

A PUBLICATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM



# Pathways *Across America*

SUMMER 2019

## PRESERVING CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

*Ala Kahakai Trail Association  
connects with community  
and Trust for Public Land  
to protect Waikapuna*

GAP ANALYSIS INITIATIVE ● NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS COLLEGE COURSE  
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUR TRAILS ● FWS NATIONAL TRAILS INVENTORY

# 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 50 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](http://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](http://www.railstotrails.org)



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

[www.pnts.org](http://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, including 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 NHTs 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

The Ala Kahakai Trail Association secured funding from the State Legacy Fund and County Open Space Fund to purchase Waikapuna. The dramatic vistas of this land in Hawaii are breathtaking. Photo Credit: Nahaku Kalei

#### INSIDE

Left: National Park Service staff give a stakeholder design presentation about national historic trails in St. Joseph, MO. Photo Credit: NPS  
 Center: Nathanael Greene Homestead along the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT in Coventry, RI. Photo Credit: W3R-US  
 Right: Butterfly milkweed near the Ice Age NST. Photo Credit: Gary Werner

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# Help secure full annual funding of the LWCF and donate to support the work of the PNTS

As we begin the second 50 years of building, protecting, interpreting, and maintaining the national scenic and historic trails, several new opportunities offer the prospect of significantly enhancing our efforts. The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) is beginning several initiatives to make good use of these opportunities, including providing ways that you can help make them succeed.

## LWCF FULL ANNUAL FUNDING

The first opportunity comes with the recent permanent reauthorization of the **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** by Congress. Congress has assured that the LWCF will continue permanently, funded by receipts from off-shore oil and gas leases. Complementing this essential action, bills with strong bipartisan support have been introduced in both the House and Senate to require annual full funding (\$900 million) of the LWCF.

If Congress requires annual full funding of the LWCF, this action will provide a significant increase in Federal funding to enable a significant increase in land preservation projects by both Federal and State agencies. This increased funding will in turn greatly increase the opportunities for land acquisition projects along national scenic and historic trails to be funded. We are on the threshold of a new, greatly enhanced era of public land preservation.

The PNTS is an active member, along with dozens of other national and regional organizations, of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Coalition, which is working vigorously to secure the necessary full annual funding to realize the full promise of the LWCF.

## GAP ANALYSIS

The second opportunity has been provided by a two-year funding assistance agreement from the Federal Highway Administration. A substantial amount of this funding is enabling the Partnership to work with the Trust for Public Land to prepare a Gap Analysis for the 30 national scenic and historic trails and a series of reports on best practices and legal means for preserving trail lands. (See the report on this project in this issue of *Pathways* on page 5.)

We have estimated that there are about 4,000 miles of gaps in 10 of the national



Photo Credit: Gary Werner  
Gray-headed coneflowers in the restored Liebetau Prairie along the Age National Scenic Trail in Dane County, WI.

scenic trails. We do not know how many “high potential sites and segments” there are along the 19 national historic trails nor how many of them are adequately protected to preserve the quality and integrity of their historic and cultural resources. The Gap Analysis will give us the information to determine these critical attributes of the national trails and to be better able to identify the areas most threatened by incompatible development. This information, in turn, will make our advocacy more credible and compelling for additional LWCF and other resources to protect our trails and their resources.

## PUBLIC POLICY

As the effort to convince Congress to fully fund the LWCF annually intensifies and we begin to do the Gap Analysis for the 30 national scenic and historic trails, a group has been formed within the PNTS to develop a strategy to fully protect the trails. This group of experienced leaders—with decades of experience in national public policy making and legislative work—will fashion a blueprint to guide the advocacy and public policy work of the PNTS to secure significantly more resources for our trails. We are about to embark on a new era emphasizing consistently working to

close the gaps in the trails and permanently protecting the natural, cultural, and historic resources that give them such great value.

You have several opportunities to help make our efforts to close the gaps in the scenic trails and preserve the critical sites and segments along the historic trails successful. First, let your Senators and Representatives know how important the Land and Water Conservation Fund is for completing and protecting the resource values of your national trail, and urge them to support full annual funding for the LWCF. Take advantage of Congress’ annual August Recess to invite your members of Congress to join you in touring part of your national trail to reinforce their interest in and support for it and the National Trails System.

