

A Publication of the Partnership
for the National Trails System



Pathways

Across America Spring 2014

**Trails
Partner
Highlights
of 2013**

Progress towards Goals of the
Decade for the National Trails



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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For information about the Partnership for the National Trails System or to learn how to contact any of our partner groups working on behalf of the trails, visit the PNTS website at:

www.pnts.org.

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What is the Partnership for the National Trails System?

The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) connects member nonprofit trail organizations and Federal agency partners to further the protection, completion, and stewardship of the 30 National Scenic and Historic Trails within the National Trails System. The PNTS advocates on behalf of the National Trails System as a whole for land preservation and stewardship resources. Other major roles of the PNTS include the collection and dissemination of National Trails News and the development of outreach initiatives and youth programming. The PNTS actively seeks new partnerships and relationships both within and outside the trails community to foster a strong National Trail System well-connected to communities, businesses, and civic groups.



Building Community...

The National Trails Pathways Nationwide for

About This Special Year-End Report

Each year, the PNTS attempts to showcase a sampling of trail successes towards the three goals of the Decade for the National Trails System. In the past, we have separated the achievements of the trail stewardship organizations and agency partners for each trail; this year we have chosen to combine each trail's successes to more accurately depict the partnerships that have enabled so many of the great efforts across the entire National Trails System.

In this issue, you will find highlights from the Partnership for the National Trails System (see below), the Gold Sheet of Volunteer Hours and Contributions from trail stewardship organizations, Federal NTS-wide achievements by agency, and by-trail advancements in outreach, protection, and capacity.

Special thanks to the Federal Interagency Council on Trails for preparation of the National Trails System Annual Report for FY2013, which was a critical resource in the compilation of this Pathways 2013 Trail Highlights issue.

2013 Successes for the Partnership for the National Trails System

The Partnership for the National Trail System had a busy 2013. Here are some of the top successes for the PNTS this past year:

- Organized and hosted the 16th Annual Hike the Hill trails advocacy week with the American Hiking Society.
- More than 50 participants from PNTS member organizations
- Hosted meetings with agency leaders and key Congressional committee staff, including the 3rd Interagency Trail Lands Protection meeting.



Heritage • History • Hiking • Culture • Reenactments



Keeping History Alive...



Preserving Biodiversity

System... Discovery, Learning, & Understanding



- Coordinated preparation of the National Scenic and Historic Trails (NSHT) Collaborative Landscape Planning Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) project proposal for FY15 for Federal agency partners
- 120 land acquisition projects along 15 NSHTs in 16 States, \$57.675 million requested
- Testified before the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee and submitted testimony to the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee for operations and LWCF money for national scenic and historic trails
- Published and distributed Pathways Across America.
- Organized the 14th Conference on NSHTs for November 2-6 in Tucson, AZ
 - Hosted by Arizona Trail Association, Arizona Anza Trail Coalition, Old Spanish Trail Association
 - Approximately 220 federal agency staff and trail organization leaders participated including 15 young adult "Trail Apprentices"
- Advocated including NSHTs as environmentally sensitive areas to be avoided in the siting of energy transmission lines with senior Department of Energy staff.
- Devised a policy regarding siting of transmission lines to avoid or minimize damage to national scenic and historic trails
- Coordinated intercession with US Forest Service planners to recognize the need for defining management corridors and management guidelines for national scenic and historic trails in Forest Planning Rule Directives
- Supported member organizations in their efforts to prevent mountain biking use on their national scenic trails and conducted a survey of national scenic trail organizations regarding mountain bike use on their national scenic trails

Gary Werner

Executive Director

Partnership for the National Trails System



Hiking • Backpacking • Photography • Wilderness • Wildlife

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About the Pathways Spring 2014 Cover

Photos from upper left to bottom right: volcanic activity near the Ala Kahakai NHT (PNTS photo), Na Pe'a educational program sailing canoes (courtesy of the NPS), flowers along the Ice Age NST (courtesy of the Ice Age Trail Alliance), flowers and sage in the Big Hole Valley and the Chief Joseph Scenic Byway along the Nez Perce NHT, both by Roger Peterson (courtesy of the USFS), service learning program along the Ice Age NST, (courtesy of the Ice Age Trail Alliance), and volunteer trail workers on the Florida NST (courtesy of the Florida Trail Association), and springtime pasque flowers (PNTS photo.)

Inside Cover Photos:

Photos from left to right: Dedication of Santa Fe Trail exhibits at Fort Marcy (courtesy of the Santa Fe Trail Association), photo of Cindy O'Donnell and students in costume with Washington-Rochambeau consulting historian, Dr. Robert Selig (courtesy of the NPS), and a Florida footbridge (courtesy of the Florida Trail Association).

**CONTRIBUTIONS MADE IN 2013
TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM
BY NATIONAL SCENIC AND HISTORIC TRAIL ORGANIZATIONS**



Trail Organization(s)	Volunteer Hours	Value of Volunteer Hours	Private Contributions
Ala Kahakai Trail Association & E Mau Na Ala Hele	7,716	\$ 170,832	\$ 12,500
Appalachian Trail Conservancy	245,548	\$ 5,436,433	\$ 5,064,000
Arizona Trail Association	17,700	\$ 391,878	\$ 127,085
Camino Real Trail Association	1,807	\$ 40,007	\$ 2,595
Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association	4,009	\$ 88,759	\$ 33,528
Chesapeake Conservancy and partners	443	\$ 9,808	\$ 2,178,979
Continental Divide Trail Coalition and partners	29,881	\$ 661,565	\$ 58,576
Florida Trail Association	20,760	\$ 459,626	\$ 166,637
Ice Age Trail Alliance	71,278	\$ 1,578,095	\$ 451,800
Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance	18,000	\$ 398,520	\$ 8,145
Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona, Anza Trail Foundation, and Other Partners	23,594	\$ 522,371	\$ 7,408
Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Lewis and Clark Trust, and other partners	154,056	\$ 3,410,800	\$ 363,630
Mormon Trails Association and other partners	3,000	\$ 66,420	
Natchez Trace Parkway Foundation	12,020	\$ 266,123	\$ 21,952
National Pony Express Association	31,506	\$ 697,543	\$ 12,170
Connecticut Forest and Park Association & Appalachian Mountain Club	8,776	\$ 194,301	\$ 36,500
Nez Perce Trail Foundation	17,750	\$ 392,985	\$ 10,480
North Country Trail Association	77,241	\$ 1,710,116	\$ 383,881
Old Spanish Trail Association	25,945	\$ 574,422	\$ 11,889
Oregon-California Trails Association	94,697	\$ 2,096,592	\$ 489,389
Overmountain Victory Trail Association	15,120	\$ 334,757	\$ 10,350
Pacific Crest Trail Association	85,479	\$ 1,892,505	\$ 1,250,824
Pacific Northwest Trail Association	33,428	\$ 740,096	\$ 66,526
Potomac Heritage Trail Association	4,081	\$ 90,353	\$ 1,100
Santa Fe Trail Association	57,210	\$ 1,266,629	\$ 342,017
National Trail of Tears Association	81,762	\$ 1,810,211	\$ 31,436
Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT Association (W3R-US)	1,600	\$ 35,424	\$ 7,850
Totals	1,144,407	\$ 25,337,171	\$ 11,151,247

Note: value of volunteer time calculated using national 2012 value of volunteer time by the nonprofit organization 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 Federal Agency Highlights for the National Trails System

FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON TRAILS

The Federal Interagency Council on Trails, with representation from the NPS, BLM, USFS, FWS, and the FHWA, meets bimonthly to consider issues of interest to the NTS:

- Reports from visiting field staff
- A purpose and needs statement for the Council
- Outreach to other interagency working groups including the Federal Interagency Council on Outdoor Recreation, the Interagency Visitor Use Management Council, and the Federal Interagency Task Force on Volunteerism
- Coping with energy projects
- Defining trail corridors
- Accessibility requirements to be issued by the Access Board
- Trails and tourism
- Training and the National Trails Training Partnership
- Embedding the NTS into agency planning rules and guidance

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM)

The BLM, through an assistance agreement with the PNTS and a six-Agency MOU, supports meetings, workshops, and conferences. There are nine National Trails Posters in production. The BLM maintains a National Landscape Conservation Website (at www.blm.gov) which includes national scenic and historic trails. The BLM's National Operations Center is also finalizing the Seven-State NHT Inventory funded by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) to make it available to other agencies – and eventually the public.

