



Pathways

Across America

SUMMER 2018



A PUBLICATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM

READY for a REROUTE

*House passes
North Country NST
Route Adjustment Act*

TRAIL INTERNS ● 50TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVES ● TRANSIT CENTER
ARIZONA TRAIL NORTHERN TERMINUS ● NEW NATIONAL RECREATION TRAILS

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 quarterly by the **Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS)** under cooperative agreements with five Federal agencies.



Department of Agriculture (USDA):
U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

Department of the Interior (DOI):
National Park Service (NPS)
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

Department of Transportation (DOT):
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)



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ABOUT US

The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that 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.

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BUILDING COMMUNITY

National Trails System

Congress passed the National Trails System Act, signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on October 2, 1968. Today, the National Trails System is composed of 11 National Scenic Trails (NSTs), 19 National Historic Trails (NHTs), almost 1,300 National Recreation Trails (NRTs) including 21 National Water Trails, and more than 2,000 Rail Trails. These trails provide outdoor recreation opportunities, promote resource preservation and public access, and encourage the appreciation of the great outdoors and America's history and cultural diversity.

PATHWAYS NATIONWIDE FOR 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 outreach efforts.

Facilitating public-private partnerships for preservation of history, natural environments, and human health through outdoor recreation.



SCENIC AND HISTORIC TRAILS

- Authorized by Congress
- Stewardship facilitated by the nonprofit **Partnership for the National Trails System**
- Total 55,000 miles through 49 States and the District of Columbia in wild, rural, suburban, and urban areas, connecting with every distinct ecological area or biome in the country
- Connect and travel through 70 wildlife refuges, 80 national parks, 90 national forests, 100 BLM field office areas, over 120 wilderness areas, numerous State and local parks, trails, and other protected areas, and 100 major urban areas
- Over 1 million hours of volunteer labor to build and maintain annually

RECREATION TRAILS

- Designated by Secretary of Interior or Secretary of Agriculture
 - Stewardship facilitated by the nonprofit **American Trails**
 - Total 26,000 miles through 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- www.americantrails.org

RAIL TRAILS

- Part of 1983 amendment to National Trails System Act
 - Stewardship facilitated by the nonprofit **Rails-to-Trails Conservancy**
 - Total 22,000 miles through 50 States and the District of Columbia, and 8,000 miles in progress
- www.railstotrails.org



Click the National Trails System tab to view a map and learn about our partners:

www.pnts.org



KEEPING HISTORY ALIVE



● PRESERVING BIODIVERSITY

11 NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS

The National Scenic Trails (NSTs) represent some of the most magnificent long-distance hiking trails anywhere in the world. Virtually every major ecosystem in the country is traversed by a NST, from deserts, temperate rainforests and deciduous forests, tundra, mountains, prairies, wetlands, and rivers. NSTs 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

19 NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS

The National Historic Trails (NHTs) 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 NSTs.

- 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

Cover Photographs

FRONT

Traversing the edge of a beaver pond in Finland State Forest, MN on the Superior Hiking Trail, which could officially be part of the North Country NST if the Senate passes reroute legislation. Photo Credit: Bart Smith

INSIDE

Left: Arizona Trail segment 43 steward Paul Ostapuk (left) and stone mason Carlos Rodriguez (right) at the new northern terminus monument. Photo Credit: Arizona Trail Association
Center: OVTA volunteer Mary Bohlen serves homemade ice cream during a living history event. Photo Credit: Overmountain Victory Trail Association
Right: Prescribed prairie burning conducted by volunteers along the Ice Age Trail. Photo Credit: Gary Werner

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Let's prioritize closing the gaps and protecting the special places along our national trails

In the Spring Issue of *Pathways Across America*, I briefly described these fundamental challenges that we in the National Trails System community face to fully realize the potential and expectations of our national scenic and historic trails.

THREE FUNDAMENTAL CHALLENGES

- **Transforming** the national scenic and historic trails from a collection of premier trails into a national public lands system like the National Park System and the National Wildlife Refuge System or the National Wilderness System.
- **Completing** the trails on the ground—closing the gaps in the scenic trails and preserving and interpreting all the “high potential sites and segments” along the historic trails.
- **Growing** all of the national trail organizations to greatly enhance their capacity and resources and that of the Federal trail agencies to be able to fully develop and sustain the National Trails System.

The second challenge, which I will describe in more detail first because it is most tangible to our trails “on-the-ground,” is to complete all 30 national scenic and historic trails so that they provide the full range of benefits for Americans intended by Congress in authorizing them. At the least, “completing” the 11 national scenic trails means closing the more than 4,000 miles of gaps that remain in 10 of them. These gaps total the length of two Appalachian Trails, the only national scenic trail completely off-road in a permanently protected corridor.

Completing national historic trails is somewhat more complicated since, unlike the AT for the scenic trails, we do not have a template of a fully-functioning national historic trail to use as a model. National historic trails are also more complicated due to the Congressional expectation that they both preserve historic artifacts and remains and provide appropriate recreational opportunities. Unlike the scenic trails there is no expectation that they be continuous recreational routes other than their auto tour routes. Instead, they consist of sets of thousands of “high potential sites and segments”—places along them with high recreational potential—many yet to be determined. Determining the feasible and sustainable balance between appropriate recreation and preservation is a challenge within the larger “trail completion” challenge. Despite the Congressional expectation, some of the national historic trail organizations envision making continuous off-road recreational routes for their national trails.

To meet the challenge of completing the trails and fully protecting the array of resources along them will require both the Federal trail administrators and their nonprofit organization partners making this task their priority. To meet this challenge we will need to develop an ongoing, active land acquisition program, of the scale of the one which completed the protection of the Appalachian Trail over 30 years, for each of the other national scenic and historic trails. To do so will require both the agencies and the trail organizations to fund the people—public agency and private organization staff—to do this work. Acquisition goals and strategies appropriate to each trail will need to be set and developed.