## SUPPORTER PROGRAM

Second, you now have the opportunity to help support the Partnership’s advocacy and information gathering work by becoming a **Supporter of the PNTS**. The PNTS Trail Leaders Council has established a way for individuals, organizations, and corporations to help fund the work we do to develop, protect, and sustain the national scenic and historic trails by joining our Supporter Program. We have a goal to recruit **500 Founding Supporters**. You can become one of these Founding Supporters with a tax-deductible contribution of \$50 or more. See [www.pnts.org](http://www.pnts.org) for details about various Supporter levels and to join us.

As readers of *Pathways*, you already strongly support one or several of your favorite national scenic or historic trails. By becoming a Supporter of the PNTS, you will both reinforce and magnify your support for your favorite trails by increasing the ability of the PNTS to provide public policy advocacy and other beneficial services for the national trails community. As a community, we have much greater respect among Congress and the Federal agencies and can exert much greater pressure for securing the resources needed to sustain the national trails. Will you become a **Founding Supporter** to help the PNTS continue to marshal and amplify the voice of our national trails community in Washington, D.C. and throughout America?

Enjoy the long days of a happy summer!

Gary Werner

## PNTS and Trust for Public Land initiate Gap Analysis

Fifty years after the passage of the National Trails System Act, many critically important landscapes and resources of the National Trails System lack any permanent protection.

Thanks to a cooperative agreement with the Federal Highway Administration, the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS), in collaboration with the Trust for Public Land (TPL), is developing an integrated Geographic Information System (GIS) approach to identify and prioritize trail protection projects throughout the National Trails System.

This effort dovetails with the recently developed interactive Webmapping Application of the National Trails System, which utilizes the ArcGIS Online platform to create a single online map for all 30 national scenic and historic trails and their publicly available data.

PNTS and TPL are currently refining the methodology for the project, using two national scenic trails (the Ice Age and North Country) and two national historic trails (the Santa Fe and Lewis and Clark).

PNTS also will identify, analyze, and catalogue model agreements and develop case studies of conservation easements and other techniques for protecting national trails. At the completion of the project, this information will be organized into a draft *Handbook for National Trails Protection*.

The Gap Analysis project will be done in close cooperation with trail partners. PNTS will be reaching out to trail organizations and agency partners in the coming months.



View the National Trails System Webmapping Application:  
[www.pnts.org/new/map-interactive-gis/](http://www.pnts.org/new/map-interactive-gis/)

### ELEMENTS OF THE GAP ANALYSIS

- Collecting, evaluating, and aggregating existing trail data into a single GIS database;
- Identifying and analyzing data sets to obtain the best available data;
- Analyzing trail areas on public land or in protected areas using the United States Geological Survey Protected Areas Database (PAD-US), the National Conservation Easement Database (NCED), and other publicly available data sets;
- Analyzing unprotected national trail segments and resources using development risk modeling;
- Developing a GIS database that depicts national trail segments by protected/unprotected status and quantifies protected status and threats to trails by jurisdiction; and
- Developing a web map viewer that provides national trail managers with the ability to view trail corridor protection status for any segment of a national trail.

## Gary Werner retiring, PNTS seeks next Executive Director

by Liz Bergeron, Chair

*PNTS Executive Transition Taskforce*

Gary Werner has announced that he will be stepping down as Executive Director of the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) and retiring from full-time work early in 2020.

Werner, who has served as PNTS Executive Director since 1991, made the announcement on February 9, 2019, at the PNTS Board and Trail Leaders Council meetings. Werner recited a promise he had made to his wife, that as she

retired, he would too. This transition has been anticipated for some time. Werner reminded the Board he had mentioned it five years beforehand.

This transition was an "Action Step" for 2019 in the Partnership's 2017-2019 Strategic Plan. An Executive Transition Taskforce has been established and is chaired by immediate-past-president Liz Bergeron.

The Taskforce has been meeting to draft a position description and prepare for the transition. The next report to the board is scheduled for July 24, and recruitment will begin in August 2019.



### 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.



### GOALS

1. Outreach and public awareness
2. Resource protection and trail completion
3. Capacity building

# The trails are there for you

The National Trails System has played a pivotal role in my life for the last 16 years. The day after I graduated college, I took my first steps northward from Springer Mountain, GA on the Appalachian Trail. Without any measurable backcountry experience I was setting forth looking for adventure in the unknown.

In the 2,100-plus miles between there and Mount Katahdin, ME, I found it. I also learned many lessons about backcountry travel and myself. Over the following years it would be a pattern that would repeat: hike a trail, increase my knowledge and experiences, become more aware of who I was.

