration, and help build a network and sense of shared community. Steve helped lay the foundation of the Partnership for the National Trails System, a coalition of trail organizations that is the System's prime nonprofit partner, by hosting the conference where it was organized in 1991. He also helped create the National Trails Training Partnership – to support professionalism and building skills for the next generation of trail managers, practitioners, and advocates. *Photo at left: Steve (standing) leading an interagency, public-private partner approach to land conservation workshop at the 13th National Scenic and Historic Trails (NSHT) Conference in Abingdon, Virginia in 2011.*

Expanding and fostering partnerships and citizen stewardship. Partnerships and volunteerism are the lifeblood of the National Trails System. With a little bit of money and a lot of heart, time, listening, and perseverance -- and working with people who would not take "no" for an answer -- Steve has nurtured the network of partnerships and fostered developing a strong network of stewardship support that has grown and strengthened the System. *Photo at right: Steve helping to clear brush during a service project along the El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT at the 2010 National Historic Trails Workshop in San Antonio, Texas.*

Promoting and advocating for trails. Building visibility and respect for the National Trails within the National Park Service, other agencies, and the public's consciousness through communication, education, policy, and better consistency have been of primary importance to Steve. His vision to shape a system out of a collection of efforts has improved the administration and management of the trails and increased knowledge, public awareness and enjoyment of them.

Increasing public awareness and appreciation of trails. Steve has put the National Scenic and Historic Trails on the map by developing the National Trails System Map and Guide, normalizing National Trail logo graphics and design, promoting the use of Geographical Information Systems to improve mapping of the trails, and supporting the development of the Federal Trails Data Standards.



"With characteristic enthusiasm and energy, Steve Elkinton has fostered and nurtured a spirit of empathy and collaboration within the National Trails System for more than two decades. His welcoming, generous, and inclusive leadership has built and sustained an interagency and nonprofit community of colleagues who are also friends in all corners of the country that makes the National Trails System an exemplar of successful and effective partnership and collaboration." - Gary Werner, Executive Director, PNTS



Mentoring and sharing historic knowledge. Steve is the open door, the information center, the one-stop shop for the National Trails System. He has assisted thousands of people and organizations. He has graciously welcomed new national trails, staff members, and partners, always ready to provide his "National Trails System 101" orientation. His knowledge is legendary and he has unselfishly shared it. *Photo: Steve converses with young adult "trail apprentices" at the 12th NSHT Conference in Missoula, Montana in 2009.*

Since 1989, Steve has been a convener and facilitator extraordinaire, a trusted friend and mentor to many in the trails community and beyond as well as an invaluable resource of knowledge and information. His exemplary service to the National Trails System and to trails in general clearly merits this Lifetime Service Award.



Juan Bautista de Anza NHT Launches New Website, Publishes Enhanced Trail Map

Based upon the official National Park Service press releases, submitted by Naomi Torres, National Park Service.

In 1775-76, Captain Juan Bautista de Anza led more than 240 men, women, and children on a perilous overland journey from present-day Mexico to establish the first colonial settlement at San Francisco Bay, a route now commemorated by the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. The Anza NHT and the Anza Trail Foundation have launched www.AnzaHistoricTrail.org — an online Anza Trail experience to connect communities with history, culture, and outdoor recreation along the trail's 1,200-mile corridor.

The new AnzaHistoricTrail.org is a dynamic online experience that maps the legacy of the Anza Expedition throughout present-day California and Arizona. The website's backbone is cutting-edge web-mapping technology developed by the nonprofit GreenInfo Network. Approximately 36 million people live in the 20 counties through which the trail passes; the website will allow users from any location to tailor the map to create their own Anza Trail experience.

The Anza Trail officially launched the new site on June 27, the date in 1776 when the Anza Expedition families arrived to establish a presidio in San Francisco. Every year on June 27, Los Californianos, an organization that includes descendants of expedition members, gathers at the Presidio to honor their ancestors' legacy.