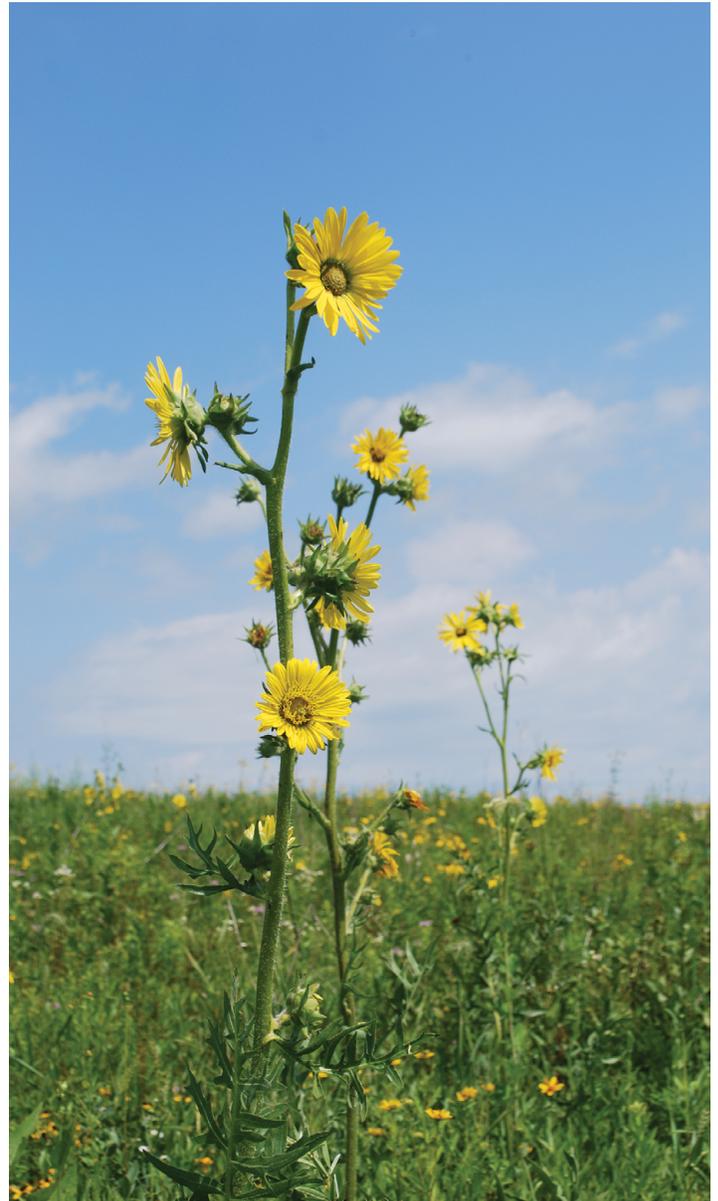


Photo Credit: Gary Werner

Above: Compass plants bloom in a restored prairie along the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

The magnitude of this task also means that each national trail partnership must collaborate in longterm partnerships with State and local governments and local, regional, and national land trusts to garner their assistance to complete their trail. For the eastern trails in States with a preponderance of private land, engagement of State and local agencies will be crucial to the success of this work.

Recognizing and expressing the many dimensions of resource conservation inherent in the expectations of the National Trails System beyond its recreational opportunities will facilitate engaging government agencies and organizations with other missions. There are multiple dimensions of resource conservation benefits possible along long-distance trails.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION BENEFITS

- Corridors for wildlife movement and connection between scattered fragments of ecosystems
- Watershed protection
- Preservation of rural working lands and rural cultural heritage
- Community connections, regional identity, and the basis for heritage and recreational tourism

To enthusiastically embrace the challenge and opportunities of closing the gaps and protecting the resources along our national scenic and historic trails, trail administrators and trail organization leaders must realize that managing a corridor of land surrounding each of these trails provides numerous opportunities to involve many more volunteers and entities not already engaged in building and maintaining the trail tread. These are volunteers and organizations keenly motivated to help protect and sustain the natural, cultural, and historic resources the trail corridor protects. They will help manage the trail lands and easements by doing things such as identifying and monitoring threatened and endangered species and cultural resources, controlling invasive species, restoring native ecosystems, and monitoring property boundaries. Broadening or enlarging the recognized purpose of national scenic and historic trails—as Congress intended—to include active resource conservation provides opportunities to draw a whole new panoply of resources to help sustain the trails.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) has been managing more than 100,000 acres of land purchased by the National Park Service under a formal agreement for more than 30 years. The management of Federal lands by the ATC is one component of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail Cooperative Management System, which is a model for the other trails to emulate and adapt to their circumstances. Another example of how trail land can be managed is the self-directed work of Ice Age Trail Alliance volunteers who have been managing publicly and privately preserved Ice Age Trail land for more than 20 years. Their work includes control of invasive species and restoration of native prairie and oak savanna ecosystems using a variety of tools and state-of-the-art methods, including prescribed fire.

The scale/magnitude of the land acquisition required to close the gaps and protect the resources along our national scenic and historic trails will necessitate raising hundreds of millions of dollars—public and private. During the last three years of the Obama Administration, responding to the Collaborative Landscape Planning program, Congress appropriated \$60 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to purchase land along about half of the national scenic and historic trails. This infusion of Federal money increased the momentum of land acquisition already underway along several of the national scenic trails and demonstrated the possibility of actually protecting critical sites along several of the national historic trails. To build upon those successes and keep the momentum going for prioritizing closing the gaps and protecting the resources, our National Trails System community should promote the Administration and Congress to support providing \$40 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund each year for the next 10 years to the four Federal agencies mentioned above most involved with the national trails.

While we implement active trail land acquisition programs for each of our national trails, we must continue to implement the delineation of and planning for special management corridors for these trails in our national forests and across Bureau of Land Management (BLM) resource management units. During the past decade we worked with farsighted planners in the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to include guidance and directives in those agencies' planning protocols recognizing the resource conservation purpose of the National Trails System and the necessity of establishing special management corridors along the trails to protect those resources. Some of our trail organizations have been participating in the first efforts of the BLM in Wyoming and Alaska and of the USFS in California, Colorado, and North Carolina to apply the new directives to segments of some of our historic and scenic trails.

There are many more agency resource management plans to revise and update to fully protect all of the segments of national scenic and historic trails crossing Federal lands. We will need to increase our organizations' capacity and diligence to be effective partners helping the agencies complete this required work.

We will explore in more detail this challenge to complete the national scenic and historic trails on the ground through several workshops during the National Trail System 50th Anniversary Conference, October 22-25 in Vancouver, WA. To learn more and to register for the conference go to www.pnts.org. In the next issue of *Pathways* I will describe the other two fundamental challenges in more detail.

Happy summer enjoying our national trails!

Gary Wenz



Partnership for the National Trails System

MISSION

To empower, inspire, and strengthen public and private partners to develop, preserve, promote, and sustain the national scenic and historic trails.

VISION

PNTS envisions a world-class system of national scenic and historic trails that preserves natural and cultural values and provides recreational benefits for all.

PURPOSE

The purpose of PNTS is to promote and support the efforts of national scenic and historic trail organizations, to secure public and private resources, and to serve as a collective voice for policy and action that supports national scenic and historic trails.