I completed my first Triple Crown by the age of 25. In all my wisdom gained, I believed that it was time to stop adventuring and move on with life. Within five years, I realized that I had been wrong. There were still lessons I needed to learn, and the only place I could learn them was on a national scenic trail.

In my new memoir, "Thirst: 2600 Miles to Home," I chronicle my second thru-hike of the Pacific Crest Trail. In 2013, I stepped onto a 2,000-plus mile long footpath seeking something other than adventure: answers.

I'd built a life around traditional norms but realized something crucial was missing. I believed that to find the answers I needed a new challenge on familiar terrain. I decided to attempt to hike the PCT as a traditional backpacker...in just 60 days.

What I learned along the way were many lessons and many answers about myself. Among these were acceptance, strength, determination, humility, and connectedness. I realized that there are no answers to be provided by any trail. We already hold the answers within ourselves; the trails provide us the opportunity to unlock them by connecting with ourselves. I'd always known I was different, but instead of embracing it, I'd fought it. Sixty days of intense hiking alone taught me that I would never find answers that way. I needed to accept myself before I could move forward.

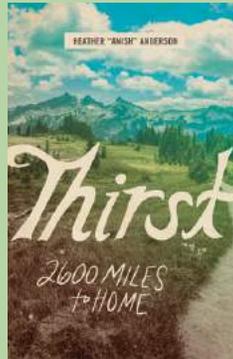
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*Here on the final day of a crazy journey, doing the thing that came most naturally to me, I knew why I had felt empty before. I needed to be true to myself and my calling...I had learned to accept myself for all that I was and all that I wasn't. My calling came from the mountains and all that I needed to do to answer was put one foot in front of the other.*

”

## THIRST: 2600 MILES TO HOME

by Heather Anderson



2019  
Mountaineers Books

I've subsequently completed the Triple Crown two more times and covered thousands of miles on our national scenic and recreation trails. I've gone to them to process the loss of my father and my sister. I've found the comfort I needed by walking miles and miles alone with my grief. I've also gone there to celebrate the finding of love, feeling the joy of nature with my husband.

Hiking has been my path to healing, growth, challenge, and fulfillment. Our National Trails System is an incredible boon to those like me. No matter our needs, there is a trail waiting for us with open tread.



*Heather Anderson, known as Anish, is the only female Triple Triple Crown. She was also the first woman to complete a Calendar Year Triple Crown (2018). In addition to writing, she is a sought after public speaker. "Thirst: 2600 Miles to Home" is her first book. It is available in paperback, audio, and ebook format online. Autographed copies are available direct from the author at <https://squareup.com/store/Anishhikes>. You can follow her adventures on Instagram @AnishHikes or on her website:*

[www.anishhikes.wordpress.com](http://www.anishhikes.wordpress.com)

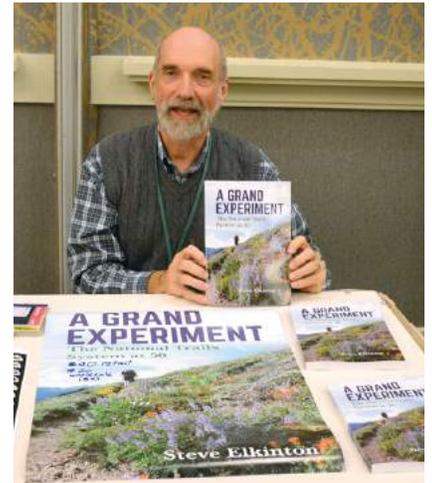


Photo Credit: Samantha Haas  
Steve Elkinton, author of "A Grand Experiment—The National Trails System at 50," has been selling his book around the country and promoting the PNTS.

## National Trails System 50th book to benefit PNTS

### by Partnership for the National Trails System

*Adapted from news releases*

Steve Elkinton, former National Park Service (NPS) Program Leader for the National Trails System, has written the book, "A Grand Experiment—The National Trails System at 50."

Learn how the concept of a National Trails System came about, how it became part of Federal law more than 50 years ago, and how the system has grown and evolved in the five decades since. What started as two iconic national scenic trails (the Appalachian and Pacific Crest) has grown into a nationwide network touching all 50 States in five different types of trail.

Who were the individuals that helped it come alive? How did the system weather changes in the national political climate? Are the issues that faced early trail planners the same that face all of us today?