BLM policy manuals, released in 2013, are available at: <http://web.blm.gov/internal/wo-500/directives/dir-manu/manu-dir.html>. Formal training development is underway at the BLM's National Training Center to be completed in 2014.

With the release of the manuals last year, the BLM conducted a mobile workshop for the 14th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails in Tucson, AZ. Team preparation focused on securing Catalina State Park as a base of operations, and identifying crew members and preparing methodologies for identifying, inventorying, and assessing the scenic, historic, natural, cultural, and recreation landscape elements found along Congressionally-designated NSTs and NHTs.



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS)

In 2013, NPS approved a comprehensive policy statement guiding National Trails System activities within the agency: Director's Order 45 – National Trails System. The elements of this policy statement have been collected since the early 1990s to guide the operations of national trails within the agency and clarify the relationship of the trails to national park areas and programs.

NPS also continues with a funding source called Connect-Trails-to-Parks. In FY 2013 this program distributed \$878,000 for 15 projects.

Among the more innovative of these projects are:

- A web-based interactive map for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT,
- Community Ambassadors program along the Appalachian NST,
- A Boaters Guide to the Star-Spangled Banner NHT
- A Mobile Web Tour of the entire Santa Fe NHT.

NPS also collects and processes all applications for National Recreation Trails (NRTs) other than those in national forests. In FY 2013 NPS coordinated the paperwork for 28 NRTs. NPS maintains a complete file record of NRTs, while its partner organization, American Trails, maintains the online database of all NRTs.



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (FWS)

The National Wildlife Refuge System Assistant Director and Deputy met with National Trails System staff and trail nonprofit groups during "Hike the Hill" in February, 2013. The FWS hosted the June 2013 meeting of the Federal Interagency Council on Trails. FWS also supplies funding to support Pathways Across America, PNTS biennial meeting planning, and the PNTS website. On National Trails Day the national level Trails Coordinator attended the opening ceremony of the North Country NST in the Tamarac NWR.



U.S. FOREST SERVICE

The U.S. Forest Service (FS) is developing new directives that will implement the Forest Service Planning Rule. They will be published for public comments in early 2014. In addition, FS has developed a new Volunteer Database for tracking volunteer hours by activity.



FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

In 2013, Federal-aid highway programs helped several initiatives benefiting the National Trails System. Federal-aid highway program funds provided to the States may be used for activities eligible under several funding categories; some States give extra credit to projects located on National Trails when they rate, rank, and select project applications. The Federal-aid highway program is a Federally-assisted, State-administered program, and FHWA does not collect information on individual NST or NHT projects selected by the States.

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), effective as of October 1, 2012, changed the eligibility for some programs that had benefited National Trails. MAP-21 retained broad eligibility for pedestrian and bicycle transportation projects, retained the option for States to continue the Recreational Trails Program, and expanded potential eligibility for recreational trail projects. However, MAP-21 eliminated funding for National Scenic Byways and replaced the Transportation Enhancement activities with the Transportation Alternatives Program. MAP-21 eliminated eligibility for scenic and historic highway programs and visitor centers, but retained eligibility for turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas. See MAP-21 information at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/>.

At a national level, in FY 2013, FHWA used Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds to support the Forest Service's Technology and Development program. This program assists Federal and State land-managing agencies, and develops trail technical assistance publications.



Decade for the National Trails...

A Sampling of Outreach Successes

ALA KAHAKAI NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- Staff of the Ala Kahakai NHT worked with partners who had obtained an America's Best Ideas grant from the National Park Foundation to sponsor three Music and Talk Story events to celebrate places along the Trail by sharing indigenous music and stories.
- Through a cooperative agreement with the Nakoia Foundation, "Na Pe'a" (the Sails) teaches youth the fundamentals of operating traditional Hawaiian sailing canoes as a tool for leadership development, land and marine resources stewardship, and the perpetuation of the indigenous beliefs, traditions, and practices of Native Hawaiians.
- Partnerships between the Kailapa Community Association, UH Sea Grant, and several other Federal, State, and County partners enabled the Na Kilo Aina youth fish camp in Kawaihae. Over autumn break, participating youth learned about human use of the land and ocean with hands-on activities such as fish anatomy, urchin gonad index, fish identification, reef survey, and intertidal survey.



CALIFORNIA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- NPS trail staff worked with the Lander Trail Foundation to create an interpretive kiosk at the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho; a separate project at this site involved the Shoshone-Bannock tribes to create a kiosk to discuss the relationship between Indians and emigrants on the Trail.
- Visitor facilities – including parking, trails, signs, and exhibits – were designed for the New Fork River Crossing Historical Park, funded by gas mitigation funds.
- A mobile app to interpret Trail-related sites in Echo, East, and Emigration Canyons as well as downtown Salt Lake City, Utah, was developed.



CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH CHESAPEAKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

During the last year, the NPS Chesapeake Bay office:

- Launched the Chesapeake Explorer app (in partnership with the Potomac Heritage NST),
- Developed 18 new public access sites along the Trail
- Fabricated and installed standard orientation panels and kiosk design was developed and installed at 10 State parks and five other locations in Virginia.
- Three interns were hosted by the James River Association, Parks and People, and Maryland's Conservation Jobs Corps in support of a network of youth corps programs and teams.



In 2013, Chesapeake Conservancy launched a promotional website to promote the Watermen Heritage Tourism program. The program connects people with the natural and cultural resources of the Bay through authentic experiences along the Capt. John Smith Trail, and sustains the watermen and their culture by supplementing their traditional forms of income through heritage tourism. The marketing efforts have resulted in the completion of 157 Watermen Heritage Tours that have impacted an estimated 1,874 people.

2013 also marked the launch of the John Smith Trail Expedition. Developed in partnership with Outward Bound and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the John Smith Trail Expedition is a week-long kayak trip for high school students to learn about Captain John Smith's voyages while kayaking along John Smith's route in the upper Bay. This year, three trips were held, engaging 45 students.

EL CAMINO REAL DE LOS TEJAS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

In 2013, El Camino Real de los Tejas Trail Association hosted their annual Statewide videoconference. Over thirty-five schools from across the State, with an estimated 1,300 children, participated in the program. Students conducted presentations on a piece of the trail in the area, and some classes even performed stewardship projects at sites along the trail.

The Association's use of Facebook, Twitter, Indiegogo, and Pinterest has allowed it to conduct outreach never before imagined, and crowdfunding made it possible to acquire and protect a piece of the trail in East Texas. Seventy-three individuals and businesses contributed a total of \$21,084.50 to the cause, and the Association created a video to illustrate the importance of the parcel. Another general promotional video was created to raise awareness about the trail and Association.

Two wayside exhibits were completed in Nacogdoches, Texas in 2013, one at a garden at the Stone Fort Museum on the campus of Stephen F. Austin State University, and another now on display at the Nine Flags Museum.



EL CAMINO REAL DE TIERRA ADENTRO NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

The BLM installed portal signs about La Jornada del Muerto at the Yost Escarpment trailhead, the Point of Rocks interpretive trailhead, and the Jornada del Muerto pullout. Meanwhile, NPS staff completed installation of two wayside exhibits about the historic torreón at El Rancho de las Golondrinas near Santa Fe. The El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization approved a \$1.4 million sign plan for the Trail in and around El Paso, Texas. Efforts are underway now to fund it with partnerships from various State and local funding sources. In Santa Fe County, NM, NPS has been working with County staff on construction of a pedestrian retracement trail following the NHT, with road and pedestrian signs plus interpretive exhibits. More than \$20 million is being invested by the County for this project.