Decade Goals

1

OUTREACH AND
PUBLIC AWARENESS

2

RESOURCE PROTECTION AND
TRAIL COMPLETION

3

CAPACITY BUILDING

by **Melanie Radzicki McManus**, Author*"Thousand-Miler: Adventures Hiking the Ice Age Trail"*

Retracing the geology and history of the IAT

At 6 a.m. the air was already so thick and heavy it felt like I was breathing through a wet washcloth. I refused to ponder the day's weather forecast—highs in the low 90s—before I'd even set foot on the trail. With about 1,100 miles ahead of me, I had to remain positive. After nine months of planning, I was poised to embark on a thru-hike of Wisconsin's Ice Age Trail, one of America's 11 national scenic trails. I was also aiming to set the first women's fastpacking record in the process.

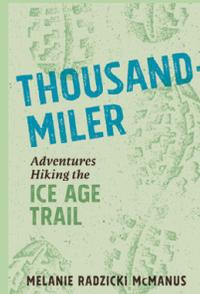
When I set foot on the trail that steamy August morning in 2013, only a few people had hiked the entire length of the Ice Age Trail (IAT). Coiled entirely within Wisconsin, it tumbles around the State from east to west and north to south, its path tracing the terminal moraine of the last glacier, which receded from the earth 10,000 to 14,000 years ago. It is the only national scenic trail to showcase geologic features, rather than move hikers from point A to point B.

The IAT was the brainchild of Ray Zillmer, a Milwaukee lawyer and avid mountaineer. His original idea was to create a national park that followed the glacier's terminal moraine, as Wisconsin is considered to have some of the world's finest, best-preserved glacial remains. But the National Park Service torpedoed his idea, deeming a long, linear park too difficult to administer.

After Zillmer passed away in 1960, others took up the cause. By the time the National Trails System Act was passed in 1968, Zillmer's idea was morphing into

THOUSAND-MILER: ADVENTURES HIKING THE ICE AGE TRAIL

by Melanie Radzicki McManus

2017
Wisconsin Historical Society Press

that of a long-distance trail, not a national park. In 1980, with some 250 miles of trail already laid, Congress proclaimed the IAT a national scenic trail, along with the North Country Trail (NCT). The NCT and IAT were America's fourth and fifth national scenic trails, following the Triple Crowners: the Appalachian, Pacific Crest, and Continental Divide trails.

During my 36-day odyssey on the IAT, which included encounters with cranes, snakes, and snuffing bears, two bouts of cellulitis, and a newfound admiration for glacial geology, I met a handful of other thru-hikers. Their compelling stories, combined with mine, form the basis of "Thousand-Miler." The memoir also includes the story of Jim Staudacher, the IAT's first

thru-hiker who completed the trail in 1979, Jason Dorgan, who hiked the trail in the overall fastest known time, and Jenni Heisz, one of two veterans to tackle the trail through the then-new Warrior Hike program.

Today, the Ice Age Trail is about two-thirds finished, with some 650 miles of trail and 450 miles of connecting road routes established. The Ice Age Trail Alliance, which builds, maintains, and promotes the IAT, celebrates its 60th anniversary this year with high hopes for the path's future. After all, when I completed the trail in 2013, I was the 87th person to do so. By the end of 2017, a mere four years later, that number had doubled.

With long-distance hiking growing in popularity across America, thanks in part to the popularity of Cheryl Strayed's 2012 book "Wild," our outstanding national scenic trails are being discovered, explored, and enjoyed by many more people. As the National Trails System Act celebrates its 50th anniversary this October, it's the perfect time to check out a new-to-you path. And to spread the word about these priceless treasures.



Melanie Radzicki McManus' latest adventure was a thru-hike of the 310-mile Superior Hiking Trail in June 2018. She penned a multi-part series about her experience as part of a special project coordinated by the Minneapolis Star Tribune. The series will be published July-August 2018 and can be viewed online at www.StarTribune.com.

www.MelanieMcManus.com

THEN AND NOW

by **Liz Bergeron**, Executive Director and CEO*Pacific Crest Trail Association (adapted from PCT Communicator)*

Traveling through time on the Pacific Crest Trail

Fifty years ago, a conservation-minded nation came together to dedicate a national system of trails. These leaders seized a moment in time to build a lasting legacy regarding America's amazing outdoor landscapes and what they provide in terms of recreation, public health, resource preservation, and wildlife protection. Development of the Pacific Crest and Appalachian trails began decades before the National Trails System Act passed, but the legislation cemented their iconic status, brought new funding, and introduced a sense of urgency and dedication. This anniversary year is a perfect time to reflect on all we've done and what we still need to do.



Photo Credit: U.S. Forest Service (left) and Anne Dios, PCTA (right)

Above: While we've come a long way in working safely, the fundamentals of trail work have not changed. A U.S. Forest Service crew creates a section of the Pacific Crest Trail (then) and the Pacific Crest Trail Association's Trail Gorillas tackle maintenance in the Angeles National Forest (now).

Read Liz Bergeron's entire article:

www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/



OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

In his 1965 "Natural Beauty Message" to Congress, President Lyndon B. Johnson inspired a national "system of trails" for the American people. Congress passed the National Trails System Act, signed into law by President Johnson on October 2, 1968. 2018 is the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act, and we want you to be part of the commemoration! There are many ways you can #FindYourTrail and show support for the national trails.

National Trails Conference

OCTOBER 22-25, 2018

The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) and River Management Society (RMS) will host co-located events in Vancouver, WA from October 22-25, 2018 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails and Wild & Scenic Rivers Systems Acts. Register before October 2nd to receive the early bird rate of \$395. A limited number of exhibitor space, shared with RMS, is available for the conference.

Trail Apprentice Scholarships will be awarded to those between the ages of 18-28 with an interest in the National Trails System. Scholarships will include the cost of travel, lodging, registration, and choice of a mobile workshop. Applications are due by August 1st.

▶ For more details and to register, click on the Trails50 tab and 2018 Conference:
www.pnts.org/new/ntsa50/

Trail Stories

Each Saturday you can read a new submitted story about trails within the National Trails System, from stewardship and inspiration to education and history. You can also share yours.

▶ Follow the blog: www.trails50.org/new-blog/
Submit your story: www.trails50.org/tell-your-story/

Event Map

Events are being added to the nationwide 50th anniversary map to help build capacity for future activism. Find an event near you, or add your organization's event today!

