

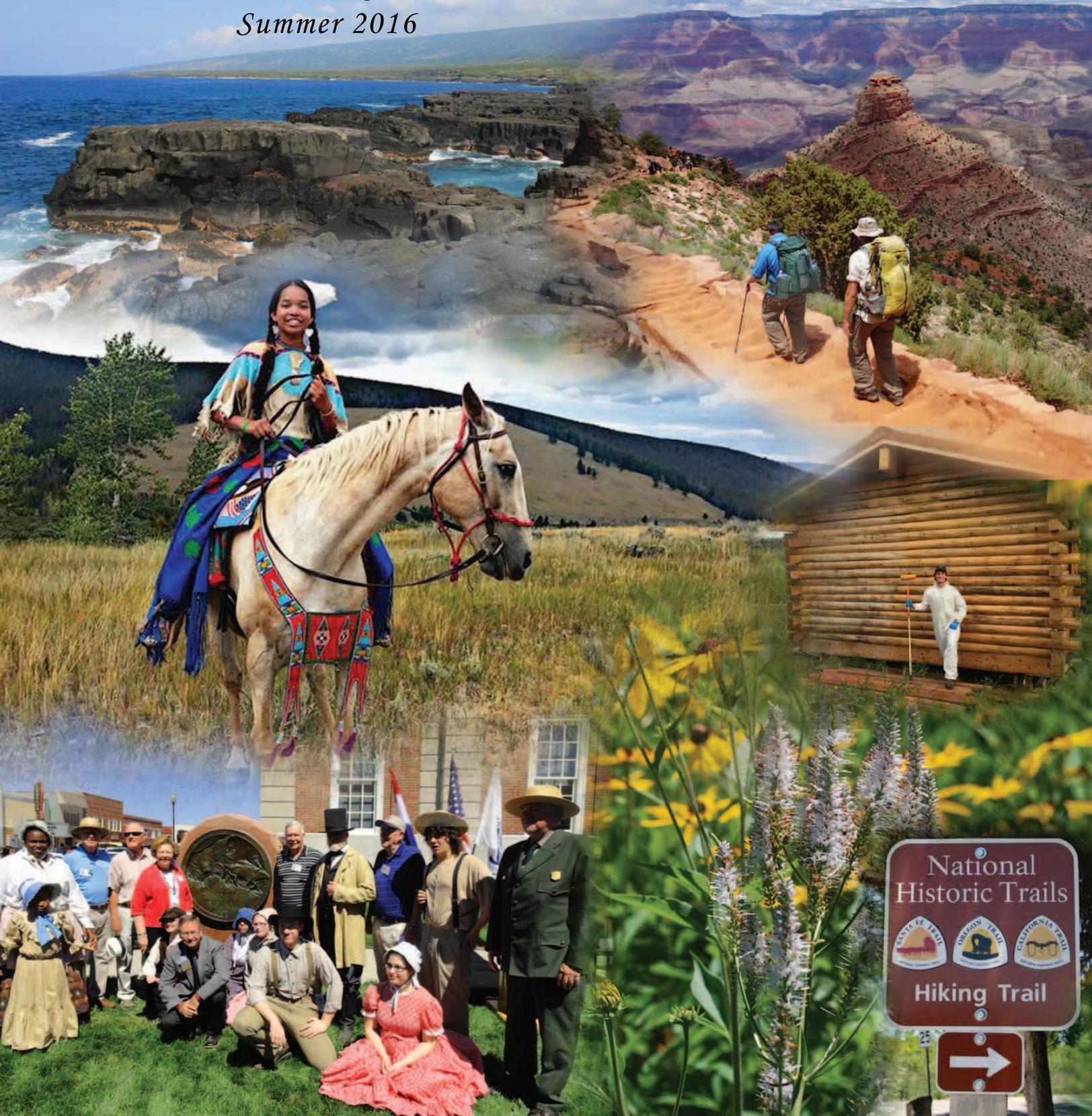
A Publication of the Partnership for the National Trails System



# Pathways

## *Across America*

Summer 2016



National  
Historic Trails

Hiking Trail



# 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 and 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**



# System... Discovery, Learning, and 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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Summer 2016 Pathways cover photos from top left to bottom right: Kauleoli site along the Ala Kahakai NHT, courtesy of the Trust for Public Land; hikers along the South Kaibab segment of the Arizona NST, courtesy of the Arizona Trail Association; Chloe Thompson on horseback at the Big Hole National Battlefield on the Nez Perce NHT, by Diane Yellowrobe; SCA Intern Nate Thompson works on an Iditarod Safety Cabin, courtesy of the BLM; participants at the bronze medallion dedication along the Oregon NHT, courtesy of the Oregon-California Trails Association; wildflowers along the Ice Age NST by Gary Werner, PNTS; trails sign photo by Chelsea Bodamer, PNTS.

Inside cover photos right to left: Participants in the 1st International Symposium on the two Caminos Reales, courtesy El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association; reenactors along the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT, courtesy of the NPS; and prairie flowers along the Ice Age NST, by Gary Werner, PNTS.



# The Joy of Gathering and Sowing Seeds

by Gary Werner, Executive Director, Partnership for the National Trails System

In the pleasantly warm days of the waning summer we have begun gathering the seeds of this season's growth from our southern Wisconsin Ice Age Trail prairies and oak savannas. Plentiful summer rain pushed the prairie and savanna grasses and wildflowers tall enough to tickle the sky and covered them with exuberant blossoms that became bountiful seeds. We will sow the seeds we are collecting when the northern fall winds blow briskly and chill or after we burn the prairies and savannas next spring to help these rare ecosystems grow larger along the Ice Age NST. Most prairie plants sink their roots deeply into the earth before blooming so planting prairie seeds is a good exercise in practicing patience.

Nurturing policy and procedural changes for our National Trails is likewise an exercise in patience, yet now we are also reaping the harvest of National Trails System (NTS) policy seeds sown a number of years ago by the PNTS, our allies, and agency leaders. Earlier this summer, the U.S. Forest Service released a new policy governing the use of cross-cut and chainsaws. This new policy, five years in the making, establishes uniform procedures and standards for certifying agency staff and volunteers to enable those so certified to use these tools throughout the entire National Forest System.

In mid-summer, the National Park Service (NPS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released for public comment the long-awaited Comprehensive Management Strategy for the Old Spanish NHT. Since the Old Spanish is one of two national trails cooperatively administered by two Federal agencies, this document blends the administrative and management approaches of both agencies. It also uses a new planning approach that provides the framework for BLM planners to develop more detailed and specific land management plans for the long sections of the Trail on public lands following the guidelines in the agency's National Trails Management Policies issued in 2012.

In mid-summer the NPS also released a Feasibility Study of the proposed "Eastern Legacy" extension of the Lewis and Clark NHT for public comment. The "Eastern Legacy" proposes to extend the Lewis and Clark NHT east from its current starting point on the Mississippi River in Illinois up the Ohio River to Pittsburgh and to other sites visited by Lewis and/or Clark in the East. After reviewing comments from the public, the NPS will make a recommendation to Congress on how to proceed on with Lewis and Clark.