The new website will serve as the online home for the Anza Trail, including the online magazine Noticias de Anza, and a list of trail-related events. It complements and incorporates the trail's other online resources, including: Web de Anza, the University of Oregon's database of primary resources relating to the expedition; the Anza Trail Guide, by Anza Expedition descendant, Greg P. Smestad, Ph.D.; and the National Park Service's administrative site.

Image at left: Screenshot of the new website's interactive travel map.

Top 10 Features of the New Website

www.AnzaHistoricTrail.org

10. Search an address for nearby Anza Trail resources, routes, and recreation trails
9. Zoom to the street level to see if the expedition would have passed by your house
8. Create custom maps of the trail in your community; send a link of your map to your friends
7. Play an animated expedition timeline
6. Read excerpts of the expedition diaries in English and Spanish (courtesy of Web de Anza)
5. Read 19 county-specific guides to the Anza Trail (developed by Anza Expedition descendant Greg P. Smestad, Ph.D.)
4. Watch the film, The Anza Expedition, in English or Spanish
3. Find upcoming cultural and recreation events along the trail, and download Noticias de Anza, the trail's quarterly electronic magazine
2. Connect with the Anza Trail Foundation; AnzaHistoricTrail.org also serves as a site for the official nonprofit fundraising partner of the Anza Trail
1. Be part of the story: Add your information or photos of trail resources using the MapCollaborator portal



NPS Releases New Anza Trail Map

The Anza Trail and its partners took advantage of a grant from the National Park Service Connect Trails to Parks program to develop and print a brochure, "the Anza Trail in Arizona" to provide an in-depth view of the trail. Printed in both English and Spanish, the brochure presents significant and interesting features of not only the three National Parks along the corridor but also three state parks, areas managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and sites within the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area.

The brochure was designed and developed by the Western National Parks Association (wnpa.org) who sent out photographers to capture inspiring images of several locations along the trail. With over 300,000 brochures printed, word of the Anza Trail has reached many areas of Arizona. With the help of volunteers, especially Don Kucera of the Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona, the brochure has been distributed throughout Arizona with English and Spanish versions available at National Parks, Arizona State Parks, many historic sites, and at Bureau of Land Management sites.

To reach out to communities that don't normally visit public lands and historic sites, Anza Trail staff and partners coordinated the brochure distribution in community spaces such as the Santa Cruz County building and the Mexican Consulate in Tucson. In late April, residents of Yuma received a copy of the brochure in their Sunday newspaper and readers of *Bajo el Sol*, the Spanish newspaper in Yuma, were treated to the Spanish version.

See for yourself!

You can view the new brochure online at <http://www.nps.gov/juba/planyourvisit/brochures.htm>



These trail successes help achieve

**Decade Goal #1
OUTREACH**



Photo at Right: Interpreter Melanie Rawlins holds an Anza Trail map in front of the mission at Tumacácori National Historic Park. NPS Photo.



Re-enactments Bring to Life the History of the Natchez Trace Parkway

Article and photos submitted by Tony Turnbow, Natchez Trace Parkway Foundation



This trail success helps achieve Decade Goal #1 OUTREACH

Living history on the Natchez Trace Parkway took a major step forward this year through re-enactments for the bicentennial of the War of 1812. The first living history event to span the entire length of the parkway recreated the 1813 marches of Major General Andrew Jackson and his Tennessee militia. It was on the 1813 return march on the trace that Jackson earned the name “Old Hickory” for his toughness and refusal to abandon his troops.

Over 2,000 eighth grade students visited education stations along the parkway and listened as re-enactors portrayed historic characters present on the Natchez Trace 200 years earlier. Much of the historic trace traversed the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations in 1813. Students were surprised to be issued passports they would have needed in the early 1800s to travel the road.