▶ Search the map and submit your event:
www.trails50.org/find-an-event/

Photo Contest

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT AND VOTE: AUGUST 1, 2018

The 50th anniversary photo contest is underway, and many beautiful and inspiring entries are racking up votes. Send us the best shots of how you #FindYourTrail by entering in the four categories: The Beauty of Trails; Citizen Stewards and Volunteerism; Historic Trails; Multi-Use Trails.

▶ Review contest rules, enter, and vote:
www.trails50.org/photo-contest/

Other ways to support the trails

VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the National Trails System, helping foster and steward the trails' amazing experiences through dedication, time, and hard work. Get involved today!

▶ www.trails50.org/volunteer/

DONATIONS

Consider making a tax-deductible donation to the National Trails System, which will go toward land protection, education, and supporting citizen stewards.

▶ www.trails50.org/donate/

MERCHANDISE

Show your trail love with special edition merchandise, such as logo pins, patches, decals, walking stick medallions, magnets, maps, shirts, and four styles of hats.

▶ www.trails50.org/shop/

Find **YOUR** Trail
Discover. Connect. Explore.

Connect

Facebook and Instagram:

@Trails50

Twitter:

@NTSA50

e-Newsletter:

www.trails50.org/contact/

Inquiries:

communications@trails50.org

▶ www.trails50.org

Resources

EVENT HOSTING GUIDE

Connect your events with #FindYourTrail and the celebration of the National Trails System.

FACT SHEET

Learn more about the history of the National Trails System.

LOGOS

Download logos and wordmarks, including a Spanish version.

MEDIA TOOLKITS

Ready-to-use social media content, information, and contacts.

MULTIMEDIA

Videos, photos, maps, and new photo frames.

▶ www.trails50.org/toolkit/

STORY MAP

Photos, videos, interactive maps, links about the NTS and partners.

▶ www.trails50.org/storymap/ 7

CELEBRATIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Photo Credit: PNTS

Above: Trying out the new #FindYourWay photo frame during the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals' National Outdoor Recreation Conference are Emma Lord, National Park Service Wild and Scenic Rivers Fellow; Chelsea Bodamer, PNTS Outreach and Youth Programs Director; and Candace Mitchell, American Trails Director of Operations.

Photo frame makes debut at NORC

In April 2018, the Partnership for the National Trails System and American Trails attended the 2018 National Outdoor Recreation Conference (NORC) in Burlington, VT to help commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act.

Chelsea Bodamer (PNTS) and Candace Mitchell (American Trails) were joined by their river counterparts in singing happy birthday to rivers and trails during the formal dinner that featured a 50th birthday cake. More than 250 individuals attended the conference, and all were invited to take their picture with the 50th anniversary #FindYourWay photo frame.

PNTS would like to thank the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals for its invitation to this year's conference.



Reliving history on National Trails Day

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System, the American Hiking Society (AHS) encouraged people to leave the trail better than they found it during National Trails Day by asking them to pledge to pack out trash, join a trail work project, or clean up a park to collectively improve 2,802 miles of trail (the distance across the U.S.) on June 2, 2018.

Among the events and trail maintenance projects held throughout the country were more than a dozen by our national scenic and historic trail nonprofit partners. For example, the Wilkes-Surry Chapter of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA) hosted a Revolutionary War Living History Day. OVTA reenactors wearing traditional garb told the story of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail to nearly 40 people at the eastern trailhead in Elkin, NC. Activities included weapon, woodworking, and ice cream making demonstrations, talks on the local militia leaders and local history, and Colonial military drills, music, and dance.

"Attendees were treated to some very tasty Colonial Period homemade ice cream, which was the recipe of Thomas Jefferson," said OVTA President RG Absher. In those times during winter, ice was collected in the frozen Yadkin River.



Photo Credit: OVTA

Above: Overmountain Victory Trail Association volunteer Gabe Mitchell serves homemade ice cream to attendees at the living history event on National Trails Day.

OVTA members and Benjamin Richardson, National Park Service Chief of Planning and Partnerships for the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution Parks Group, were on hand to tell the public about the importance of the National Trails System, as well as the private and public partnerships that make trails like this possible.



#FindYourWay video series wins three major advertising awards

For the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System and Wild and Scenic Rivers System Acts, Think Out Loud Productions developed a branding campaign to reach a new, diverse millennial audience for the National Park Service. The newly released commercial series features unique stories of young people connecting with the outdoors from coast to coast.

Garnering three major advertising awards, the #FindYourWay videos have been viewed over a million times on Facebook. The series won two awards from the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals (gold awards from the Hermes Creative and AVA Awards) and a bronze Telly Award in the online commercial campaign nonprofit category.

"Working on this project was such

a pleasure! Seeing young people use our national trail and river systems to build community, explore history, and express themselves is a true testament to the last 50 years of stewardship," said Michael T. Miller, Executive Producer of Think Out Loud Productions. "We hope their stories continue to inspire more people from all walks of life, in all corners of this country to get out and #FindYourWay."



PROJECTS RAISING FUNDS AND AWARENESS

SUMMER OF TRAILS CROWDFUNDING

In May, the National Forest Foundation (NFF), the nonprofit partner of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), launched a five-month long “Summer of Trails” crowdfunding campaign to raise awareness and funds for maintaining and improving the nearly 158,000 miles of trail across the National Forest System—the largest trail network in the country. By capitalizing on the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System, NFF’s goal is to raise at least \$500,000 from the crowdfunding campaign that will end on National Public Lands Day, September 22, 2018. The USFS will match up to \$500,000 for a total of \$1 million, which will be invested in trail maintenance and improvements across the National Forest System. NFF will divide all funds raised equally among the nine Forest Service regions (Alaska, Pacific Northwest, Pacific Southwest, Southwest, Rocky Mountain, Intermountain, Northern, Southern, and Eastern). Local conservation and trail groups will apply for funding for priority trails in each region, and NFF will coordinate with the USFS to issue grants to the most competitive proposals in winter, and work is expected to begin in spring 2019.



GRANTS FOR PRIORITY PROJECTS

The National Park Foundation (NPF), the nonprofit partner of the National Park Service (NPS), is raising funds for priority projects and inspiring more people to #FindYourWay along trails and rivers across the country in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System and the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. NPF partner Coca-Cola is the lead supporter for this effort. Projects and grantees will be announced later this year. #FindYourWay aligns with the #FindYourPark #EncuentraTuParque movement and invites the public to discover their own personal connections to thousands of trails across the U.S. and more than 12,000 miles of rivers protected in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This effort is part of the NPF’s Centennial Campaign for America’s National Parks, which launched in 2016 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the NPS. To date, this comprehensive fundraising campaign to strengthen and enhance the future of America’s treasured national parks has raised nearly \$500 million in private donations.