The book, published by Palmetto Press in 2018, the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System, is available from the author for \$40 retail or \$20 wholesale (in orders of five or more). Once publishing expenses are paid, all surplus royalties will be contributed to the Partnership for the National Trails System. For copies, contact the author at [elksteve50@gmail.com](mailto:elksteve50@gmail.com).

# Trail Apprentice

## SPOTLIGHT

It's been 10 years since the Partnership for the National Trails System first offered Trail Apprentice (TA) scholarships, funded by multiple Federal agencies, to young adults. We caught up with some members of the 2009 class to find out how this opportunity helped shape their careers.

**Name:** Marshall Alford

**Age:** 30

**Current City, State:**  
Salt Lake City, UT

**Trail Apprentice Year:**  
2009

**Biggest takeaways from TA program:**

Having a broader understanding and partnership engagement in trails stewardship through agency partnerships.

**How did the TA program influence your career trajectory:**

It was my first experience with a professional conference and revealed the variety of opportunities to make an impact in the field. I ultimately decided to



Marshall Alford



pursue a job with a Federal land manager and continue to work in trails management among other recreation and land management objectives.

**What have you been doing since attending your first conference or workshop:** I have worked in recreation management for the U.S. Forest Service in Colorado, North Carolina, New Mexico, Alaska, and most recently Utah.

**What are your future career and conservation aspirations:** My current goal is continued work in recreation and resources management, and I may work toward a position as a district ranger.

**What advice do you have for future Trail Apprentices:** Take the time to understand the partnership mechanisms that agencies use, as well as the ways that nonprofit trail groups work with funding entities like

State, county, and local governments to support projects and planning efforts.

**What is a memorable trail experience you'd like to share:** I have had the pleasure of traveling some of my favorite trails on foot, horseback, and also on skis. Some of the moments I look most fondly on are when I experience something from a different perspective than the last trip out or the last season that I was on that trail. Most notably, by returning on foot, I was able to better appreciate the intricate details of my favorite bristlecone pine forest which has long since resisted the elements and effects of changes in fire return intervals. The textures and colors of these exposed wood grains and trunks remain in my mind years later and I think of it as one of the most special places I have had the fortune to visit.

## AWARDS

by American Trails

Adapted from a May 2019 Advancing Trails Award news release

# Gary Werner receives Outstanding Trail Leaders award

Gary Werner, Executive Director of the Partnership for the National Trails System, was awarded by American Trails during the 24th International Trails Symposium and Training Institute, held April 28-May 1, 2019, in Syracuse, NY. Werner received the Outstanding Trail Leaders State Award for his longtime trail work in Wisconsin.

The State Awards recognize individuals who have made compelling and significant contributions to the trails movement in their home States. Any area of trail excellence or achievement—advocating, designing, building, using, maintaining, promoting, decorating, adapting technologies for trail use, etc.—could be grounds for receiving this honor.

A resident of Madison, WI, Werner worked for 12 years for the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation (now known as the Ice Age Trail Alliance) organizing volunteers, coordinating trail planning and construction projects with the National Park Service and Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources and Transportation, and



Photo Credit: American Trails

Above from left: Gary Werner, PNTS Executive Director, accepts the Wisconsin Outstanding Trail Leaders award from Roger Bell, past American Trails Board Chair and Vice-Chair.

negotiating right of way purchases with landowners.

Werner has served since 1991 as Chair, and now as Executive Director, of PNTS, a nonprofit organization that supports the 30 national scenic and historic trails. Werner represents PNTS in working with Federal

agency staff and other nonprofit organizations to develop national trails policy initiatives and secure adequate funding, administrative support, and authorities for the National Trails System.

Over the past 28 years Gary has organized and led volunteers in a variety of trail construction and maintenance and natural resource preservation projects for the Sierra Club, The Nature Conservancy, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, American Hiking Society, and the Ice Age Trail Alliance.

The Advancing Trails Awards Program is one way American Trails recognizes the tremendous contributions and successes of exemplary people across the globe who are working to advance trails. These awards are presented every two years during the International Trails Symposium and Training Institute.



View all award categories and recipients:

[www.americantrails.org/communications/awards/nationaltrailsawards](http://www.americantrails.org/communications/awards/nationaltrailsawards)



Photo Credit: Mike Cavaroc

Passage 38 along the Arizona National Scenic Trail in the Grand Canyon.