For several years, the PNTS has helped a number of national trails by sowing seeds of land protection projects in the annual Land and Water Conservation Fund budget through the interagency Collaborative Landscape Planning process. Now these seeds are beginning to bloom as we report on Federal purchases of important sections of the Ala Kahakai and Nez Perce National Historic Trails. A new land protection seed was sown this summer by the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA). In its purchase of Landers Meadow in central California, the PCTA joins the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Ice Age Trail Alliance, and El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association in raising money to buy critical tracts of land along their trails.



Prairie flowers on the Ice Age NST. Photos by Gary Werner.



Former Congressmen Dave Obey and Tom Petri and Ice Age NST Superintendent John Madden present a group of Girl Scouts with badges for Ice Age Trail walks during an NPS Centennial event.

On August 25, the NPS celebrated 100 years of protecting and interpreting the 400 plus special places comprising our National Park System. Many of our National Trails helped the NPS celebrate this milestone, like the event hosted by the Ice Age NST partners in early August. More than 200 people gathered near the shore of Ennis Lake along the Ice Age NST that preserves the original American home site of John Muir, the acclaimed naturalist credited with founding the National Park System. Like many NTS events, it was a collaboration between many partners, including local Girl Scouts, churches, emergency medical services volunteers who transmitted greetings by radio from the John Muir museum in Dunbar, Scotland; and local, State, and Federal officials. Artwork created by students from the Ice Age Trail Alliance's Saunters program encouraged the celebrants to "Walk like John Muir" and be inspired by the endless beauty of the earth.

During this summer of success and accomplishment we also lost one of the stalwarts of the National Trails System when Bill Watson died in August. Bill and his wife Jeanne had been instrumental leaders in the Oregon-California Trails Association for decades. Each year for more than three decades this dedicated duo visited Congress to advocate for more support for trails and to convince Congress to authorize the California and Pony Express NHTs. Quietly and politely persistent, Bill and Jeanne set an example for other trail advocates to emulate – while making lasting friends in Congress along the way. Bill also served the National Trails System community through his leadership in helping to establish the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) along with a handful of leaders who believed in the collective strength of the trail organizations working together.

Late November will mark the 25th Anniversary of the gathering of trail organization leaders during the 2nd Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails that planted the seed that has grown and blossomed into the (PNTS). We will pass that milestone during this Park Service Centennial Year while planning how to appropriately commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System and Wild and Scenic Rivers System in 2018.

While we enjoy the blossoms of the seeds we have sown over the past several decades we must continue to gather and plant more seeds so that the prairies, oak savannas, and other special places along our National Trails will continue to flourish and so our organizations and our agency partners will continue to grow in capacity and be able to more fully preserve the integrity and beauty of our trails. Come, join in the joy of gathering and planting seeds along our national scenic and historic trails.

Happy Autumn, Gary Werner

# The 2016 National Historic Trails Workshop: Celebrating and Learning From Kansas City Trails Successes

The Partnership for the National Trails System hosted the biennial National Historic Trails Workshop in Kansas City, Missouri from June 6-9 in collaboration with the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) Trails Head Chapter, the Missouri River Outfitters Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA), and the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association. Attendees from across the nation gathered under the theme “Trails Enhancing the Quality of Life”.

The first full day kicked off with a mobile workshop, with participants traveling along the Independence Route of the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California NHTs down to Bannister Road near the under-construction Cerner 3-Trails Campus. Participants proceeded to the Truman Courthouse for the dedication of the Fairbanks Oregon Trail bronze medallion.

The bronze Oregon Trail medallion, cast about 20 years ago, is three feet in diameter and weighs 200 pounds, the last of a series of medallions first cast in 1924 by sculptor Dr. Avard Fairbanks. A Boy Scout troop presented the colors and students from the Nowlin Middle School sang the Star-Spangled Banner. The medallion was placed on the back of an existing Oregon Trail monument which has been at the Courthouse since 1948.

Following the dedication of the medallion, workshop participants took part in a ground breaking ceremony at a new Inclusive Play Project, a playground that will feature signs in braille for the visually impaired and playground equipment designed around a trails theme. Participants hiked the ½ mile Mill Creek Park trail and toured the trail markers at Upper Independence (Wayne City) Landing. Members of the Independence School system drama clubs joined us and recited stories and diary quotes from emigrants who traveled the trails. Several speakers in period dress also presented before dinner.

Tuesday and Wednesday featured a range of presentations, with Tuesday focused on partnership case studies and Wednesday centering on organizational operations. Presenters from the National Park Service, OCTA, SFTA, and the National Frontier Trails Museum reviewed projects in the Kansas City area made possible through their partnerships including Schumacher Park, the I-435 steel silhouettes, the Three-Trails Crossing Memorial Highway, partnerships with Cerner, the creation of 3-Trails brand name, and educational initiatives. Carol Weisman of Board Builders presented on nonprofit board development, governance, and effective management. Additional sessions highlighted fundraising, leadership recruitment, and agency collaboration. John Slaughter, the superintendent of the Overmountain NHT, and Luke Klobberdanz of the Ice Age Trail Alliance also presented on youth programs from the historic and scenic trails perspective.

The NHT workshop wrapped up on Thursday with a final mobile workshop featuring a hike across the new Red Bridge and the Powder Mill Bridge dedication. Although completed some months ago, project organizers decided to wait until the National Historic Trails Workshop to dedicate the Powder Mill Bridge to include a national community of trail enthusiasts in the event. The bridge was a \$1.5M Missouri DOT project also funded by the 3-Trails West Community Improvement District and Federal Highway Administration funds.

*Photos from top to immediate right: the dedication ceremony of the bronze Oregon Trail medallion. At the podium are OCTA Trails Manager Travis Boley and Jackson County Executive Frank White. The colors were presented by a local Boy Scout troop. Fourth photo: A presentation by Aaron Mahr, Superintendent, National Trails Intermountain Region. The dedication ceremony for the Powder Mill Bridge attended by over 150 people. Bottom row of photos: The dedication for a new Inclusive Play Project.*

*All photos courtesy of OCTA. Article adapted from the event overview published in the July 2016 OCTA Trails Head Traces Newsletter.*



# Land and Water Conservation Fund Facilitates High-Profile Land Purchases, Protecting Critical Trail Segments and Sites

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) continues to be a valuable source of funding for protecting important parcels and filling gaps along the scenic and historic trails of the National Trails System. Recently, years of effort by a multitude of partners have paid off in the successful purchase and protection of several land parcels across the country. These purchases were all part of previous Land and Water Conservation Fund Collaborative Landscape Planning Proposals for the National Trails System (NTS) coordinated by the Partnership for the National Trails System. The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) recently assisted the US Forest Service in submitting another NTS proposal for FY 2018 in the hope of building further on these fabulous land protection successes!