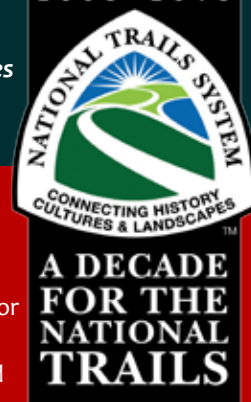


Goal #1 OUTREACH

~ NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS

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.

2008 - 2018



IDITAROD NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL



- The Iditarod Trail to Every Classroom (iTREC!) program, based on the proven success of the Appalachian Trail to Every Classroom and the Forest to Every Classroom programs, continued to expand in 2013. This cooperative education initiative between the IHTA (Iditarod Historic Trail Association), USFS, BLM, and Alaska Geographic has trained 56 teachers to engage over 5,000 K-12 students in 7 rural and urban communities along the trail over the last four years.
- Icebound Documentary Productions completed a 100-minute documentary on the story of the heroic sled-dog transport of diphtheria anti toxin to Nome, Alaska. The film premiered at the 2012 International Documentary Film Festival in Berlin, Germany. Funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and the IHTA (with technical support from BLM), this documentary will ultimately be broadcast on PBS's American Experience.
- The Iditarod Roadhouse, which commemorates the canvas tent roadhouses along the trail when it first opened in 1912, made its fifth annual appearance at the Alaska State Fair. The exhibit housed interpretive material, artifacts, maps, activities, and information on recreational opportunities. Sponsored by the IHTA, the exhibit was staffed by BLM, State of Alaska, the USFS, and IHTA members.

JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- There is a new Trail website (www.anzahistorictrail.org) hosting public data from the Anza Trail MapCollaborator for interactive mapping.
- Two temporary exhibits about the Anza Expedition toured Trail sites in the both the U.S. and Mexico.
- In Nogales, Arizona, the Anza Trail Ambassador Program was initiated. Through a partnership with the Santa Fe Ranch Foundation, high school youth connect with younger students and the public at various events in southern Arizona.
- Several interns worked in both NPS and BLM offices.
- In Los Angeles, "The Anza Trail in Griffith Park" brochure was published in partnership with the Friends of Griffith Park and Griffith State Park.
- A seasonal interpretive ranger in partnership with the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area worked to support Trail events and connect more deeply with the public and partners.

MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

As part of the NPS Intermountain Region's initiative to expand trail media for the national historic trails, several media initiatives were established for Mormon Pioneer NHT as well as the Oregon, California, and Pony Express NHTs:

- A large-print version of the Trail's map and guide was posted to the Trail website in compliance with accessibility standards
- A mobile app to interpret Trail sites in Echo, East, and Emigration Canyons – as well as downtown Salt Lake City, Utah.



LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- NPS staff hosted 45 video-assisted meetings this year to bring together the spectrum of parties involved with the Trail.
- NPS held the Omaha Lewis and Clark Youth Paddle in partnership with the Lewis and Clark Trust (NPS photo above, right).
- Lewis and Clark NHT staff also hosted a successful speaker's series and launched a new summer outdoor music and lecture series called "Bridge Beats" in partnership with the City of Omaha and a local broadcast company.
- The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) held a Trail Centers Workshop at their annual meeting to assist with advertising and driving visitation to the 60 related interpretive centers.
- LCTHF also supported and expanded ongoing marketing efforts along the Trail initiated by the Middle Missouri Lewis and Clark Network and NPS. Two committees, Friends and Partners and Outreach, were established to build the L&C Network.
- The Lewis and Clark Trust brought 12 uniformed living history educators to the 2013 Boy Scout Jamboree, conducting programs that reached 10,000 Scouts and their leaders (photo above, center).
- The Lewis and Clark Trust also helped establish the official recognition of Sergeant Charles Floyd Day, now recognized by the Kentucky State General Assembly, celebrating the first official Charles Floyd Day with a commemorative community event.



Lewis and Clark NHT tribal outreach included a variety of activities:

- A collaboration with the University of Oregon to assemble a team of curriculum designers to develop trail-wide classroom curricula models that integrate Honoring Tribal Legacies, including the impact of the Lewis and Clark Expedition on tribes.
- Presentations and disbursement of the Canoe Journey book to tribes and educational and historical institutions.
- Partnering with State and American Indian education organizations such as the National Congress of American Indians, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, and the Columbia River Indian Fish Commission. Other partners included Friends of the Columbia River Gorge, the Columbia Riverkeeper, and the Necanicum Watershed Council focused on regional river and Trail issues.

Decade for the National Trails...

A Sampling of Outreach Successes

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- Social media to promote the Nez Perce NHT now involves Flickr, Twitter, YouTube videos, webcams, and collaboration with partners to post information about the Trail on Facebook.
- In 2013, two passport stamps were developed at new locations where youth and adults alike enjoy collecting them. A poster and four postcards capitalized on talented Nez Perce artists to tell the Trail story.



OLD SPANISH NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- A new rack card to promote the Trail in local visitor centers and businesses was designed and printed.
- BLM's Old Spanish Trail Adventure program in Utah, in partnership with USFS, Utah State Parks, and the Old Spanish Trail Association enabled several trail interns the opportunity to trek via horseback, bicycle, foot, and car the entire 400 miles of the Old Spanish Trail in Utah (search "Old Spanish Trail Adventure" on YouTube).
- Through partnerships with the USFS, the Paiute Nation of Utah, and the NPS, a BLM kiosk and wayside exhibit was installed at Koosharem Reservoir in Utah.
- A NPS-hosted planning and mapping workshop took place with the Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) and other partners.
- OSTA worked closely with the Bond House Museum in Espanola, New Mexico to feature an exhibit on mule-packing.
- The OSTA Mojave River Chapter sponsored their first "Old Spanish Trail" Day in Barstow, California, which was attended by several hundred people.
- OSTA Nevada Chapter placed the first of 25 new trail markers replacing damaged or stolen markers originally placed during the Nevada Centennial in 1964. Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval was present and issued a Proclamation declaring October 30, 2013 to



OREGON NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- NPS trail staff worked with the Lander Trail Foundation to create an interpretive kiosk at the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho; a separate project at this site involved the Shoshone-Bannock tribes to create a kiosk to discuss the relationship between Indians and emigrants on the Trail.
- Visitor facilities – including parking, trails, signs, and exhibits – were designed for the New Fork River Crossing Historical Park, funded by gas mitigation funds.
- A mobile app to interpret Trail-related sites in Echo, East, and Emigration Canyons as well as downtown Salt Lake City, Utah, was developed (in conjunction with the Mormon Pioneer, Pony Express, and California NHTs).



OVERMOUNTAIN VICTORY NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- The Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA) collaborated with the NPS/Overmountain Victory NHT Superintendent and various other stakeholders to present programming associated with the 2013 Annual March, a 2.5-week long march covering 330 miles across four States. At the beginning of the March to Kings Mountain, school children arrive by bus for the annual "Call to Arms" event to learn about the way of life in 18th century Appalachia.
- The OVTA, with the funding assistance of the NPS, hired an East Tennessee State University Graduate Assistant for year-round educational and interpretive programming. OVTA members also worked to add two Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation "Kids in Parks" trails and waysides on OVNHT trail segments in North Carolina and collaborated with the NPS to add signs and wayside displays along the OVNHT at several sites.



PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- NPS Intermountain Region staff developed a web-based sign plan template to enable community partners to develop their own sign plans, a large print version of the official Trail map, and a mobile app for interpreting Trail sites in Echo Canyon and downtown Salt Lake City, Utah (in conjunction with the Mormon Pioneer, Oregon, and California NHTs).
- The National Pony Express Association (NPEA) conducted its Annual Re-Ride of the Pony Express Trail from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, June 17-27, 2013. This re-ride took ten days to complete by traveling non-stop by horseback 24 hours a day. Commemorative letters were carried by the riders in the Mochila along the entire 1,966 mile route using over 900 riders, horses, crew, and members.
- The NPEA California Division conducted school events in which teachers used an organized curriculum. Hundreds of the pamphlets used for this curriculum were handed out this past year.