AMTRAK TRAILS & RAILS ROUTES

The National Park Service commemorated Earth Day and the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System and the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System with a multi-park and multi-region effort on April 22, 2018. Trails & Rails volunteers from the national parks of New York Harbor and the National Mall and Memorial Parks helped Amtrak passengers become more aware of our national trails and wild and scenic rivers as they traveled along the Northeast Corridor. The Amtrak route between New York City and Washington, D.C. parallels or intersects with three national historic trails: Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT, Star-Spangled Banner NHT, and the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. Other Amtrak routes and programs also parallel or intersect with the Appalachian, North Country, and Potomac Heritage national scenic trails and the Juan Bautista de Anza, Lewis and Clark, Old Spanish, Oregon, and Santa Fe national historic trails.



RESTORATION/RESILIENCE GRANTS

The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) will celebrate the 25th annual National Public Lands Day (NPLD) on September 22, 2018. In addition to highlighting NPLD events that incorporate the 50th anniversary of rivers and trails (October 2, 2018), NEEF has also launched a grant opportunity to support community-based projects, such as repairing trails that were impacted by major storm events. NEEF, with major funding support from Toyota, is offering \$100,000 in mini-grants to support restoration and/or resilience-focused volunteer events on public lands. 2018 Every Day Event awarded grantees will be expected to lead service events that either restore public lands and/or make those lands more resilient to future natural disasters. Grant-funded activities will mobilize community volunteers and educate participants about their role in protecting the longterm sustainability of their local public lands. Funds will be provided to friends groups, formal and informal educators, and local nonprofits who consistently partner with public lands. Exemplary applicants will show how grant funds will be used to get people out in nature as part of restoration and/or resilience efforts. In addition to involving individual community members, the applicant will target specific segments of the population, such as young adults and military veterans, through local community partnerships. Applicants can request up to \$8,000 in grant funds.

- **Application Closes:** Friday, September 28, 2018
- **Grant Period:** November 2018 to September 2019
- **Final Report Due:** October 31, 2019



Right: A Trails & Rails program guide (right) shares national trails information with a young Amtrak passenger between New York City, NY and Washington, D.C.



Photo Credit: NPS



More information and links to projects raising funds and awareness:
www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/

Historic Monument

Obelisk marks Arizona Trail northern terminus

The Arizona National Scenic Trail's (AZT) most photographed features include the Grand Canyon, Picketpost Mountain, saguaro cacti, sunsets, and Border Monument 102 at the trail's southern terminus. For thru-hikers, the historic monument on the U.S./Mexico border marks the beginning of a long journey ahead or the accomplishment of a lifetime. Conversely, the Stateline Trailhead at the Arizona/Utah border has been lacking an official monument announcing the "end of the Arizona Trail." There's a campground and a trailhead register, but all of America's completed long-distance trails have southern and northern terminus markers. As of May 6, 2018, so does the AZT!

The Arizona Trail Association (ATA) started consulting with the Arizona Strip Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) last year for permission to construct a northern terminus monument. The idea was to match the dimensions of Border Monument 102, and the BLM suggested natural stone construction to match the surrounding landscape.

That's when the ATA contacted Carlos Rodriguez of RB Stonework, a fifth generation stonemason from Payson, AZ, who has created stone benches at the Pine and Freeman Road Trailheads. Working



Photo Credit: Paul Ostapuk

with photographs of the southern terminus marker and landscape images from the Buckskin Mountain Passage, Rodriguez collected and cut sandstone to create an aesthetic and significant marker. He and his crew met with Passage 43 Trail Steward Paul Ostapuk at the Stateline Campground to construct an official monument.

The project took two days, and included installation of the two plaques on the stone obelisk. One plaque recognizes the northern terminus and the fact that the AZT was designated a National Scenic Trail by Congress on March 30, 2009. The other plaque features the iconic poem "The Arizona Trail," by Dale Shewalter, the founding father of the Arizona Trail. They completed the project just in time to see a northbound thru-hiker finish his 800-mile journey.

No doubt this will soon be among the most photographed features along the entire AZT. And for anyone who has completed the trail before now, it's worth a return trip. While you're there, consider exploring some of the natural wonders nearby: Coyote Buttes, The Wave, Buckskin Gulch, Paria Canyon, and Vermillion Cliffs. The end of the Arizona Trail marks the beginning of other grand adventures. This project was made possible through support from the BLM and ATA members, donors and volunteers.

More Trail Achievements



ATA EARNS VOLUNTEER AWARD

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) recognized individuals, organizations, and partners in the Southwestern Region for their tremendous volunteer and service work in fiscal year 2017. The Arizona Trail Association (ATA) received national special recognition in the Enduring Service category, nominated by Laura White, Regional National Trails Program Manager for the Arizona National Scenic Trail. ATA served over 21,000 hours in FY17, equivalent to 11 full time employees.

GUIDE TRANSLATED INTO SPANISH

Since 2015, the Arizona Trail Junior Explorer Handbook has helped introduce thousands of young people to the Arizona National Scenic Trail (AZT) through its 20 educational pages complete with illustrations. Now it has been translated into Spanish, and 5,000 copies have been printed. The Manual para Jovenes Guardabosques aims to engage young and diverse audiences in the exploration, appreciation, and stewardship of the AZT. Portions of trailhead signs have been translated over the past few years, but this is the first fully-translated resource. The project was made possible by the translation skills of Melissa and Marisol Urreiztieta, a \$1,000 grant awarded by the Back Country Horsemen of America Education Foundation to the Arizona Trail Association, and the Bureau of Land Management.



Learn more about the Arizona Trail achievements:
www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/

Clark descendants meet at Hike the Hill

by Lindy Hatcher, Executive Director
 Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc.

During the Hike the Hill reception in Washington, D.C. this February, the Executive Director of the Arizona Trails Association (ATA), Matthew Nelson, introduced himself to me as a William Clark descendant. As if that was not exciting enough, while I was introducing him to the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Inc. attending board members, the Conservation Director of the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA), Aaron Clark, fortuitously walked by. I was struck by the familial resemblance and last name, so I grabbed him and asked if he was also a Clark descendant. I then had the pleasure of introducing the two Clark relatives to each other. They had previously spoken via phone but had never met in person. You never know who you will meet at a PNTS gathering! We are truly one big trail family.



Photo Credit: Lindy Hatcher

Above: Matthew Nelson, ATA Executive Director (left), and Aaron Clark, IMBA Conservation Director, are both descendants of William Clark.