## ARIZONA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

by **Matt Nelson**, *Executive Director*

*Arizona Trail Association*

When Dale Shewalter, a school teacher from Flagstaff, AZ, stood on top of Coronado Peak near the U.S./Mexico border in the late 1970s and imagined a single trail connecting deserts, mountains, canyons, forests, communities, and people, the dream of the Arizona Trail was born. The idea of a trail traversing the length of the Grand Canyon State caught on quickly, especially considering over half the trail already existed on the ground, and the proposed route was almost entirely on public land.

After nine years it became clear that no particular State or Federal agency had the capacity to keep up with the momentum of the ambitious project. So in 1994, the Arizona Trail Association (ATA) was formed to recruit and train volunteers needed to construct hundreds of miles of trail as well as coordinate with all agencies, municipalities, private property owners, and recreational user groups. This year marks the 10th anniversary of designation as a national scenic trail and the 25th anniversary of the ATA as a nonprofit organization.

In celebration of these two significant anniversaries, the ATA is working with Gateway Communities through the State to host 25 Arizona Trail (AZT) gatherings that will bring together hikers, trail runners, mountain bikers, horseback riders, volunteers, land managers, and other members of the trail community to share stories and raise a pint to the AZT.

The signature event for 2019 is AZT in a Day on Saturday, October 12. This initiative will encourage hundreds of individuals, families, and groups to work together to collectively cover every mile of trail within a single day. An interactive registration platform can be found online, and advance registration is required to effectively manage the total number of individuals and vehicles at specific trailheads Statewide.

The trail has improved exponentially since its designation as a national scenic trail. Some of the major accomplishments include the completion of the trail in 2011, securing permanent rights-of-way across State Trust Lands, the development of a youth stewardship program, and the fabrication and installation of over 80 steel gates to protect the trail from motorized impacts while meeting the needs of all trail users (including wheelchairs, handcycles, and full-loaded pack stock).

The ATA is currently coordinating 70 miles of trail construction projects where the AZT is colocated along dirt roads. This will minimize the possibility of motorized interface and provide a primitive path more consistent with a national scenic trail experience.



[www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)

## Celebrating 10 years as part

In 2009, four new national scenic and historic trails joined the National Trails System, bringing the total number of Congressionally designated trails to 30.

## NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

by **Charles Tracy**, *Trail Administrator*

*NET, National Park Service*



Designated in 2009 as the New England National Scenic Trail (NET), this historic 220-mile hiking trail route has been in existence for more than 70 years.

Providing a "close to home" trail experience that exemplifies the primary purpose of the National Trails System Act—to establish trails near urban areas—the NET traverses 40 communities in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and is comprised primarily of the Mattabesett, Metacomet, and Monadnock (M-M-M) Trail systems.



[www.newenglandtrail.org](http://www.newenglandtrail.org)

Two of the oldest conservation organizations in the U.S.—the Appalachian Mountain Club (1876) and Connecticut Forest and Park Association (1895)—manage the trail, in partnership with the National Park Service. Organized trail construction and maintenance by the Connecticut Forest and Park Association for what is now the NET officially began in the 1930s in Connecticut. Twenty years later, taking up a dare to extend the trail north into the Massachusetts, a corps of 15 hiking enthusiasts began laying out the trail in Massachusetts in 1951.

Since its Federal designation, the NET has made steady progress in three key areas: land protection, trail stewardship, and community outreach. Trail planners worked closely with local communities to achieve two significant route changes: a 15-mile extension to a new southern gateway on Long Island Sound in Guilford, CT; and an 11-mile reroute to permanently protected lands near Quabbin Reservoir in Massachusetts. Trail stewardship has been enhanced by regular volunteer trainings, a growing network of college outdoor clubs, and summer trail crews. The management team is always seeking creative ways to invite new users and expand the NET community.

Over the last decade, its innovative artist-in-residence program has hosted several artists, including musicians, poets, sculptors and new media. Art-related events and exhibitions have opened the door for nontraditional partnerships with museums, libraries, cultural foundations, colleges, and brewpubs. The Hike50 Challenge, the NET's most recent social media campaign, attracted more than 1,500 participants from all the New England States and six countries.

As it begins its second decade, the New England Trail Advisory Council is undertaking a comprehensive review of the management plan, a website update, and is setting ambitious goals for land and visual resource protection, accessibility, and youth engagement.

Photo Credit: Bart Smith

Connecticut River view from the Monadnock portion of the New England Trail.



# of the National Trails System

In 2019, nonprofit and Federal partners shared each trail's history, accomplishments, and 10th anniversary events. To learn more about the trails, visit the corresponding websites.