Goal #1 OUTREACH

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SANTA FE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- Completed and installed 23 new or redesigned wayside exhibits at sites along the Trail. A byway grant provided funds to mark the Trail with signs across four counties in Colorado and to develop a Trail media tour.
- Completed site development at Bent's New Fort near Lamar, Colorado, with archeology mitigation, trail development, and wayside exhibit production and installation through partnership with a private landowner, the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA), Bent's Old Fort NHS staff, and Challenge Cost Share funds.
- A survey of trail-related resources in Colorado was made possible through partnerships with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the USFS, the SFTA, and Colorado State Historic Preservation Office.
- A partnership with Philmont Boy Scout Ranch enabled construction of four miles of Trail from the village of Cimarron to the Ranch.
- The SFTA partnered with NPS to provide assistance on a three-year media tour project and continued to work with that agency on the Junior Wagon Master educational booklet programs along the length of the SFNHT (image below).
- SFTA members provided programs for the Kinsley, Kansas library series on "Forts on the Santa Fe Trail", and individual SFTA Chapters provided informational programs and tours along the length of the Santa Fe Trail.
- A major research project on the use of the Santa Fe Trail during the Gold Rushes of 1849 and 1859 by Dr. Michael Olsen was made possible through Challenge Cost Share funding.
- SFTA was an exhibitor at the American Trails Conference in April 2013 and continued an active social media program through Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and its website.



SELMA TO MONTGOMERY NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

In preparation for the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights March in Spring 2015:

- Eastern National Association published *A March for All: Selma's Voting Rights Movement*, a comprehensive history of the Voting Rights March in 1965.
- NPS staff met with representatives from Lincoln High School in Marion, Alabama, to explore ways to commemorate the lives and legacy of Jimmie Lee Jackson and Albert Turner, two leading figures in the Selma to Montgomery protest marches.
- The City of Montgomery offered to design and place a series of commemorative signs along the Montgomery segment of the Trail.
- Two radio antennae were installed for the Traveler's Information Station along the Trail, allowing travelers to tune into 1650 AM to receive a brief history of the march.
- At Trenholm State College in Montgomery, a "Legacy Garden" was dedicated through NPS Challenge Cost Share funds, in collaboration between NPS and the Montgomery County Friends of the Selma to Montgomery NHT, to pay tribute to those who devoted their lives to the Civil Rights Movement.



TRAIL OF TEARS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

With support and participation from the NPS and Middle Tennessee State University, the National Trail of Tears Association (TOTA) hosted preservation workshops in July 2013 to help educate and engage trail volunteers working to expand the number of known historic sites along the Trail of Tears NHT.



WASHINGTON ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- New York set a precedent for the other eight trail States as the first to develop a wayside exhibit plan. Through a highway enhancement grant and services by the NPS Harpers Ferry Center, 15 Hudson Valley historic sites relating to the Trail were selected to each develop a site-specific panel and a trail story overview panel, scheduled to be completed and installed in 2014.
- A partnership with the W3R Inc. Pennsylvania Chapter is creating a teacher training program at the Independence Park Institute in Philadelphia to develop a Washington-Rochambeau NHT unit to be used in the Common Core Curriculum in city schools. This training program will serve as a model to expand educational initiatives to other States along the Trail. One Philadelphia teacher is also participating in the NPS Teacher-Ranger-Teacher program initiating youth programs on the American Revolutionary War theme.
- W3R-US, State chapters, and the NPS have worked in partnership to develop and execute a number of special events including banner dedications, the Hudson River regatta in New York, National Trails Day in Connecticut, Marchers Reenactment in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, and Yorktown Days in Virginia.
- Partnerships enabled the development of an NPS brochure, W3R-US and NPS websites, and effective use of social media. The NHT has reached out to sites along the route with brochures, passport stamps, and mutually beneficial public events.



Decade for the National Trails...

A Sampling of Outreach Successes

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The Continental Divide Trail Coalition (CDTC) expanded grassroots support through “Finding Our Way on the Continental Divide” Indiegogo online crowdfunding campaign, reaching 2,200 people from nine countries.
- Website traffic to the CDTC site grew from 20,000 visits in 2012 to over 150,000 visits in 2013, and membership grew to 575 members.
- CDTC launched its CDT Flat Stanley Program to help connect people from all across the globe with the CDT and to engage with local CDT towns and libraries.



APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- In 2013, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy supported Family Hiking Day celebrations all along the Appalachian NST. The year brought the addition of several new designated A.T. Communities, bringing the total number of designated locations to 33. Many of these locations have Volunteer Ambassadors.
- The Trail to Every Classroom program, which has been the example for several other trail education programs around the country, continues to grow in popularity. This program now reaches 300 participating teachers and over 30,000 students.



ICE AGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- In association with Mobile Skills Crew events, the Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA) was featured in articles in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, the Star Tribune, and multiple smaller media outlets in 2013. The third of four Discover Wisconsin television programs featuring the IANST was released.
- The Beloit Travel Center installed an extensive display featuring the IAT.
- The IATA's youth engagement program, Saunters, (photo at left, courtesy of the IATA) added three participating school districts and served over 400 youth from six school districts across Wisconsin. IATA also laid the groundwork for multiple service-learning opportunities and a backpacking course.
- Further educational expansion was geared toward high school students in the creation of the Student Mobile Skills Crew, an expansion of the Alliance's Mobile Skills Crew involving high school age youth and district personnel.



FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The 30th anniversary of the Florida NST was celebrated in 2013 with a series of trail events, including the unveiling of the Trail's new southern terminus monument in the Big Cypress National Preserve and the reunion of former trail administrators, current land managers, and volunteer stewards at the FNST Symposium.
- The newly updated Florida NST trail inventory is now available for online use and on smartphones through ESRI and ArcGIS applications. Users can navigate the Trail and see their geographic position relative to the map, locate trailheads and campsites, and determine trail class and type.
- The Florida Trail Association (FTA) collaborated on trail projects with the University of Louisiana's Engineers Without Borders, University of Florida, and the University of Central Florida.
- FTA chapters held two regional conferences in 2013, and completed a volunteer bridge construction made possible by a 2012 American Hiking Society grant.



NATCHEZ TRACE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- NPS Ranger Jane Farmer won the Freeman Tilden Award for interpretive excellence for the program she developed to engage college students of Chickasaw heritage with the Natchez Trace through research, videography, photography, visits to historic sites, and youth education projects.
- Natchez Trace Parkway staff began to use a web-based site to make park and trail information more available to the public.
- The Natchez Trace Parkway Association (NTPA) led Expedition Natchez 1813: A ten-day educational initiative portraying troops in the War of 1812. The program covered the entire 444 mile length of the parkway and reached over 2,000 students and five communities in three States to tell the story of the Natchez Trace in the War of 1812.
- The Association also strengthened partnerships with the Daughters of the American Revolution, U.S. Daughters of 1812, General Society of the War of 1812, Chickasaw Nation, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and Poarch Creek Indians in educational programming and ceremonies observing the bicentennial of the War of 1812.
- Additionally, the NTPA continued development of new interpretation using smart phones.



Goal #1 OUTREACH

~ NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS

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.



NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The NET to Every Classroom Program is continuing to grow in both States, and efforts were expanded to connect with the Five Colleges in the Northampton/Amherst area.
- Outreach to college outing clubs sparked student interest and involvement with the NET.
- The new NET website and interactive map were launched at newenglandtrail.org. A Facebook page was also launched.
- The NET instituted a new Community Partners program, with Southwick, Massachusetts selected as the first participating town. Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) is working closely with the town's Open Space committee to install new signage and address trail maintenance and protection needs in town.
- Barbara Bosworth became the first NET Artist-in-Residence; her photography collection, *To Be At The Farther Edge/ Photographs Along the New England Trail*, was on display at nine different sites and was complimented by a lively series of related events.
- The MASS WALKING TOUR, a traveling folk band, hiked a portion of the NET in Massachusetts and performed for fellow hikers and trail maintainers on their journey.
- New trailhead kiosks and signage were installed in both Connecticut and Massachusetts.
- The NET's seasonal Ridgerunner program continues to thrive trail-wide. These ambassadors are doing terrific community outreach, trail inventory, and trail maintenance.