## Kauleoli Fishing Village -- Hawai'i Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail



The people of Hawai'i will forever be able walk the path of South Kona's ancestors, thanks to the purchase and protection of the 59-acre Kauleoli fishing village by The Trust for Public Land (TPL), the NPS's Ala Kahakai NHT, and lineal descendants of the area. This is the first historic site to be purchased and conserved by the Ala Kahakai NHT, a unit of the NPS.

The cornerstone purchase extends public access and protection for the half-mile section of the trail through Kauleoli and the cultural sites on the makai side of the trail, ensuring the continuation of the stories and traditions of this treasured South Kona landscape. Kauleoli connects to the southern border of Pu'uuhonua O Hōnaunau National Historical Park at the ancient fishing village of Kī'ilae (added to the Park in 2006 with assistance from the TPL). Funding for the \$3,500,000 purchase was provided by the LWCF through the National Rivers and Trails Initiative.

The property includes a well-preserved section of the trail with intricately fitted stone pavers and traditional dryset stone walls bordering its sides, the entire half-mile shoreline of the Kauleoli ahupua'a (land division), and numerous ancient sites such as Hawaiian house platforms, traditional agriculture areas, and saltmaking ponds. Safeguarding Kauleoli also protects crucial habitat for threatened and endemic species such as green sea turtles, migrating humpback whales, 'ōpae 'ula, and the Orangeblack Hawaiian damselfly that live in unique pools formed in lava basins on the shore.

*Excerpted from the original TPL/NPS joint press released published August 4, 2016.*

## Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest -- Nez Perce National Historic Trail

This July, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Supervisor Melany Glossa announced the acquisition of 320 acres of land in Beaverhead County. These lands provide protection of a segment of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail, conserve critical fish and wildlife habitat connectivity, and enhance recreational opportunities for the public.



The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) partnered with Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF), Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust, and the Holland Ranch Company to secure the private inholding which includes the confluence of Selway Creek, Camp Creek, and Bloody Dick Creeks. The landscape serves as an important corridor for wildlife, including elk, mule deer, moose, and black bears movement between the Continental Divide and Big Hole and Horse Prairie valleys. It also includes over 2.5 miles of streams and riparian habitat.

The acquisition protects a quarter-mile High Potential Route Segment of the Nez Perce NHT. "Following the bloody battle at Big Hole the Niimípuu (Nez Perce) families hastily buried their dead and, led by Chief Hotóoto or Lean Elk (also known as Poker Joe), hurried south from the Big Hole Valley. The wounded suffered and several died along this section of this sacred trail," said Nez Perce Cultural Director Nakia Williamson.

Through a partnership with the High Divide Collaborative Landscape Project (CLP), the USFS received LWCF appropriations as well as wide support to help complete this project. The High Divide Collaborative is a partnership of public land management agencies, State wildlife agencies, landowners, local community leaders, scientists, and conservation groups working together to protect landscape and habitat integrity and increase recreational opportunities in Idaho and Montana.

*Adapted from the original press release by the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest on July 13, 2016.*

*Photo below: The newly protected acquired inholding of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest preserves 2.5 miles of riparian habitat as well as a crucial segment of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. Photo courtesy of the USFS.*





## Protecting a Fragile Wet Meadow Along the Pacific Crest NST

This summer, the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) celebrated the successful acquisition of one of the highest priority parcels identified in its PCT Lands inventory, Landers Meadow, as part of a strategic effort to increase land protection along the trail. This represents the first land acquisition by the PCTA, which utilizes partnerships with the Trust for Public Land, the Conservation Fund, and a wealth of other public and private land protection partners in its endeavor to protect the Pacific Crest NST.



The parcel is located in a unique area of the PCT including rare and endangered meadows surrounded by pinyon, juniper, and ponderosa pine forests. The Landers Meadow property contains approximately 245 acres of open wet meadow with abundant spring wildflowers ringed by sagebrush and forest. The property abuts the Sequoia National Forest on three sides. Many springs on the property feed Landers Creek, a treatable drinking water supply for day users and distance hikers in the dry southern portion of the PCT, where water availability is as scarce as it is crucial. The PCT runs adjacent to this property for a half mile. It provides scenic views along the trail, campsite opportunities, and important habitat for 78 bird species, black bears, mountain lions, and mule deer.

The meadow is accessible from Piute Mountain Road for a day hike and is ideal as a place to rest, picnic, birdwatch, or read a book. The shaded forest offers a respite in the driest section of the trail.

This property was being sold by an investment company which gave the PCTA an early purchase option. If it had not been acquired and protected by the PCTA, it likely would have been sold for recreational home sites or other incompatible commercial use. This fragile wildlife habitat inevitably would have been destroyed and the natural pristine environment would have been degraded. Such development would drastically compromise the experience for PCT users and prevent access to a valuable water source.

**Location:**

- 607 miles from the PCT southern terminus
- Kern County, California
- Southern Sierra Nevada
- Shares boundaries with Sequoia National Forest on three sides

**Size:**  
Approximately 245 acres

**What you will see:**  
High mountain meadow, mixed conifer forest, wildflowers, numerous bird species and mule deer.

**What you can do there:**  
Hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and bird watching.

Landers Meadow Property

### About the PCTA's Land Protection Efforts

PCTA works with landowners, public agencies, conservation organizations and local communities to protect land for the trail through acquisitions of fee title lands and conservation easements for transfer to public land management agencies.



*The property boasts 78 bird species, including the white-headed woodpecker (above).*

These land protection acquisitions can occur in three ways: PCTA can purchase the property for its appraised fair market value, the landowner can donate the real estate interest to PCTA, or the landowner can elect to sell the real estate interest to PCTA for a price below the appraised value (a “bargain sale”). Donations or bargain sales of real estate interests are often tax deductible. Leaving land to PCTA as part of an estate plan is another option for landowners.

The PCTA's land protection work is focused on identifying high priority tracts for permanent protection through the PCT Lands Inventory, which enables the PCTA to identify and prioritize properties that are at risk. It guides PCTA staff in creating plans to acquire threatened parcels from willing sellers. After an Optimal Location Review process, the PCTA can be sure that it is protecting the best location possible for the trail. Purchasing these parcels creates a continuous trail experience and reduces the costs and improves management of the trail by eliminating miles of public/private boundaries.

Working with partners at public agencies, conservation organizations, and local communities, the PCTA provides assistance in land acquisitions through real estate negotiations and transactional skills, fundraising, technical trail expertise, outreach, and advocacy for public funding.

Information adapted from the PCTA website at <http://www.pcta.org/our-work/land-protection/>.

*Landers Meadow Information and photos courtesy of Megan Wargo, PCTA Director of Land Protection.*

# Gateway Community Program Sets the Stage for Solid Business Partnerships Along Arizona National Scenic Trail



Increased community awareness, volunteer recruitment, financial support, and in-kind goods and services are just a few of the benefits that fostering strong business partnerships can offer trails. For organizations to be successful in building those bridges, first establishing strong ties with trail communities is critical to identifying potential relationships, approaching businesses, and retaining their support.