3-Trails Transit Center

Dedication retraces history of trailside travelers



On May 31, 2018, the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) joined with 3 Trails West, Inc. and the National Park Service (NPS) to dedicate the new 3-Trails Transit Center in Kansas City, MO and recognize the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System.

The transit center, a major hub of six bus routes, is about a quarter-mile southeast of the Independence Route of the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California national historic trails and is recognized by NPS as an official trailhead. It is also adjacent to the 47-mile 3-Trails Corridor Retracement Trail along the Independence Route, which has street signs in place and walkways under construction that will enable both drivers and hikers to retrace the path from Independence Landing in Sugar Creek, MO to Gardner, KS.

“Just as the pioneers headed west looking for new opportunities, this facility represents the connections we provide for people to connect to their modern-day opportunities,” said KCATA Chief Planning Officer Chuck Ferguson.

The new transit center is home to KCATA’s first smart digital kiosk. The kiosk is connected to the larger Citypost kiosk network with many features, including the ability to display up to the minute transit arrival times, area events and activities, retail advertising, and information about the historic trails. The transit center also has bike racks, park-and-ride spaces, and accessible ramps for riders with disabilities.

Two murals decorate both the north and south sides of the shelter. The north side features maps of the three national historic trails, a covered wagon passing by Chimney Rock, and the 3-Trails Corridor map, while the south side includes portraits and the inspiring stories of three African-American women whose lives were impacted by the trails.

“The decision was made to honor African American women because they have been neglected in history and because of the important role that women of many languages played in this national experience,” said Lou Austin, Director of 3 Trails West, Inc.

The three women, Clara Brown (c. 1800-1885), Emily Fisher (1808-1898), and Biddy Mason (1818-1891), were chosen because “each

Right: Camille Harrison (left) attended the event with her granddaughter, Tania Harrison, and Taelor Barrett (right). Harrison is Emily Fisher’s great (x4) niece and Barrett is Fisher’s great (x5) niece.

Photo Credit: KCATA



More photos and information about the transit center:

www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/

one has a story of struggle, triumph, freedom, forgiveness, love, and fruitfulness,” said artist Jeffrey Hall. Their stories inspired Hall to create a beautiful masterpiece that will be displayed for years to come.

“Most of us think of history as just stuff hanging on a wall, but today we are a part of what I call living history,” Austin said as he recognized Fisher’s relatives, who were among the nearly 100 people present. Fisher traveled from Kentucky and on the Santa Fe Trail to Independence, MO, where she operated her father’s hotel until it closed during the Civil War. Fisher’s hotel had a reputation for excellent service and cleanliness, which she took great pride in.

Other speakers included Robbie Makenin, KCATA President and Chief Executive Officer; John Cannella, NPS Santa Fe National Trails Intermountain Region Deputy Superintendent; Alissia Canady, Kansas City’s 5th District Councilwoman; and Mokhtee Ahmad, Federal Transit Administration Region 7.

More Trail Projects in Missouri

NATIONAL FRONTIER TRAILS MUSEUM

In 2017, the State of Missouri transferred its ownership of the National Frontier Trails Museum (NFTM) to the City of Independence, which has enabled NFTM to dust off its future building plans and have a fresh updated look. According to the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) *Trails Head Traces* newsletter, the goal is to expand so that they can tell a more regional story of the mountain men, missionaries, and Lewis and Clark, Santa Fe, Oregon, and California national historic trails. Projects include adding an elevator so the second floor storage space can be transformed into office space, archives, a library, gift shop, and public lobby. The first floor will become the multipurpose room for lectures and meetings, and the existing auditorium will feature interactive displays. There will be a campsite area, shelter, and play center for picnickers, and the Chicago and Alton Depot will remain with its train engine. Parking will move to the new entrance, and the current lot will become a plaza. The Mill Office will be redone as the new OCTA headquarters.



NATIONAL TRAILS CENTER

A National Trails Center (NTC) is being proposed for St. Joseph, MO. “The NTC would be part of a much larger overhaul of the entire downtown St. Joseph cityscape, which would incorporate the city’s significant national historic trail resources into a heritage tourism/economic driver type of package in city planning,” said Travis Boley, Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) Manager. OCTA’s intern, Lauren Manning, is working out of city planner Nic Hutchison’s office to study how this change might be enacted. A National Park Service charrette is slated for November to seek input from St. Joseph’s leaders and citizens on what such a downtown plan might include. According to an article from the *St. Joseph News-Press*, “the venue is destined to become a centerpiece of the community” and “will feature a family event center, living history demonstrations, interpretative events, and multimedia programs.”



Reroute Legislation

North Country NST Route Adjustment Act passes House, heads to Senate

On June 5, 2018, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the North Country National Scenic Trail Route Adjustment Act (H.R.1026), legislation that will change the official route of the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCT) in northeastern Minnesota and extend the eastern terminus of the trail to connect with the Appalachian Trail in Vermont. This long sought-after legislation will add the lakeshore views of the Superior Hiking Trail, the remote wilderness of the Border Route and Kekekabic Trails in Minnesota, and a section of the beloved Long Trail in Vermont to the route of the NCT. As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act this year, there is no better time to make this dream a reality.

Although we still have to make it through the Senate, we've jumped our biggest hurdle. It took a long time to get the leadership of the House Natural Resources Committee to see that this legislation doesn't mandate land acquisition, it isn't adding to the backlog of maintenance needed in our National Park System, and it is championed by the communities and citizens on the ground, who are the biggest supporters of this change.

Since 2007, we've had bills in five different sessions of Congress: 110th, 111th, 113th, 114th, and 115th. The Minnesota "Arrowhead" route change was evaluated and identified as the preferred alternative in the National Park Service's "Northeastern Minnesota Route Assessment," approved in September 2004, because of its more scenic and sustainable location. The Vermont route addition was evaluated and identified as the preferred alternative in the National Park Service's Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment, approved in 2014, which would fulfill the original vision of the National Trails System.

Rep. Rob Bishop (UT), the Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, recently told Outside Magazine, "This bill helps



Map Credit: North Country Trail Association

get more Americans outside and is a win for recreation, public access, and the enjoyment of our nation's beautiful scenic trails. This legislation demonstrates our commitment to working in a bipartisan fashion to enhance public access to public lands."

Thank you Rep. Rick Nolan (MN) and Rep. Peter Welch (VT) and all of the cosponsors of this legislation as well as the members of NCTA's Advocacy Committee and the communities along the trail that advocated for this important move. Together, we made this happen.