ARIZONA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- In 2013, the Arizona Trail Association (ATA) published a new guidebook with national distribution through Wilderness Press, organized seven successful participatory events on the Arizona Trail, added three new towns as gateway communities, added four new schools to its Seeds of Stewardship program, coordinated 17 major media features (articles, radio specials, and television interviews to promote the trail), and developed a club membership program to reach new audiences and encourage responsible use of the Arizona Trail.
- The ATA also organized four successful Arizona Trail Day events throughout the State, was the featured presenter at two national conferences, secured a partnership with Garmin International to produce an Arizona Trail data card for GPS units, and promoted the Arizona Trail at 16 community events with the help of volunteers.



NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The North Country Trail Association (NCTA) published *The North Country Trail: The Best Walks, Hikes and Backpacking Trips on America's Longest National Scenic Trail*, by Ron Strickland and the NCTA, and commissioned a local community group, LowellArts, to paint a mural depicting the NCT at the NCTA Headquarters in Lowell, Michigan with assistance from the NPS.
- On National Trails Day, the NCTA launched an e-membership and awareness campaign via social media that yielded a 44% increase in total "likes", a 73% increase in engagement and 307 new members over the summer.
- The Trail Town program continued to grow, with an additional 6 towns joining in 2013 for a total of 12 official Trail Towns. Additionally, the NCTA passed a resolution supporting an Annual North Country National Scenic Trail Day to be held on the 4th Saturday in September in conjunction with National Public Lands Day.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) added one new youth program, to go along with its four existing youth programs, in 2013. Rockin' the Wild (for kids 8 - 12 years old) is a week-long camp program including trips to a local salmon farm and visits to the ice caves at Big 4 (the only natural ice caves in the lower 48 - photo below). Students learned about the various species of wildlife in the northwest and partook of many outdoor games with the very capable leaders of the program.
- In preparation for the Trail's comprehensive management plan, USFS staff created trail-wide Google Earth files for public use.



PACIFIC CREST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) built a new website in 2013 that adapts to any device, from a small cell phone to a large computer screen, increasing web traffic. More than 700,000 visited the site in 2013. PCTA distributed 35,000 copies of its quarterly magazine and issued 1,880 wilderness travel permits for trips in excess of 500 miles.



Decade for the National Trails...

A Sampling of Preservation Successes ~

ALA KAHAKAI NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- At the behest of the community of North Kohala, the Ala Kahakai Trail Association (AKTA) applied for and received \$1.4 million from Hawaii's Legacy Land Program to acquire, manage, and protect a 35-acre shoreline parcel at Kaiholena. Now these organizations are raising an additional \$150,000 to close the deal.
- A Conservation Action Plan for South Kohala (emphasizing the protection of coral reefs and fisheries) has been developed in partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, the State's Division of Aquatic Resources, NOAA, and private organizations.
- The Ala Kahakai NHT's Kiholo Puako Trail Rehabilitation project during summer 2013 restored two sections of trail in the Puuanahulu area that were damaged by the 2006 earthquake.
- E Mau Na Ala Hele's year-long advocacy effort to have a defunct thermal energy pipe removed from trail shoreline by the Natural Energy Lab of Hawaii Authority was successful. The enormous pipe was discovered during their National Trails Day hike in 2012.



CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH CHESAPEAKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- A progress report for the James River Segment Concept Plan showed progress on 31 identified action items.
- A planning process is underway with the Potomac and Chesapeake Conservancies and dozens of partners along the tidewater Potomac River to complete a 2-3 year action plan aligning this Trail's conservation and development priorities with those of the Potomac Heritage NST and the Star-Spangled Banner NHT.
- The "Rivers of the Chesapeake Collaborative LWC Proposal" aligns Federal, State, and nonprofit partners around land conservation opportunities on five river corridors along the Trail with 21,000 acres of conservation opportunities over the next three years.
- The Indigenous Cultural Landscape initiative was expanded in the Susquehanna River area with a bibliography and mapping of landscapes and archaeological sites.
- In 2013, the Chesapeake Conservancy secured \$5.25 million in commitments from Maryland, Delaware, and private foundations to conserve properties along the Nanticoke River as part of an effort to create an 8,250 acre protected wildlife corridor.
- In 2013, the Conservancy completed four major public access projects along the trail, including three new kayak/canoe launches, a boat launch, and the acquisition of a new public access site along the Nanticoke River.



EL CAMINO REAL DE LOS TEJAS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- A Multiple Property Documentation Form and three National Register of Historic Places nominations were completed and accepted by the Texas Historical Commission Board.
- El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT Association (GIS) program, run by student volunteers from the University of Texas, has georeferenced historic maps to ascertain more precise locations of the trail. The students have also produced a signage plan for the entire trail, created maps that show the Caminos Reales coming from Mexico into the Southwestern US, and created a driving map of the trail for Milam County.
- The Association also raised \$21,084.50 toward the acquisition and protection of the Lobanillo Swales, located on a 4.1 acre tract of land in Sabine County, Texas.



EL CAMINO REAL DE TIERRA ADENTRO NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- BLM staff held a workshop in Socorro addressing the potential effects of the proposed SunZia Transmission Project in the context of the new BLM Manuals 6280 and 6250. The workshop was conducted by a contractor, along with BLM and NPS staff and the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association.



LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- NPS staff worked towards planning and development associated with the proposed Lower Columbia River National Water Trail for future designation by the Secretary of Interior, and also developed a GIS database.
- Several water trails on the Missouri and Columbia Rivers were developed or enhanced.
- A State of the Trail Report was completed for the Sioux City to Pickstown, South Dakota segment.
- Efforts towards the "Scenery Conservation Program" examined trail-wide examples and challenges.
- The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) awarded an Idaho resident the LCTHF Trail Stewardship Award for work protecting the US 12 Lewis and Clark Highway Corridor from the impacts from mega load shipments.
- The LCTHF also awarded close to \$50,000 in 12 trail stewardship grants for a wide variety of projects.



IDITAROD NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- The Alaska State Legislature provided \$140,000 to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to continue the successful Iditarod Easements Project, which has established 1,889 miles of public easements for the Trail and enabled shelter cabins and trail marking. Another 300 miles of easements have been identified, and the Easements Group worked on an interagency basis to establish easements in national forests.
- In 2013, The Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance partnered with the BLM and four communities along the Iditarod NHT to install waymark signs between Rohn and Big Yetna River. Seven shelter cabins were also signed during 2013, increasing trail user safety in dangerous winter months.



Goal #2 PRESERVATION NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS

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



OVERMOUNTAIN VICTORY NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- Cooperative Agreements were signed with three counties to develop master plans for the Trail corridor in those communities.
- Several additional miles of certified trail were added in 2013, bringing the number of walkable miles of trail to 84 out of the 330 total.
- The Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA) provided funds, project management, tools, and labor to complete a nearly two-mile section of certified trail at Lake James State Park in North Carolina.
- OVTA led an effort with Foothills Conservancy to secure a \$40,000 grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program to develop a Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Cane Creek Battlefield site in North Carolina.
- OVTA continues to provide data to the NPS OVNHT GIS project through its ongoing working relationship with North Carolina State University.



SELMA TO MONTGOMERY NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

In March, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and the Director of the National Park Service Jonathan B. Jarvis declared the Edmund Pettus Bridge, the site of brutal retaliation against voting rights marchers in 1965, a National Historic Landmark. It is the second historic structure (the other being, Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church in Selma) to receive this recognition as a tribute to the historical significance of the Voting Rights March of 1965 and the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.



PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

In Utah, NPS staff worked with Eagle Mountain City to help protect, interpret, and mark an original route segment of the Trail as the city builds out its master plan. This included four new waysides to interpret the original route on a local pathway as well as a sign plan to mark the route from the main interstate highway into the town and along the Trail corridor.



NEZ PERCE (NEE-ME-POO) NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

An archeological survey of the Nez Perce NHT in the Shoshone National Forest (at right-USFS photo) was started in 2013 as a collaboration between the Wyoming State Office of Archaeology, the BLM, the USFS, and the Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF).