American Indian groups joined the effort to tell the stories of their nations. The Chickasaws were honored for assistance their chiefs George and Levi Colbert provided in feeding Jackson’s soldiers to prevent them from starving on the marches. Robert Thrower, Native Historic Preservation Officer of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians discussed the consequences of the War of 1812 on American Indians along one of the Trail of Tears sites near the parkway. The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians honored the role of their chief Pushmataha in the war. The commemoration began a new discussion of a time when the American Indians worked as partners with Jackson to repel a foreign invasion. As bicentennial hickory trees were planted along the route, visitors were reminded that Jackson became “Old Hickory” with the help of his American Indian allies.

More than 100 historians, scholars, and active and retired military personnel traveled from across the nation to lend their expertise to re-creating Jackson’s volunteers. Re-enactors provided a living dimension to interpretation of the story by camping at known 1813 campsites and walking along the same path taken by the soldiers.

Beginning with a re-creation of the 1813 parade of Jackson’s troops through Natchez, Mississippi, and ending with a wreath-laying ceremony at Jackson’s grave outside Nashville, living history portrayals drew attention to the almost forgotten role of the Natchez Trace during the war. The connections of the old trail to historic events in nearby towns were emphasized in events such as a ceremony at the old Mississippi State Capitol building in Jackson, Mississippi.

As events commemorated the significance of the historic route in the war, they also reaffirmed one of the main reasons the trail story was preserved through creation of a national parkway. Ceremonies at the graves of soldiers who died during the marches and at the new War of 1812 memorial site on the parkway emphasized the sacrifices and the stories of heroism that early parkway promoters sought to perpetuate on a national scale.

Parkway supporters followed the advance of the re-enactors up the trail on social media. Newspapers in some towns along the parkway also covered the “troop” movements and announced when they would arrive for events in their town.

Rather than devoting time and energy to a one-time commemoration, the Natchez Trace Parkway Association worked to maximize long-term benefits. Video and still photography from the events will be used for a new cellphone tour of the parkway. Contributions of equipment and the enlistment of additional volunteers during the event builds a new capacity for the association to meet its goal of enhancing the visitor experience through a permanent living history programming.



Living history re-enactors recreated the marches of General Andrew Jackson and the Tennessee militia.



Over 2,000 students visited sites along the parkway.



Robert Thrower of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and Robert Perry of the Council of Chickasaw Elders. The Trail of Tears NHT intersects the Natchez Trace Parkway.



The current major general of the Tennessee Army National Guard, Jackson’s successor in office, places a wreath during the ceremony at the War of 1812 Memorial on the parkway.



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Trails Events Calendar Summer-Autumn 2013

July 19 -- 26	ATC's Biennial Conference	Appalachian Trail Conservancy	Cullowhee, NC	www.appalachiantrail.org
July 22 -- 26	OCTA's 31th Annual Convention	Oregon-California Trails Association	Oregon City, OR	www.octa-trails.org
July 28 -- 31	Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting	Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation	Bismarck, ND	www.lewisandclark.org
August 12 -- 17	North Country Trail Association Annual Conference	North Country Trail Association	Slippery Rock University, PA	www.northcountrytrail.org
September 6 -- 8	PCT Days	Pacific Crest Trail Association	Cascade Locks, OR	www.pcta.org
September 26 -- 29	Santa Fe Trail Symposium	Santa Fe Trail Association	Ulysses, KS	www.santafetrail.org
September 26 -- October 7	Annual March to Kings Mountain Reenactment	Overmountain Victory Trail Association	Abingdon, VA to Kings Mountain Natl. Military Park, SC	www.ovta.org
September 27 -- 29	Los Caminos Reales de América International Symposium	Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association	El Paso, TX	www.caminorealcarta.org
September 27 -- 29	ATA Annual Rendezvous	Arizona Trail Association	Mormon Lake Lodge, AZ	www.aztrail.org
October 7 -- 10	18th Annual Trail of Tears Conference & Symposium	National Trail of Tears Association	Hopkinsville, KY	www.NationalTOTA.org
October 18	El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT Association Annual Meeting	El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT Association	Bryan, TX	www.elcaminoreal-delostejas.org
November 3 -- 6	National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference	Partnership for the National Trails System	Tucson, AZ	www.pnts.org