The Senate version, S.363, is next. It has passed out of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and, as of publication deadline, we're waiting for a vote. Join us in asking your senators to support this important legislation and thanking them if they already signed on.



Learn more about this legislation and the routes:

www.northcountrytrail.org/our-work/advocacy/

New Mexico retracement trail dedicated on National Trails Day

by Terry Heslin, National Trails Lead

Bureau of Land Management New Mexico

On June 2, 2018, more than 100 outdoor and history enthusiasts gathered on Buckman Road at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Dead Dog Trailhead of the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail. The event celebrated National Trails Day, the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System, and the dedication of a new 14.7-mile retracement trail that connects the city of Santa Fe, NM to Diablo Canyon Recreation Area and offers visitors an unbroken path for hiking, biking, and other activities.

This was a Federal Lands Access Project and multi-agency partnership between Santa Fe County, BLM, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Forest Service, National

Park Service, and the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs.

Mountain bikers and backcountry equestrians were present with their horses, a reenactment honor guard of Spanish presidial soldiers carried the royal banner, and attendees could listen to music and participate in Junior Ranger activities. Several speakers provided commentary about three centuries of travel and history and how this trail profoundly influenced the culture and customs of the southwest—the catalyst that formed New Mexico's multicultural society that endures and flourishes in the modern era. The trail traverses the original route traveled by Juan de Oñate's 1598 Spanish expedition to establish "Nuevo México."



Photo Credit: NPS

Above: Backcountry equestrians attended the trail dedication by horseback on National Trails Day.



Read the full article and trail's history:

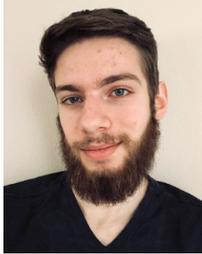
www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/

Trail Intern

SPOTLIGHTS

JACOB TORRES

Age: 19
Current City, State: Anchorage, AK
Title: Iditarod NHT Communications Intern
Employer: Alaska Geographic
Scope of Internship: Provide media gathering, distribution, and outreach relating to the 40th anniversary of the Iditarod Trail being designated as a national historic trail and the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System.



Jacob Torres



DELAINI DISHER

Age: 22
Current City, State: Grand Rapids, MI
Title: Next Generation Outreach Intern
Employer: North Country Trail Association
Scope of Internship: Facilitate Next Generation Coalition, increase young adult and diverse communities on the trail, and assist Marketing and Communications Coordinator with social media content.



Delaini Disher



AMANDA WHELOCK

Age: 26
Current City, State: Golden, CO
Title: Marketing and Communications Specialist
Employer: Continental Divide Trail Coalition
Scope of Internship: Broaden the community of CDT supporters via print, web, and social media, and create communications tools for CDTC to standardize its organizational voice and messaging.



Amanda Wheelock



Title: National Service Coordinators
Employer: Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Scope of Internship: Alivia Acosta works with the trail maintaining clubs on the northern half of the AT, learning about volunteer stewardship opportunities they are hosting, and posting that information to the ATC's website. After successfully posting events, she and her southern counterpart, Katie Houston, work to promote their posts, as well as track the data that they collect from each volunteer who registers. Their analysis of this data will then be presented to all of the AT's trail maintaining clubs.



ALIVIA ACOSTA

Age: 21
Current City, State: Unity, ME
Future Career Aspirations: I want my career to be focused on making the outdoors a more inclusive space and to encourage personal growth through community service, such as trail work!



Alivia Acosta

KATIE HOUSTON

Age: 21
Current City, State: Asheville, NC
How Internship Has Prepared You for the Future: It deepened my appreciation for volunteerism and stewardship, and it broadened my roots in the AT community.



Katie Houston



More interns will be featured in upcoming issues of Pathways. Read the full intern biographies online: www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/

Eagle Scout earns NPS volunteer award for Ice Age Trail work

by Partnership for the National Trails System

Adapted from April 26, 2018 NPS news release

During National Park Week, National Park Service (NPS) Deputy Director Dan Smith announced the six recipients of the national 2017 George and Helen Hartzog Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service. George Hartzog was the director of the National Park Service from 1964 to 1972 and created the Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) program during his tenure. After his retirement, the Hartzogs created an endowment to honor the efforts of exceptional volunteers.

The youth award for outstanding volunteer service went to Nicholas Gilson of Wisconsin for his work on the Ice Age National Scenic Trail. For his Eagle Scout project, Gilson raised donations for the materials needed to rebuild 120 feet of fencing, six interpretive sign posts, two benches, and two directional trail signs for a 1,050 foot-high overlook.



Nicholas Gilson

He also recruited dozens of volunteers who devoted about 500 hours of time to craft, transport, and install these features atop Bald Bluff. He was nominated by Daniel Watson, IAT Acting Superintendent and Volunteer Coordinator.

Gilson's accomplishments resulted in "community support and additional volunteerism; strengthened relationships with State agency partners; improved visitor experience for trail users; protected rare and fragile prairie habitat; and added value to the IAT's VIP program," Watson wrote in his nomination letter. "Nick's dedication and professionalism

throughout the course of this project is one of the reasons I will continue to look for partnering opportunities with local youths."



Learn more about the awards and Gilson's project with photos: www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/

DOI designates 19 new national recreation trails

Just before National Trails Day, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke designated 19 national recreation trails (NRTs) in 17 States, adding more than 370 miles to the national recreation trails system of nearly 1,300 trails.

“By designating these new national trails, we acknowledge the efforts of local communities to provide outdoor recreational opportunities that can be enjoyed by everyone,” Zinke said. “Our network of national trails provides easily accessible places to exercise and connect with nature in both urban and rural areas while boosting tourism and supporting economic opportunities across the country.”

Trails of the national recreation trails system range from less than a mile to 485 miles in length and have been designated on Federal, State, municipal, and privately owned lands. While national scenic trails and national historic trails may only be designated by an act of Congress, national recreation trails may be designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture in response to an application from the trail's managing agency or organization.

“The network of national recreation trails offers expansive opportunities for Americans to explore the great outdoors,” said National Park Service Deputy Director Dan Smith. “As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System, I hope everyone will take advantage of a nearby national trail to hike or bike.”