OLD SPANISH NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

The dedicated work of the Tecopa Chapter of the Old Spanish Trail Association resulted in the suspension of an application to the California Energy Commission for a license to build a huge solar energy plant in eastern California which would have directly and adversely affected the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.



SANTA FE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- The Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) Preservation Committee continues to work with energy companies to protect Santa Fe Trail segments and worked through mitigation with a cell phone company in New Mexico, resulting in a donation to the SFTA Preservation Fund.
- The Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron Chapter of the SFTA took the lead for the "Save Point of Rocks" initiative. The Ford County Point of Rocks, a prominent landmark for the Santa Fe Trail, the Cherokee Trail, and the Great Western Cattle Trail, is in danger of being lost due to highway expansion.
- Additionally, multiple SFTA chapters across all trail States continue to work to add Santa Fe National Historic Trail segments to the National Register of Historic Places.



TRAIL OF TEARS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- The Oklahoma chapter of the Trail of Tears Association (TOTA) is marking the graves of the Cherokee involved in the forced removal of 1838-39. At TOTA's annual conference in October 2013, they marked the graves of Chiefs Whitepath and Fly Smith who died during removal in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, during a ceremony with biography readings by descendants and Cherokee-language hymns performed by the Cherokee National Choir (photo below).
- TOTA has been working to transcribe and publish primary documents related to the removal, particularly ration lists. The lists identify the head of each Cherokee family and number of people in each family, identify ration depots locations and food provided. The ration lists also identify dates of emigration.



Decade for the National Trails...

A Sampling of Preservation Successes ~

APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- Natural resource priority zones (from 2012 field observations) were updated, incorporating Google Earth layers into the Trail Assessment data to help trail maintainers identify areas of ecological sensitivity in relation to trail construction and maintenance projects.
- An inventory of invasive plant species along the trail continues. In 2012, over 1,780 locations of invasive plants were recorded along 200 miles of Trail. This information was used to prioritize control projects in 2013.
- Rare plant monitoring and phenology monitoring workshops were held in all Trail regions in 2013, and trail staff continued to work with the NPS Climate Change Response Program to establish a collaborative phenology monitoring network with other NPS units and agency partners.
- Trail staff continued moving forward with a National Register Multiple Property Documentation process for the entire Trail corridor.
- The 2013 Trail Assessment data, which incorporates Google Earth information with maps outlining trail alignment, local trail features, and adjoining lands, was processed and distributed to maintainer clubs. Over five years, 85% of the Trail has been assessed.
- The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) successfully acquired the 354-acre Alpine Rose race track adjacent to the A.T. in Pennsylvania and an easement on a 300-acre tract in North Carolina. The ATC closed on the final phase of a 10,000-acre Rocky Fork tract towards development of Rocky Fork State Park.
- The ATC, the NPS, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation worked to mitigate or appeal five separate pending energy infrastructure projects.



Native wildflowers along the Appalachian NST. Photo Courtesy of the ATC.

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- Partnered with Carson NF to support two miles of trail construction in the Magote Ridge Area
- Volunteers signed 100 miles of trail in Colorado and helped GPS new trail locations between Argentine Pass S to Santa Fe Peak.
- In early 2013, CDTC began work with local citizens from Silver City, NM to apply for a Rivers, Trails, and Conservational Assistance (RTCA) Program Grant from the National Park Service to support development of Silver City as CDTC's first designated Gateway Community. In late summer, the grant was awarded and CDTC began working with local community members to launch this effort.



ARIZONA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The Arizona Trail Association (ATA) negotiated a robust mitigation package for impacts to the trail from a proposed copper mine, including a conservation easement; convinced a major private land manager in northern Arizona to integrate the Arizona Trail into their recreation management plan; and engaged more local community members (including youth) throughout Arizona.
- A half mile of the Arizona NST corridor was protected with a \$4.8 million acquisition by the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County (with funding from a voter-approved Open Space bond and a Growing Smarter Grant). This 47-acre parcel in Picture Canyon northeast of Flagstaff serves as critical riparian habitat, a popular recreation corridor, and home to significant cultural and archaeological resources, combining ecological, geological, archaeological, and recreation values.



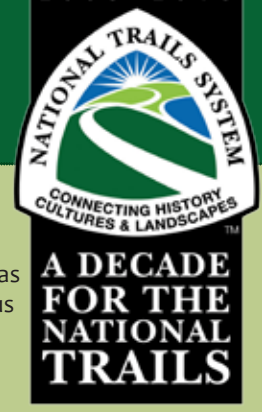
ICE AGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The Ice Age NST Mobile Skills Crew welcomed volunteers from across the Nation to 10 events involving 1,206 volunteers who donated 22,527 hours opening seven new miles of Trail and upgrading another 16.3 miles. Forty-nine trail structures – totaling 900 linear feet – were constructed.
- In 2013, The Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA), along with State and local partners, acquired 11 parcels protecting more than 900 acres and nearly five miles of the Ice Age NST. Key acquisitions totaling 36 acres in St. Croix Falls connected two existing Ice Age NST segments with the help of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). In Chippewa County the IATA worked with the Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes and Chippewa County partners to protect 130 acres of spectacular glacial topography, wetland bogs, and more than half the shoreline of Picnic Lake. The IATA also partnered with the Conservation Fund to save a 156-acre property with terminal moraine, mature woodlands, and ½ mile of the IAT from gravel extraction.
- An acquisition towards a continuous Ice Age NST between the Dells of Eau Claire to the Plover River State Fishery Area was made possible through collaboration with the Wisconsin DNR and funding through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.



Goal #2 PRESERVATION NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS

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



NEW ENGLAND NST

- More than 22-miles of new trail were established in Massachusetts. Known as the MM Trail Re-route, this tremendous undertaking greatly enhances the trail and moves hikers off roads and onto protected and scenic lands. Additionally, the Connecticut State Assembly passed legislation (SB 1015) formally supporting trail protection efforts on the NET.
- In both Connecticut and Massachusetts, NET staff continue to meet with local landowners and partner organizations to expand the trail community and widen our protection efforts.



FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

This year, Florida NST partners undertook a statewide inventory of existing bridges, with the goal of providing replacement, maintenance, and recommendation plans for each structure to the land manager/owner and local volunteer stewards. About one-third of the infrastructure inventory is now complete, with the remainder to be completed next year. Inspections are being treated as on-the-job training opportunities for partners and volunteers to refresh their knowledge of bridge construction, maintenance, and inspection standards.



NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

The North Country Trail Association (NCTA) has been working with the National Park Service to adopt the Optimal Location Review (OLR) planning process to identify the best route of the trail and drive the rationale/prioritization for acquisition. In 2013 NCTA successfully applied the OLR planning process in several locations.

In partnership with the National Park Service, NCTA is building a trail protection strategy for Michigan, steps of which will be able to be replicated in other States. This project has focused on identifying and inventorying the gaps in the Trail as well as building a partnership with Heart of the Lakes Center for Land Conservation Policy and a number of land trusts in Michigan to explore how we can work together to achieve common goals.

Furthermore, NCTA has joined in a partnership with the FracTracker Alliance, an organization that shares maps, data and analyses to communicate impacts of the global oil and gas industry. Their trail logbook allows hikers to simply record what they are seeing on the NCT to help us better understand how and where it is being impacted.



PACIFIC CREST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The LWCF provided \$3.2 million for land acquisition on the PCT in FY13. The USFS and BLM purchased six tracts of more than 1,460 acres to protect the PCT and its viewshed.
 - In Washington, more than 1,000 acres were acquired to protect the PCT corridor on the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie and Okanogan –Wenatchee National Forests, including three large parcels acquired in the public/private checkerboard region about 35 miles south of Snoqualmie Pass.
 - In southern Oregon, the PCTA continued to work with both the BLM’s Medford District and Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest on several land acquisition projects. The BLM acquired parcels within and near the boundaries of the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument, and the USFS acquired a parcel at the PCT’s crossing of the Dead Indian Memorial Highway, securing a popular PCT trailhead.
- In southern California, trail partners continue in planning and negotiations with the Tejon Ranch and Tejon Ranch Conservancy to relocate 37 miles of the Trail from the desert floor onto the Sierra Crest.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

In December 2013, the Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) secured 63.5 acres of land traversed by the Pacific Northwest NST. This was a particularly gratifying success as the effort had been underway with the BLM and USFS since 2008 but ran into difficulties. The PNTA conducted internet fundraising to purchase the property and was successful thanks to Kinross Gold (Echo Bay Mining) which came up with the balance of the funds needed to make this happen. This is the first land acquisition made to protect the PNNST corridor.