Over the last few years, the Arizona Trail Association (ATA) has established a business partnership program within its Gateway Community Program. The Gateway Community Program aims to build a sense of community ownership of the trail, offering a variety of ways for public and private entities to become involved in the trail. With regular meetings with community members to highlight the benefits of the trail in the community and build relationships, the program creates a fertile environment for connecting with businesses.

While establishing corporate and small business contacts is often the domain of the executive director or a separate fundraising person, ATA Executive Director Matthew Nelson empowered the Gateway Community Liaison, Sirena Dufault, to be the primary coordinator for those efforts, explaining, “we determined that trail staff ‘on the ground’ were in a unique position to provide the information, sense of community, and personal connection to build long term connections with community business owners and employees.”

## Building Business Partnerships

Business Partner Program Coordinator Sirena Dufault stresses that she typically connects with a business several times before even bringing up funding partnerships. She states, “It is important to develop relationships with the people behind the counter – the business owners and managers – to let them get a sense of who we are as an organization, what we are doing, and how it helps their communities before approaching them for funding. The businesses that are within the AZT Gateway communities stand to gain the most from the increased traffic through their towns from the Arizona Trail, so being able to approach a business asking ‘have you noticed how much increased traffic your business has seen from the Arizona Trail’ has been a very effective approach.”



## Maintaining Business Partnerships

Business Partnership Program coordinator Sirena Dufault estimates that maintaining relationships with businesses on average requires about five hours per week, a small but very valuable percentage of the time she spends facilitating community connections overall as the Gateway Community program coordinator. When the AZT sends out its newsletter approximately four times per year, Sirena sends out a message to business partners beforehand to alert them to the upcoming information, encourage them to get involved in events, remind them of the opportunity to present their products or services at booths during the events, and thank them for their support.

Details about each business partnership are kept within the ATA’s special business partnership database, which is a separate system from their regular membership database. It keeps track of when partnerships were initiated and sends out several automatic reminders for annual partnership renewal. When a partnership is renewed, the ATA’s executive director either immediately calls or emails the business to thank them for their continued support.

The recently-formed Gateway Community Advisory Council, which meets three times a year has also proven to be a great way for ATA staff to maintain their connection to business leaders in the Gateway Communities, as many businesses choose to participate to represent their communities.



## About the ATA’s Arizona Trail Gateway Community Program

The Gateway Community Program focuses on engaging the residents of communities near the Arizona Trail, connecting them to the trail community, and helping them to understand the advantages of the trail and how to cater to and benefit from trail users.

The program’s components include but are not limited to:

1. Public presentations and gatherings hosted by the ATA Gateway Community Liaison
2. Engagement with local chambers of commerce, tourism associations, and business communities to explain economic benefits and opportunities
3. Gateway Community signage (see photo below)
4. Encouragement and assistance towards building connector trails
5. Listing Gateway Communities as well as their features for trail users on AZT materials and the ATA website, highlighting which communities offer which resources and opportunities
6. Trail Days events
7. Social media





## The Difference between “Supportive Mention” and “Advertising” – Why trail organizations should consult with their CPA before developing business partnerships

Business partnerships allow local businesses to associate themselves with the Arizona NST and gain visibility valuable marketing with the added benefit of being tax deductible since it represents a donation to 501(c)3 organization. However, it is important to consult a Certified Public Accountant in developing business partnership agreements, because exactly HOW the trail organization can promote the business is limited and cannot technically constitute advertising, which is a non-tax deductible service. For example, while it is acceptable to list any general partner business information in a variety of media, it is not acceptable for an organization to actively promote that business, such as highlighting special offers.

However, simply mentioning a business in the proper context can have a powerful impact towards driving customers to a specific place. For example, in the updated version of the Arizona Trail App to be released this fall, partner businesses and links to their sites will be identified as significant points along the trail, making it easy for trail users to identify and navigate to partner businesses.

Photo above: Arizona Trail Ale, a product of THAT Brewery based in the Arizona Trail Gateway Community of Pine, Arizona, is a great example of how a business partnership can provide a wealth of innovation and benefits for businesses and trail alike. THAT Brewery gains considerable public visibility through its association with the Arizona NST, and the trail gains both financial (5% of Arizona Trail Ale sales) and public awareness through the trail-specific product.

### Types of Business Partnerships

ATA offers three levels of partnerships, with the lowest level at just \$250, to enable even the smallest businesses to participate. Businesses may also use the value of goods and services to cover up to 50% of the cost of any membership, particularly if it is a smaller business with a more limited marketing budget. In return, business partners get a range of benefits that are totally different from those available through standard membership. Clearly differentiating business partnerships from memberships is an important consideration to avoid confusion about benefits.

### What Does an Arizona Trail Business Partnership Offer Businesses?

All the benefits below are available to the “Ponderosa” (\$1,000) level of business partnerships. The \$500 and \$250 levels of business partnerships include some or most of these benefits as well:

- Prominent promotion on ATA website, including a banner ad
- Periodic recognition within the biweekly eNews to over 3,000 subscribers
- Articles and mentions in the quarterly newsletter - Arizona Trail News
- Website link with the company logo
- Arizona Trail Business Partner sign and Arizona Trail window decals to help direct trail users into the business
- Opportunity to sell Arizona Trail guidebook and merchandise
- Invitation to Arizona Trail events and ability to promote products
- Recognition at the Annual Meeting
- Opportunity to provide a discount to ATA members
- *Coming Fall 2016:* Inclusion of the business on the Gateway Community Guide with a website link on the latest Arizona Trail App update to point trail users to business partners during their trail travels

**A complete list of the Arizona Trail’s 80+ Business Partners and information about Business Partnerships is available at <http://www.aztrail.org/businesspartners.html>**

Map below: A segment of the Arizona National Trail, with Arizona Trail Gateway Communities highlighted in yellow. The complete interactive map of Gateway Communities is available on the ATA website at <http://www.aztrail.org/gateway/gateway.html>, with links for each community leading to listings of resources for trail hikers in that community, such as places to restock supplies, accommodations, restaurants, and points of interest.

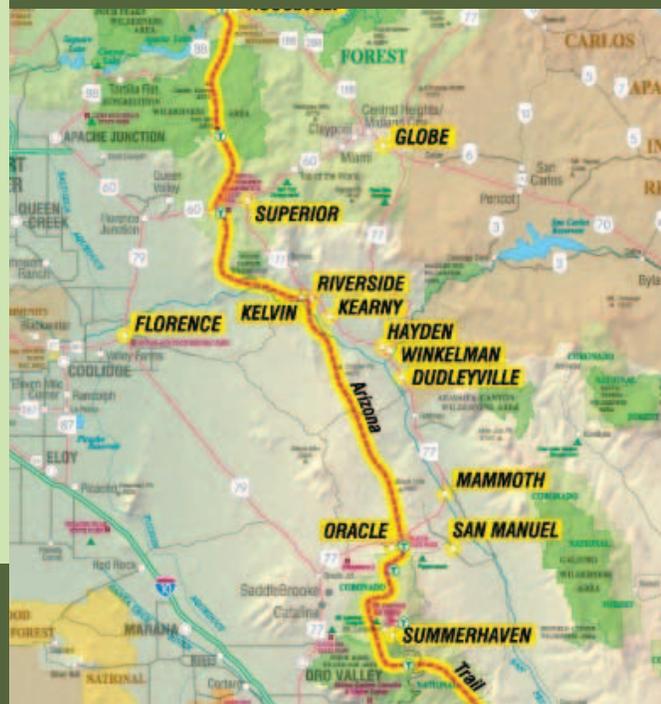


Photo at left: Business Partners can participate in Trails Days events to promote their products and services to the trails community.