Newly Designated NRTs



<p>CALIFORNIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt. Umunhum Trail <p>FLORIDA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park Trail System <p>KANSAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fort Larned Historic Nature Trail <p>MASSACHUSETTES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fort River Birding and Nature Trail <p>MICHIGAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iron Ore Heritage Trail • North Western State Trail 	<p>MINNESOTA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannon Valley Trail <p>MISSOURI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilson's Creek Greenway <p>MONTANA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River's Edge Trail <p>NEW MEXICO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climax Canyon Nature Trail <p>NEW MEXICO / TEXAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guadalupe Ridge Trail <p>NEW YORK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Van Buren Nature Trails <p>PENNSYLVANIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Mayer Riverswalk Trail 	<p>SOUTH DAKOTA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackberry Trail <p>TENNESSEE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bays Mountain Park Trail <p>TEXAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salado Creek Greenway <p>UTAH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corona Arch <p>VERMONT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wright's Mountain Trails <p>VIRGINIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail
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The National Recreation Trails Program is jointly administered by the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service, in conjunction with a number of Federal and nonprofit partners, notably American Trails, which hosts the national recreation trails website. Each year nominations for designation of new National Recreation Trails may be submitted. The NRT Program

recognizes trails that provide opportunities for all Americans to enjoy the out-of-doors and improve the quality of life of our communities.

Search the online national recreation trails database and apply for NRT designation:
www.americantrails.org

BLM, FWS, NPS launch story maps

by Partnership for the National Trails System

Adapted from BLM, FWS, NPS, and Trails50 websites

As the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act Approaches, several Federal agencies have launched interactive story maps to encourage people to discover, connect, and explore. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) National Conservation Lands Office created an ESRI story map featuring 50 notable sites and segments within the National Trails System. “Authentic adventures on BLM-managed trails” features a brief background on the location, a photograph, and a link to the relevant recreation information page. Also, the National Park Service (NPS) created a story map, developed by Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Geographer Ryan Cooper, which celebrates America’s National Trails System. The 50th anniversary and each of the 30 national scenic and historic trails are featured with links, videos, photos, maps, and information about partner agencies and organizations. And Bill O’Brian with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) co-authored and designed a story map of the National Wildlife Refuges along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. His colleague, Susan Morse, wrote the “Trails for Non-Hikers” piece about paths focusing on art, history, culture, nature, water, and even scat.

Links to the story maps:
www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/



Screenshot: www.trails50.org/story-map/

Above: This NPS story map celebrates America’s National Trails System with links, videos, photos, interactive maps, and information about its partners.

Event Calendar



www.pnts.org/new/events/

August 3-11, 2018	Nez Perce Trail Foundation's Summer Educational Trail Tour	Yellowstone NP, WY to Bears Paw Battlefield, MT	www.nezperce-trail.net
August 6-11, 2018	Oregon-California Trails Association 36th Annual Convention	Ogden, UT	www.octa-trails.org
August 17-19, 2018	Pacific Crest Trail Days	Cascade Locks, OR	www.pctdays.com
August 22-25, 2018	Fourth Biennial Student Congress on Public Policy for Land Management	Baker City, OR	www.public-land.org
September 8-9, 2018	National Pony Express Association Convention	Torrington, WY	www.national-ponyexpress.org
September 20-22, 2018	Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous	Larned, KS	www.santafe-trailcenter.org
September 22, 2018	25th Annual National Public Lands Day	Nationwide	www.neefusa.org/npld
October 5-7, 2018	Old Spanish Trail Days	Barstow, CA	www.old-spanishtrail.org
October 22-25, 2018	16th Biennial National Trails System Conference	Vancouver, WA	www.pnts.org

Webinar Series



www.pnts.org/new/webinars/

50th Anniversary Rivers and Trails Best Practices for Communications

When: July 19, 2018 at 3PM EDT

Presenters: Marta Call, Gila National Forest Public Affairs Officer; Samantha Haas, Partnership for the National Trail System Communications Coordinator; Radha Marcum, River Network Marketing and Communications Director; Lisa Ronald, Wild & Scenic Rivers 50th Anniversary Coordinator; Amanda Wheelock, Continental Divide Trail Coalition Marketing and Communications Specialist

About: As we commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System and Wild and Scenic River Acts, it's important to spread the word about related events and projects in the most efficient way. Join rivers, trails, and Federal agency communications experts for this webinar about best practices for traditional and social media. You'll hear examples of successful marketing tactics, learn how to get your 50th Anniversary media off the ground—even if it's your first time planning an event and you don't have a communications staff—and how to use event outreach for broader storytelling to strengthen your organization's presence in the community.



If you are interested in being a webinar presenter or have a topic to suggest, email:

admin@pnts.org

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Bridget Likely • Appalachian Mountain Club (NET)

Cosmo Catalano • Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Matt Nelson • Arizona Trail Association

Susan Shingledecker • Chesapeake Conservancy

Clare Cain • Connecticut Forest & Park Association (NET)

Teresa Martinez • Continental Divide Trail Coalition

Jim Wolf • Continental Divide Trail Society

Marcie Davis • E Mau Nā Ala Hele (Ala Kahakai NHT)

Steven Gonzales • El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association

Alex Stigliano • Florida Trail Association

Judy Bittner • Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance

Lindy Hatcher • Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

Ron Andersen • Mormon Pioneer Trail Association

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Marcia Will-Clifton • Santa Fe Trail Association

Deloris Gray Wood • Trail of Tears Association



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HISTORIC TRAILS



Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail: Richard Blond

CITIZEN STEWARDS



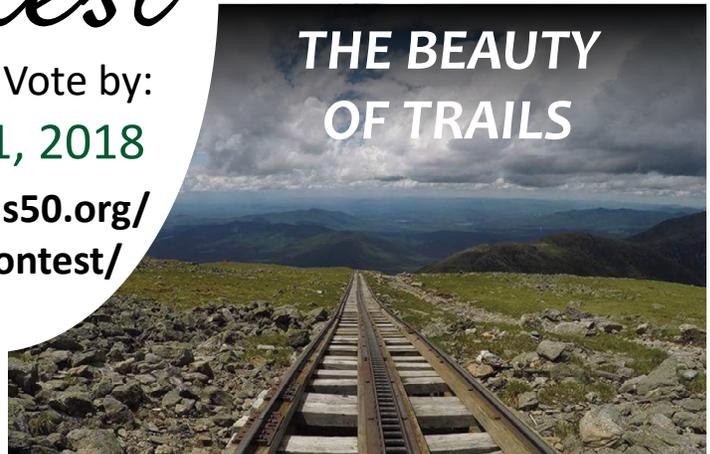
Florida National Scenic Trail: Paul B.

MULTI-USE TRAILS



Continental Divide National Scenic Trail: Clifford H.

THE BEAUTY OF TRAILS



Appalachian National Scenic Trail: Nick K.



Photo Contest

Enter and Vote by:
August 1, 2018
[www.trails50.org/
photo-contest/](http://www.trails50.org/photo-contest/)