Decade for the National Trails

A Sampling of CAPACITY BUILDING Successes

ALA KAHAKAI NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

The Hawaiian Legacy Program was founded to preserve knowledge of traditional building methods and crafts and to provide opportunities for experienced NPS staff to work with and train the next generation in traditional Hawaiian scaffolding (OSHA approved) and dry stack building techniques and construction for the Kiholo Puako Trail Project.



EL CAMINO REAL DE LOS TEJAS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

The El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association office added a part-time employee and four interns to its day-to-day operations in 2013. This has greatly increased the organization's capacity to protect, advocate, and promote the trail.

The Association's board of directors also underwent an organizational assessment to determine what it can do better to help manage the organization.



IDITAROD NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- The Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance hosts two meetings a year that bring together agencies, organizations, individuals, and Alaska Native organizations with an interest in protecting the Iditarod National Historic Trail. At the meetings, the participants discuss mutual goals and collaborative projects. In an effort to keep informed on undertakings with a potential to impact the historic Iditarod Trail, the IHTA invites proponents of large scale development and land management planning projects to give presentations to the participants. Currently, the development projects near or on the Iditarod Trail include mines, gas pipelines, railroads, roads, new town sites, and hydroelectric dams. In addition, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service have land and resource management plans undergoing major revision.
- The first-ever system of waymark signs was installed on a 260-mile segment between the Alaska Range and the Yukon River. This included 285 mileage signs, place name signs, and directional arrows. Four community partner groups and BLM staff installed the signs at remote, pre-identified locations after traveling hundreds of miles by snowmachine to the installation locations. The Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance provided \$8,400 for acquisition and shipping and an additional \$22,000 in grants to local groups and governments for fuel and supplies.



LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) hired a part-time library assistant to maintain its library and improve it to professional library standards. The LCTHF also established a protocol of annual volunteer training at its annual business meetings.



CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH CHESAPEAKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- In 2013, the Chesapeake Conservancy expanded its capacity and expertise through the addition of several new staff members in the roles of Project Coordinator, Conservation Analyst, Executive Assistant, Education Specialist, and Interpretive Specialist. These staff additions provide additional capacity for partnership with Federal and State partners, for geospatial analyses to inform land conservation, and for educational and interpretive programs and materials along the Captain John Smith Trail and at new public access sites. The Conservancy also has a new Director of Conservation Innovation who is working on ways to leverage advanced remote sensing and geographic information systems to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Conservancy's projects, as well as exploring new ways to use online engagement tools to disseminate data and increase public outreach. These new positions have strengthened the Conservancy's role as an effective conservation partner.
- NPS staff associated with the Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT conducted an analysis of the Chesapeake Large Landscape Conservation Partnership under two summer consultants provided by the NPS Business Management Group. The report includes best practices, interview data and analysis, and a matrix of options for enhancing the effectiveness of this partnership.



JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- The Anza Trail Foundation (ATF) collaborated with NPS Anza Trail staff to launch a new partnership website, www.AnzaHistoricTrail.org, at a June 27, 2013 event at the Presidio San Francisco. The website is a first-stop portal to both ATF and NPS and provides an interactive Anza Trail experience, including a customizable map, a list of upcoming events along the trail, and a sign-up function to join ATF. The website launch included a postcard mailed to more than 1,000 Anza Trail supporters. As a result of their new website, the online membership and mailing list and the outreach to other Anza organizations and trail organizations, the ATF has increased its membership and enhanced its organizational capacity.
- ATF participated in the development of an interpretive wayside exhibit for the Anza Trail at Mission San Gabriel in Southern California.
- ATF worked with Anza Trail Staff to develop an online membership and mailing list, which now has nearly 100 people registered.



Goal #3 CAPACITY

~ NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS

Build the capacity of the organizations and Federal agencies involved to better administer, manage, and sustain National Scenic, Historic, and Recreation Trails.



OVERMOUNTAIN VICTORY NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL



- OVTA supported the Town of Abingdon in the 2013 OVNHT Conference (April 5th & 6th, 2013), completed the redesign of the OVTA website, and selected membership software to help grow membership from 170 members to 475.
- A major 2013 OVTA organizational achievement was the board approval to hire the OVTA's first paid employee—a part-time executive director. Past President and Morganton, NC resident Marc Bowen was selected for this position, which commenced on January 11th of 2014. Returning for another term as President is Elkin, North Carolina-based RG Absher and serving as Vice-President is Abingdon, Virginia-based Garrett Jackson.

OLD SPANISH NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL



The Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) formed two new chapters in 2013. The San Rafael Chapter was founded in Emery County, Utah, and the Fish Lake Chapter was started in Sevier County, Utah.

STAR-SPANGLED BANNER NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL



The Comprehensive Management Plan for the Star-Spangled Banner NHT was just completed in 2012, so 2013 implementation actions are now capitalizing on the growing interest in the War of 1812 Bicentennial (in 2014) with a grant program and tourism marketing campaign. These partnership actions greatly expanded both capacity and outreach for the Trail:

- Maryland Chesapeake Campaign events at Fort McHenry, Havre de Grace, North Point, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland.
- Development of the The Chesapeake Explorer app, supported by Geico Insurance. WJZ-TV Baltimore hosted a series of vignettes announcing the app and encouraging exploration along the Trail, which dramatically increased visibility and downloads (see photos below).
- Completion of marking of the auto tour route in Maryland.
- Completion of a travelling exhibit and travelling trunk with the Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortium to travel to libraries, schools, and community centers in a three-county area.
- Support for trail-related interpretive media including map guides, banners, and interpretive signage in various Maryland counties.
- Teacher training in Prince George and Baltimore Counties, plus continuing teacher training in partnership with the Center for the Constitution in Virginia.
- Design, fabrication, installation of interpretive signage (using Scenic Byways funding) for 102 signs plus signage at two Maryland Welcome Centers along Interstate 95. In Virginia and the District of Columbia, an additional 16 interpretive waysides and a regional map guide will be completed in 2014.
- Design and construction documentation in Charles County, Maryland, for revitalization at two high potential sites, the British Landing Site in Benedict, and the North Point State Battlefield.
- Signed MOUs with over two dozen site partners and organizations.
- Continued distribution and installation of trail markers at trail sites and water access points.



SANTA FE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL



- The Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) conducted a Spring Workshop to increase the number of volunteers for committee level work and held a NPS/SFTA Mapping Workshop to support the organization's mapping efforts.
- In addition, the SFTA created a Geocaching Task Force to increase the number of volunteers for this outreach program (image at right), gain exposure to the geocaching community, and grow membership.



WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL



- The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT was awarded a Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) Grant for designing and fabricating wayside exhibits, in partnership with the Hudson Valley Greenway, in New York State.
- The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT is also working towards a searchable database of the route and its related resources; State by State inventories have been completed in almost every State, and are underway in the final two. The information that has been gathered will need to be organized and incorporated into a system that will allow accessible and searchable NHT maps to create a consistent and connected network of information for the NHT using geographic information system (GIS) mapping in conjunction with a searchable database. W3R-US and NPS have obtained a Connect Trails to Parks grant to begin developing the GIS framework.

Decade for the National Trails...