Article assembled by Julia Pooler, PNTS, based on an interview with ATA staff Matt Nelson and Sirena Dufault and materials available on the ATA website. All images courtesy of the ATA.

# Building Capacity through University Partnerships: How One Trail Organization Leverages the Enthusiasm and Skills of College Students

To expand organizational capacity, El Camino Real de Los Tejas National Historic Trail Association (the Association) has successfully leveraged a combination of volunteer interns and Federal Work-Study students over the past several years.



These young adults have contributed to the protection, mapping, marketing, and youth outreach efforts of the Association. The Association, which juggles a variety of outreach and protection initiatives with only one full-time staff member, has concluded that its two different but complementary university student engagement programs are well worth the up-front investment of time and coordination.



Daniel Quintanilla and Monica Bradford, El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT Association interns, at work at the Association office.

## Administrative Overhead

The Association has a small staff—One full time executive director, Steve Gonzales. To get the Intern and Work-Study programs up and running each year, Steve estimates that he spends between 10-15 hours a week in the first few weeks of the academic year for building/maintaining the partnerships, but that after those first few weeks he spends only a few hours a week supporting and guiding the volunteer interns and Work-Study students.

**“Developing partnerships with universities takes some up-front time and effort, but the payoff for our organization has been huge. Interns and Work-Study students contribute in so many ways and allow us to pursue projects we otherwise wouldn’t have the capacity for.”**

- Steve Gonzales, Association Manager

## Volunteer Intern Program

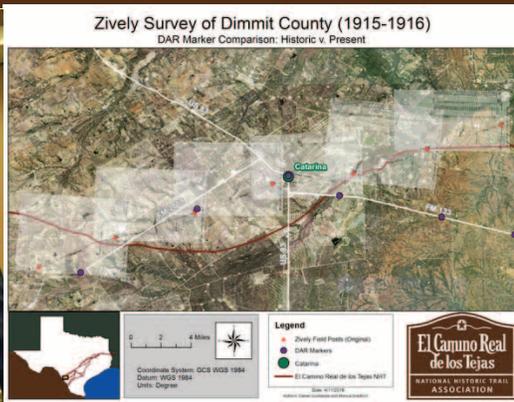
Volunteer interns get involved because they are interested in gaining experience in a certain area and/or because they may get academic credit for projects related to classes.

To recruit volunteer interns, Association staff developed a brochure talking about the range of opportunities and experiences interns can explore with the organization and approached both undergraduate and graduate level academic advisors.

Organization staff targeted geography departments, as their interests and required coursework address an ideal combination of mapping, conservation, historic, and cultural geology. Volunteer intern projects have included development of a Girl Scout Junior Ranger program, site mapping, and research to confirm possible trail sites identified by the trail’s Comprehensive Management Plan.

Volunteer interns work partly from the office, putting in between 4-15 hours a week, depending on their project. The Association established online file sharing systems and online services enabling call forwarding to cell phones and online message checking to empower interns to work remotely. Steve noted that “having these resources to let interns work from anywhere has really increased how much they are able to contribute to the organization.”

Intern Nathan Garza, shown below with NPS Director Jon Jarvis, has participated in several PNTS events, including the 2014 NHT Workshop and the 2015 NSHT conference. As a GIS student, he creates maps like the one below for the Association.



## Work-Study Program

The University of Texas at Austin, like many large universities, has a greater number of Work-Study student applicants than there are positions for working on campus. Consequently, an off-campus Work-Study Program partners with local nonprofits to enable students to work in the community while earning Federal Work-Study funds.

The Federal Work-Study Program reimburses 70% of funds, so if a Work-Study student works 100 hours at \$10 per hour, the Association receives \$700. In other words, the Association effectively pays only \$3 per hour for each Work-Study student.

Organizations interested in participating apply to the program and go through an orientation to be able to post their job descriptions online on the University’s job database. The organization can identify whether applicants should come from any specific academic department, such as accounting or marketing, or leave it open to students of any major. Steve notes that “students move quickly in deciding their Work-Study job options, so we realized that it was important to contact applicants immediately after they applied to set up an interview”.

While some Work-Study students may have very limited experience, many offer a range of skill sets to contribute with minimal training, such as accounting, graphic design, and website development. Work-Study students at the Association have been pivotal in designing new web pages and marketing materials. Those with less experience have still offered a tremendous capacity boost by assisting with organization emails, answering the phone, and other clerical duties.

On average, Work-Study students contribute between 8-15 hours per week and must commit to working the entire academic year to be eligible. However, the Work-Study Program does not continue through the summer.

# Next Generation Advisory Council Provides Insight and Support for the Appalachian NST Community

By Kelly Garvy, ATC Next Generation Advisory Council Member



Above:: Members of the Next Gen Advisory Council at their inaugural orientation and planning event in May 2016.

As Next Gen Advisory Council members for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, our job is to bridge the gap between the Gen X and Baby Boomer leaders of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) and the millennials who want to be involved in maintaining and protecting the trail for years to come. There are 15 of us, ranging from 18-30 years old from across the U.S., although mostly from the east coast. We represent both urban and rural communities, and bring diverse skill sets, life experiences, and cultural backgrounds. We've had a number of conference calls getting to know each other, and had our first face-to-face meeting in May, where we were given the freedom and responsibility to decide the structure of the council, terms and responsibilities, goals and actions to be taken, and how to ensure we stay on track.

The Three Key Roles of the Next Generation Advisory Council for the ATC are:

- 1) **To advise the ATC and member organizations on targeted questions that relate to NextGen's mission and purpose.** For example, we have provided input on the Biennial conference planning and will attend the upcoming Volunteer Leadership Meeting for AT Clubs
- 2) **To connect the ATC community to a broader network of people, ideas, and resources**
- 3) **To implement selected projects to further NextGen's mission and purpose. We have already established task forces to begin work on marketing and programming projects.**

We have decided on three council officers responsible for facilitating communication across the council members, facilitating communication between the council and the ATC, and additional coordination responsibilities. There is still much to be done, but the ATC is already able to use us as a network for surveying younger populations by having us do focus groups with our peers.