A Sampling of CAPACITY BUILDING Successes

Appalachian Trail Conservancy

- The Appalachian NST's Community Ambassador Program (funded by Connect Trails to Parks and the Appalachian Trail Community™ program) continues to grow, with the 31st community recently designated. The program is designed to recognize communities that promote and protect the AT and serves to assist communities with local initiatives such as sustainable economic development through tourism and outdoor recreation, while preserving and protecting the Trail.
- In 2013, the ATC's annual membership campaign netted over 3,000 new members, and the organization added new regional staff in Maine. The Konnarock Volunteer Trail Crew had a significant increase in youth (18-25 year old), and first-time volunteers (>35%), and a Trail Crew & Ridge Runner base camp was established in the Smokies.
- Also along the AT, NPS, USFS, and the ATC are developing a balanced policy for appropriate group uses and special events. In the past, Trail policy prohibited such events as marathons, fund-raising hikes, and commercially-led backpacking trips. These requests are increasing, and the new policy will be resource-based to better accommodate contemporary "Special Park Uses".



Photo above: Young adult trail volunteers with the Konnarock Volunteer Crew.

ARIZONA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The Arizona Trail Association redesigned its membership program to attract new members and encourage current members to donate more, appointed four new regional stewards (volunteer positions), implemented a volunteer hours reporting and tracking system online, and secured an intern from Northern Arizona University for 600 hours.
- A BLM assistance agreement was reached that will enable the USFS to aid the Arizona Trail Association in its Seeds of Stewardship Program. Two grants from Recreational Equipment, Inc. and Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Foundation supported this project to encourage youth participation with the Arizona Trail.
- Four Peaks Passage, a remote, severely eroded and brushed-over 13 mile section of the Trail on the Tonto National Forest was completely reconstructed through Arizona State Parks with \$42,000 in Recreational Trails Program funds, the Coconino Rural Environment Corps, and volunteer time from the ATA and the American Conservation Experience Conservation Corps.
- 11 miles of overgrown trail in Saguaro National Park was improved or completely relocated, and new trail signs were installed.
- A highly eroded equestrian section in Picture Canyon was realigned to a sustainable location and a trailhead and junction signage were installed through \$33,000 of NPS Connect Trails to Parks funding at Walnut Canyon National Monument, in coordination with the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County.



FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The FTA hired its first Regional Representative (North Florida) and Volunteer Program Coordinator.
- FTA implemented a new set of crew leader and emergency documents to help ensure the organization and safety of its volunteers on the trail.
- FTA revamped its website and updated its Volunteer Hours Reporting System to include the ability to log hours by individual.
- FTA's northern and panhandle chapters worked diligently to be the first chapters to initiate Chapter-Lead F-Troops, which are larger scale volunteer projects. FTA also provided Wilderness First Aid and Chainsaw trainings to active volunteers.



Photo below: Trail workers along the Florida NST.



Goal #3 CAPACITY

~ NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS

Build the capacity of the organizations and Federal agencies involved to better administer, manage, and sustain National Scenic, Historic, and Recreation Trails.



CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- 200 CDTC volunteers provided more than 8,300 hours of service. CDTC hired its first employee, veteran CDT supporter Teresa Martinez.
- CDTC launched its CDT Register Program, placing 7 registers in businesses and hostels along the Trail to capture statistics on CDT hikers to demonstrate the importance of the CDT for recreationalists and CDT-generated tourism in local communities.
- CDTC continued to manage GIS data for the US Forest Service Region 2, providing management data to several field units, and it continued to provide easily-accessible trail information for users, releasing Google Earth files and maintaining a CDT Interactive Map.



PACIFIC CREST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The PCTA raised \$1,250,824 in private funding in 2013. They had 1,521 volunteers hit the trail, work in the office, or write for one of its publications in 2013; 830 of them were new to PCTA's volunteer program. PCTA supporters contributed 85,000 hours to the trail, an in-kind value of \$1.9 million. Most notably, youth put in 39 percent of PCTA's trail maintenance hours. PCTA volunteers and corps crews were able to maintain 1,454 miles of the PCT, about 54 percent of the trail. PCTA also held 12 volunteer training opportunities through its Trails Skills College and spent 10,500 PCTA staff hours on volunteer programs.

NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The New England NST received five grants totaling \$60,000 to support design of the Trail's Southern Gateway in Guilford, Connecticut.
- The Appalachian Mountain Club hosted an SCA Intern, Elise Trelegan, who was instrumental to outreach work on the NET. She also attended the National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference in Tucson as a Trails Apprentice.



- A Master Title Plan was reviewed with the BLM, beginning with a pilot project from the Mexican border going north.



ICE AGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The Ice Age Trail Alliance added three new staff members, including a Trail Program Specialist, Publications Coordinator, and an Outreach and Education Manager. Capacity was also increased within the volunteer workforce through additional training opportunities. The popular Ice Age Trail University (IAT-U), with deep roots in trail building technique, expanded to include areas such as ecological management, rigging, trail plumbing, and camp chef. IATA focused on volunteer development with a series of Regional Rallies, centered on the theme of "Thinking Like a Hiker". This training encompassed signage techniques thus improving the user experience along the Ice Age Trail.
- NPS staff initiated a Long Range Interpretive Plan for the three-county AGO project area, involving the Wisconsin DNR, the Ice Age Trail Alliance, other Federal and State agencies, local units of government, local nonprofit groups, and the general public. Field trips and scoping meetings were held to obtain public feedback and identify important resources. Then the core team identified themes, took photos, created maps, and drafted a plan for review. This plan may serve as a prototype for the entire trail.



- The BLM and USFS signed a Memorandum of Agreement on management and maintenance of the Trail to better define responsibilities and replace existing MOUs.
- Planning efforts continued for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Okanogan-Wenatchee, Inyo, Sierra, and Sequoia NFs, Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness, and Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plans to ensure that the Trail's corridor is defined and trail resource values protected.
- Seven "Trails Skills College" training sessions took place for volunteers and agency partners.
- A collaborative partnerships between the Backcountry Horseman of California, Oregon, and Washington, Oregon Equestrian Trails, Pacific Crest Trail Association, BLM, and the USFS continue to grow in strength and depth. Two centers of excellence were created to support traditional skills, including packing.

NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

- The NCTA began production on three new videos in 2013: An Introduction to the NCNST, Trail Adopter Basics, and Trail Design and Layout. These professional training videos will help us attract new members and teach new and old volunteers alike the skills to build and maintain a great trail.
- NCTA upgraded to ArcGIS online, a new service by ESRI that creates a platform for non-technical staff to easily access GIS data, which will allow their GIS staff to interact more efficiently and effectively with volunteers and field staff.





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Trails Events Calendar Spring-Fall 2014

April 2014

April 10 - 13	Annual Conference and Membership Meeting	Ice Age Trail Alliance	Sturgeon Bay, WI	www.iceagetrail.org
April 12	Annual Meeting	Pacific Crest Trail Association	Sacramento, CA	www.pcta.org
April 12	2014 CDT Warrior Hike and Sam Hughes Dedication Ceremony	Continental Divide Trail Coalition	Hachita, NM	www.continentaldividetrail.org
April 23	First CDTC Gateway Community Dedication	Continental Divide Trail Coalition	Silver City, NM	www.continentaldividetrail.org

May 2014

May 16-18	Trail Days 2014	Appalachian Trail Conservancy	Damascus, VA	www.appalachiantrail.org
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June 2014

June 7	National Trails Day	American Hiking Society	Nationwide	http://www.americanhiking.org/national-trails-day
June 11 - 21	2014 Re-Ride - California to Missouri	National Pony Express Association	Trailwide	www.xphomestation.com

July 2014

August 2014

August 3 - 6	46th Annual Meeting	Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation	Richland, WA	www.lewisandclark.org
August 5 - 9	OCTA's Annual Convention	Oregon-California Trails Association	Kearney, NE	www.octa-trails.org
August 21 - 23	Minnesota Hiking Celebration	North Country Trail Association	Duluth, MN	www.northcountrytrail.org
September 5 - 7	PCT Days	Pacific Crest Trail Association	Cascade Locks, OR	www.pcta.org
September 18 - 20	SFTA Rendezvous	Santa Fe Trail Association	Larned, KS	www.santafetrail.org
September 27	Family Hiking Day	Appalachian Trail Conservancy	Trailwide	www.appalachiantrail.org
October 16 - 19	OSTA Annual Conference	Old Spanish Trail Association	Las Vegas, NV	www.oldspanishtrail.org