We use hip messaging apps like Slack, which cuts down on long email threads. Smartphones aside, there is a good percentage of the 90 million millennials in the U.S. who feel passionately about protecting trails for their mental, physical, and emotional benefits, as well as for preserving nature in and of itself. The question is no longer, "do these millennials care about trails and trail maintenance?" but rather, "how can they take some ownership and responsibility for trail protection and maintenance?" The NextGen Council at ATC is in the early stages of answering this question, but we think we know our peers and we can make it happen.

*"We're trying to engage [the Next Gen Council] in every aspect of the Trail. They participate in regular partnership building and stewardship meetings at difference trail governance levels, connect with trail clubs, attend fundraising galas, support ATC programs, and shared their perspectives with the ATC marketing and PR department. Since the start of the Next Gen Council, as the staff liaison I have found more and more people coming to me asking to have the Next Gen Council's involvement in their efforts. The demand for their perspectives is so high that part of my job as staff liaison is to help identify which projects are the best fit so the Council members aren't overextended."*

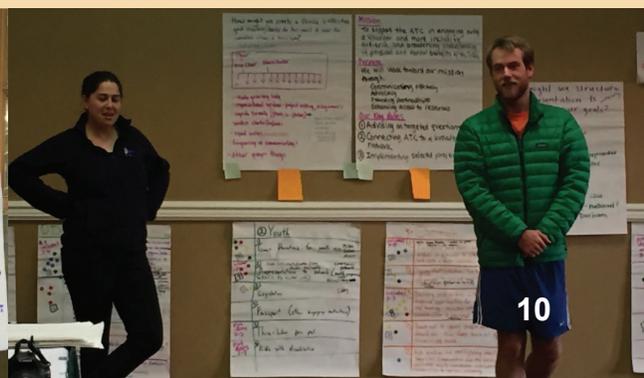
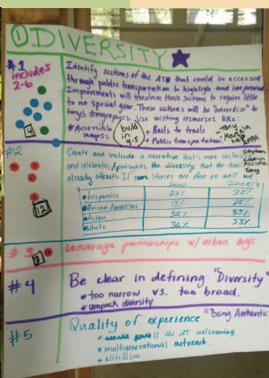
-Julie Judkins, ATC Staff Liaison for the Next Generation Advisory Council

## Establishing the Next Generation Advisory Council

Since engaging millennials in trail stewardship is a priority for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, once ATC staff determined to establish an advisory council for young adults, ATC staff recruited applicants through press releases and media blasts. Applicants were selected by a committee of staff and volunteers from ATC and the greater outdoors/trails communities based on their diverse backgrounds, experiences, and interest areas.

ATC staff set up a series of training webinars for selected members between January and April of 2016 and held an orientation, training, and planning event in May. Since the training, the Council is largely self-sufficient, with a single ATC staff liaison to facilitate communications between the ATC staff and the Next Gen Council.

Photos below: During their training and planning event in May, the 15 members of the Next Generation Advisory Council established the structure of the council, terms, responsibilities, goals, and next steps.



## Safety Cabins along Alaska's Iditarod National Historic Trail



Safety Cabins along the Iditarod National Historic Trail (INHT) date back to the gold rush days in the early 1900s. As roadhouses closed with the completion of the Alaska Railroad in 1923 and the advent of flight, the Alaska Road Commission began retrofitting abandoned shelters and building new shelter cabins. They were a welcome respite from the elements for those travelling in the winter hundreds of miles through remote country to and from Alaska's port cities of Nome, Anchorage, and Seward.

The INHT spans 2,400 miles of winter and summer trails between Seward and Nome. Half of the Iditarod NHT is located on State of Alaska land, 30% crosses private and Native lands, and 20% is on Federal land. Today, there are 15 Safety Cabins north of the Alaska Range. A recently restored historic 1931 Alaska Road Commission Shelter Cabin (see Pathways front cover) is being considered for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.



Carlson Crossing Safety Cabin was built by McGrath Trail Blazers volunteers, with materials provided by the BLM and Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance. BLM staff visited during the 2014 Iditarod Sled Dog Race to find racers at the back of the pack already had a warm fire started! Photo credit: Caitlan Dowling



Photos top to bottom: Deep snow limits cabin maintenance in the winter. Here a crew from the village of Takotna unloads trail safety marker materials at the Tolstoi Headwaters Safety Cabin. Crews from Takotna frequently travel over 300 miles round trip to work on the trail.

Approximately 20 tons of construction materials, tools, and camp equipment were mobilized to airfields 20 to 50 miles away for helicopter transport to cabin sites. Materials for the Big Yetna River Safety Cabin are staged at the airfield in Shageluk, AK.

SCA Intern Nate Thomson puts a coat of log oil on the Moose Creek Safety Cabin. Photos courtesy of the BLM.

Over the past decade, seven new Safety Cabins have been built to serve modern day traffic along the trail. From 2009 - 2010 BLM used American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to build six new Safety Cabins, one on BLM land and five on State of Alaska land. The BLM provided project management for the ARRA cabin construction, working with the State of Alaska, the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance, the Youth Restoration Corps, the Alaska Job Corps, and local communities including McGrath, Shageluk, Takotna, and Ruby. When selecting a cabin site, considerations included locations generally halfway between the next Safety Cabin or inhabited settlement, frequency of severe weather, helicopter and ski plane access, location on public land, and proximity to the INHT.

Additionally, a seventh cabin, Carlson Crossing (see photo above), was built using materials provided by the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance and BLM on State land with volunteers from the City of McGrath. Before 2007 efforts to build INHT Safety Cabins on State lands were stymied because of the lack of recorded easements and rights-of-way. Between 2007 and 2015, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources' Iditarod Easement Unit adjudicated 1,889 miles of State easements, rights-of-way, and navigable waters for the INHT. With the location of the trail easement known, the go ahead was given to build new cabins.

The BLM works with local communities to open the cabins every fall and maintain them throughout the winter. Work that can be done when traveling by snowmobile is accomplished in the winter. However, not all supplies can be transported by snowmobile, requiring the use of a helicopter during the summer to transport materials and crew to the site – running around \$7.5K per day just for the helicopter. Safety Cabins also allow for trail work on especially long, uninhabited stretches of trail. Partner crews from local villages can travel to a section of trail that needs work and use a Safety Cabin as a base.

BLM Trail Administrator Kevin Keeler visits the cabins every other year for maintenance and to clear out any trash left behind. This summer, the Tripod Flat and Old Woman Safety Cabins (which provide shelter along the heavily trafficked 70 mile Kaltag Portage connecting the communities of Unalakleet and Kaltag) along with the Moose Creek Cabin outside of the ghost town of Iditarod were visited by a BLM field crew and SCA Conservation Intern Nathan Thomas for repairs and maintenance.

Safety Cabins along the Iditarod NHT are well-known and storied places for residents of the small villages along the trail. Go into any trail community and talk about the trail and you will soon hear stories about their experience at the nearest cabin. In addition to providing for physical safety, the cabins provide an antidote for the winter blues, often used during hunting trips, recreational outings, and inter-village travel. The cabins are also used by the long distance races that occur on the trail, such as the Iditarod Sled Dog Race, the Iron Dog Snowmobile Race, and the Iditarod Invitational, a human powered race. The cabins are always open. Users are expected to share the space if others arrive and to leave the cabin with a supply of firewood. These cabins serve as true lifesavers when a winter storm picks up, machinery breaks, or the cold settles in. Many cabins' logbooks tell of near disasters averted by a well-placed Safety Cabin.

Article submitted by Judy Bittner, Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance.

# Riding Her Heritage: Nez Perce Youth Explores History and Horsemanship through Appaloosa Horse Club Trail Rides



Appaloosa horses have been an important part of Nez Perce culture for centuries. A few years ago, Chloe Thompson, now age 15, joined the Appaloosa Horse Club (ApHC) to build equestrian skills and celebrate her Nez Perce heritage. As a youth member of the Appaloosa Horse Club, Chloe learned how to saddle, ride, take care of equestrian equipment, and participate in a variety of trail rides, including heritage-focused events on the Nez Perce NHT.

Chloe has participated in several trail rides specifically commemorating significant historic Nez Perce events and sites, including a Big Hole Trail Ride and the annual Chief Joseph Trail Ride. Over 60 people typically participate in the Chief Joseph Trail Ride event, now in its 52nd year. The route follows a portion of the route Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce took in 1877 as they fled from US

Cavalry; this year from July 18–22 the ride traced the final portion of the route, ending at the historic Bear Paw Battlefield close to Chinook, Montana. During the expedition, participants ride up to 20 miles a day before making camp. As the participants approach the Battlefield, many don traditional Nez Perce attire to commemorate the significance of the events that took place there.

Chloe is also part of the Nez Perce Youth Advisory Board in Lapwai, Idaho, in which youth congregate to discuss and present about tribal issues facing youth and offer opinions about how to best address youth-related topics within their community. She and her friends in the ApHC helped host a line-dancing fundraiser to help cover expenses for the Chief Joseph Trail Ride.



Photo above: Chloe and friends riding at the Nez Perce National Historic Park by Diane Yellowrobe. Photo below: A trail ride on the Nez Perce NHT by Angel Sobatta.



*Riding horses is a great way to remember your own history. While I feel a special connection to Appaloosas because they were important in my own heritage, horses have been a part of just about everyone's story in some way. - Chloe Thompson*

## “Find Your Park” Centennial Materials Created for National Historic Trails

The NPS National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) office has created trail-wide posters for each of the nine national historic trails it administers, including six State-specific posters for the Old Spanish NHT, 13 site-specific rack cards for sites along eight trails, and seven Centennial event posters.

Trail stewardship organization partners are helping to distribute the posters and rack cards in State, county, and Federal parks, and in visitor centers, museums, restaurants, hotels, and more. The rack cards highlight trail sites close to or in urban areas and/or with many trail features that could be visited within a day or two. By the close of the Centennial year, NTIR will also have participated in 16 Centennial events with partners around the country.

## LCTHF Introduces New Education Grant

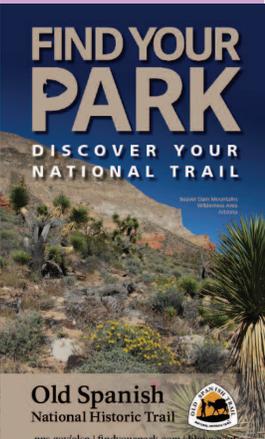
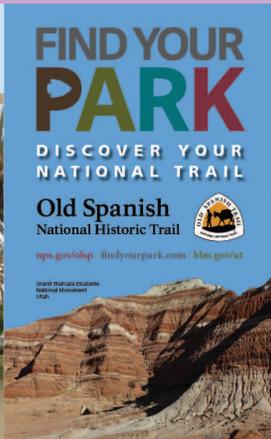
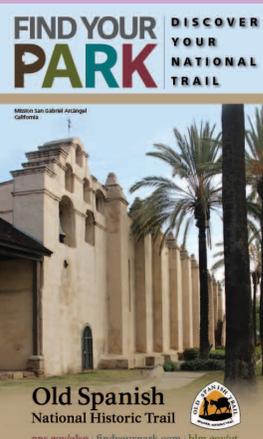
The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) recently unveiled a new education grant through the Burroughs-Holland/Bicentennial Education Fund. They now offer a total of three grant programs. They continue to offer grants through the Lewis and Clark Trail Stewardship Endowment Fund and the Montana Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Sign Maintenance Fund in addition to the newly established education grant from the Burroughs-Holland/Bicentennial Education Fund.



The Trail Stewardship grant application deadline is first and was on October 1, 2016. Trail stewardship grants range from \$1,000 to \$7,500. The Education grant application deadline is November 1, 2016; education grants range from \$500 to \$1,000. The grant application for the Montana Sign Fund has a revolving deadline. The grants from this fund range from \$500 to \$2,000 and are awarded for replacement of Lewis and Clark signs erected during the Bicentennial.

Our LCTHF motto is Keepers of the Story ~ Stewards of the Trail. The Education Fund grants promote the Keepers of the Story charge while Trail Stewardship Endowment Fund grants enable the LCTHF to be stewards of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Application forms, criteria, Frequently Asked Questions, and past grant awards can be found on the organization's website at [www.lewisandclark.org](http://www.lewisandclark.org) by clicking on the “What We Do” tab in the top left and selecting the grant program that interests you.

Submitted by Lindy Hatcher, LCTHF Executive Director





## 1st International Symposium for Los Caminos Reales National Historic Trails Brings Together Trails Leaders from US and Mexico

From June 21-24, trails leaders from both sides of the border met in Laredo, Texas to discuss lessons learned and collaboration opportunities for El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and El Camino Real de los Tejas NHTs. During the private workshop, called *Los Dos Caminos: Bridging Borders Across the Centuries*, Mexican officials and representatives from INAH (Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia), the Mexican history, anthropology, and cultural agency, met with NPS, BLM, State, and local agency leaders, and stewardship organization leaders.

The meeting included over 20 presentations delving into cultural resource inventory and protection systems, historical research approaches, and public engagement and interpretation. Each topic was discussed from the Mexican and US experience, with translation services provided. Retired NPS American Indian Services Specialist Otis Halfmoon, now volunteering with El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association, also spoke to the Native American viewpoint.

The sessions revealed some interesting differences in how the countries differ in their approach to historic trails. Steve Gonzales, Association Manager of El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT Association, notes “It seems that INAH places their emphasis almost entirely on cultural sites, whereas the NHT community here also focuses on original tread and viewshed. Also, here in the US agencies frequently work with partner entities and contractors, while in Mexico everything from archaeology to interpretation is done almost entirely within INAH.”

*Photos at left, from top to bottom: Participants gather for the first NHT signage dedication in South Texas; workshop participants during a breakout session; and El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association Board Member Sarah Gould speaking at the event. Courtesy of El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT Association.*

## In Memoriam ~ Bill Watson, PNTS, Oregon-California Trail Association

Former Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) President Bill Watson, who with his late wife Jeanne earned near legendary status as advocates for OCTA and the Partnership for the National Trails System on behalf of the National Historic Trails, died in Orinda, California on August 13 at the age of 89. Bill had just returned from attending the OCTA National Convention. Bill served as OCTA’s National President from 1989 to 1991, then on the Board of Directors until 1994. He and Jeanne served for more than three decades as co-chairs of the Legislative Liaison Committee, traveling to Washington, D.C. to work on trails issues. Jeanne passed away in September 2015. Bill and Jeanne were instrumental in getting the National Trails System authorized by Congress and continued to work on expansion of the system right up until his death. For 31 years, Bill advocated for the trails system and provided Congress with a progress report summarizing volunteer efforts helping preserve America’s trails heritage. He and Jeanne received OCTA’s Meritorious Achievement Award and the Department of Interior’s “Take Pride in America Award”.

Bill was born in Berkeley, California, served on the USS Raymond W. Herndon during World War II, then worked in business and the telecommunications industry. He met and married the love of his life, Jeanne Marie Hamilton, who was working as a reporter for a newspaper. It was Jeanne’s love of the Sierra that led them to explore local history and eventually to volunteer with the USFS “Adopt-A-Trail” program, where they worked to preserve a segment of the Carson route of the California Emigrant Trail. This effort eventually led them to OCTA.

Vern and Carol Osborne, who served six years with the Watsons on the Legislative Liaison Committee, stated that “When OCTA members consider the many hours, miles and their dedication on behalf of OCTA, words are inadequate to describe our thanks and gratitude. Bill will be sorely missed.”

*Excerpted with permission from the Fall issue of News from the Plains, the quarterly newsletter of the Oregon-California Trails Association.*

*Top photo below: Less than two weeks before his death, Bill (center) enjoyed catching up with old friends, including Dave Vixie and Priscilla Vandergras at the Oregon-California Trails Association National Convention. In the bottom photo, Jere Krakow presents a bouquet of flowers to Jeanne and Bill Watson to commemorate their 30 years of service to OCTA during Hike the Hill in February 2015. Bill and Jeanne regularly participated in PNTS events going all the way back to the First Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails in 1988.*



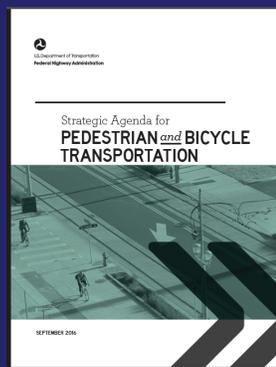
# More! Federal Highway Administration Resources Available

Compiled from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) sources.

The FHWA continues to produce resources relating to walking and bicycling that can directly or indirectly benefit National Trails. Here are items released since June 2016, available at [www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/index.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/index.cfm):



- **The Bike Network Mapping Idea Book** has examples of how communities have mapped existing and future bicycle networks.
- **Achieving Multimodal Networks: Applying Design Flexibility and Reducing Conflicts** highlights planning and design opportunities where various transportation modes come together. Some topics may interest National Trails managers, especially sections on road crossings, shared use paths, and midblock path intersections.
- **Pursuing Equity in Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning** provides important considerations for developing connected multimodal systems that benefit all people.
- **The Strategic Agenda for Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation** will guide FHWA's work for walking and bicycling over the next 3 to 5 years. It will inform future investments, coordinate policies, and promote partnerships. It sets out two aspirational goals:
  - Reduce pedestrian and bicycle fatalities and serious injuries by 80 percent in the United States in 15 years, and strive for zero pedestrian and bicycle fatalities and serious injuries in the next 20 to 30 years; and,
  - Increase the percentage of short trips by bicycling and walking to 30 percent by the year 2025, a 50 percent increase over 2009.



The Strategic Agenda is organized around four goals – networks, safety, equity, and trips. Each goal includes activities relating to capacity building, policy, data, and research. It demonstrates FHWA's ongoing leadership on multimodal transportation, and represents a commitment to institutionalize and mainstream these issues and contribute to a future in which communities have safe and complete transportation networks for people of all ages and abilities.

## Interpretive Steps Forward on the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT

### Wayside Exhibits Unveiled

Fifteen sites in New York were selected as destinations for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. The outdoor wayside exhibits for each of these sites are being installed and dedications are under way. On Monday August 22 Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey was joined by U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell; Commissioner Rose Harvey, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation; and local environmental and conservation leaders. The events commemorated the 100th birthday of the National Park Service (NPS) and 235th anniversary of General Rochambeau's French Army joining forces with General Washington's Continental Army in the Lower Hudson Valley. The day began with the unveiling of Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historical Trail. *At right is a photo of the panels with Mark Castiglione, Executive Director of Hudson Valley National Heritage Area with the Secretary, Congresswoman, and Commissioner.*



### The Florence Gould Foundation Awards \$150,000 to W3R-US

W3R-US will be identifying an overall scope of work for the project so they can maximize the great opportunity. The recently pledged support from the Florence Gould Foundation will assist all of the States along the route in developing their State map, State plans for the NHT and a description or brochure for the NHT in each State. The NPS provides information, education and interpretation guidance, planning and technical assistance, and financial help. NPS is helping to facilitate work sessions in each State and develop guidelines and templates that we hope will lead to a set of State by State NHT brochures following the NPS format.

Content from the August 2016 Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT Highlights E-publication by the NPS.





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 Partnership for the National Trails System  
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## Trails Events Calendar 2016-2017

September 22 - 24	Santa Fe Trail Association Annual Rendezvous	Santa Fe Trail Association	Larned, KS	<a href="http://www.santafetrail.org">www.santafetrail.org</a>
October 12 - 13	Sustainable Trails for All Training Workshop on Federal Accessibility Standards	Crotched Mountain Foundation	Greenfield, NH	<a href="http://www.crotchedmountain.org/sustainabletrails">http://www.crotchedmountain.org/sustainabletrails</a>
October 20 - 23	50th Anniversary Conference	Florida Trail Association	Deland, FL	<a href="http://www.floridatrail.org/">www.floridatrail.org/</a>
October 21, 2016	El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT Association Annual Meeting	El Camino Real de Los Tejas NHT Association	Nacogdoches, TX	<a href="http://www.elcaminoreal-delostejas.org">www.elcaminoreal-delostejas.org</a>
November 14 - 18, 2016	<b>National Scenic Trails Workshop</b>	<b>Partnership for the National Trails System</b>	<b>Pensacola, FL</b>	<b><a href="http://www.pnts.org">www.pnts.org</a></b>
February 11 - 15	<b>Hike the Hill 2017</b>	Partnership for the National Trails System/American Hiking Association	Washington, DC	<a href="http://www.americanhiking.org">www.americanhiking.org</a>
May 7 - 10, 2017	International Trails Symposium	American Trails	Dayton, OH	<a href="http://www.americantrails.org">www.americantrails.org</a>