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

by **Jeff Kish**, *Executive Director*

*Pacific Northwest Trail Association*

The phrase "Tomorrow, the Pacific Ocean!" is credited as the catalyst that led to the creation of the Pacific Northwest Trail (PNT), which was written by renowned northwest guidebook author Harvey Manning and published in the 1970 classic "101 Hikes in the North Cascades."

Two years after the Pacific Crest Trail and the Appalachian Trail were designated by Congress as the nation's first two national scenic trails, a Georgetown University student named Ron Strickland read Manning's book and began to envision such a trail that would ultimately extend from the Continental Divide to the Pacific Ocean.

Throughout the early 1970s, Strickland traversed the northwest to meet with local trail experts and other stakeholders to learn about the region's trail systems. By the mid-70s, Strickland had cobbled together a preliminary route, and by 1977 the PNT attracted its first cohort of successful thru-hikers. That same year, Strickland founded the Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA), which has operated continuously as the PNT's primary advocates ever since.

Today, the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail extends 1,226 miles west from the east side of Glacier National Park to the westernmost point in the lower 48 States on the shores of Olympic National Park's Wilderness Coast. Along the trail's three-State traverse, it crosses three national parks, seven national forests, and six designated wilderness areas. The trail's east/west orientation across the western States makes it unique in that it travels against the grain of the nation's topography, ascending seven major mountain ranges on its way to the sea.

In the 10 years since the Pacific Northwest Trail was designated as a national scenic trail, PNTA's greatest accomplishments all involve connecting youth and young adults with paid stewardship opportunities on public lands. For example, the Quilcene Ranger Corps program introduces trail stewardship to junior high-aged youth from trailside communities through a summer of daylong trips in the Olympic National Forest. PNTA Performance Crews offer young adults the opportunity to spend the summer on extended backcountry hitches, performing advanced work in remote locations across the length of the trail. PNTA Job Corps Crews operate in partnership with Curlew Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center students, providing the opportunity for participants to apply trade skills and gain valuable field-based job experience.

Photo Credit: Jeff Kish

Mount Olympus from the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail.

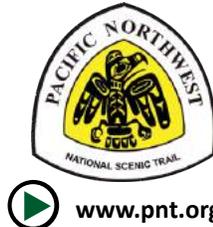


Photo Credit: W3R-US

Mistress sailing yacht Chesapeake Bay WARO Water Trail in Yorktown, VA.

## WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

by **Johnny Carawan**, *Acting Trail Administrator*

*WARO, National Park Service*



The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail (WARO) is a series of 680 miles of roads used by the Continental Army under the command of George Washington and the Expédition Particulière under the command of Jean-Baptiste de Rochambeau, during their 1781 march from Newport, RI, to Yorktown, VA. The route spans nine States and the District of Columbia.

The military, logistical, and cultural significance of this march served as a pivotal point in the American Revolution. Without the assistance of thousands of French soldiers and sailors, many of whom gave their lives, the outcome of the war could have been much different. Today, the route includes many historic sites and scenic byways that are open to the public and preserve the crucial relationship between the French and Americans as well as their historic march to victory.

WARO has an intangible quality as well as physical location. The trail is a living collaboration between the French and American governments, participants and supporters, hundreds of communities, 50 counties, and nine States along the route. The National Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association Inc. (W3R-US) serves as the primary trail partner to the National Park Service (NPS). Its mission is to partner with the NPS, W3R-US State, international, and other organizations, and historic sites, preservationists, and conservationists along the route. In doing so, W3R-US helps initiate, coordinate, and promote programs that engage, inspire, and educate the public in the history of the American Revolution with a particular emphasis on how France and the French people provided crucial aid to the United States.

Founded in 1999, W3R-US advocated for the route to become a national historic trail, and legislation was passed in 2009 establishing the route as an official unit of the National Park System and formally designating it as a national trail. W3R-US, in collaboration with NPS, is committed to preserving, protecting, educating, and interpreting the trail. Their efforts have helped to establish the framework for long-term administration of the trail, including purposeful and systematic approaches to planning and operations. Recent successes include the completion of the Trail Foundation Document, which provides basic guidance for park planning and management decisions.

W3R-US has also completed a Long Range Interpretive Plan, which provides a five to seven year plan for desired interpretive outcomes for the trail, as well as its purpose, significance, and primary stories. Finally, it is on the cusp of having a trail assessment completed in 2019, which will help W3R-US in defining the visitor experience and identifying high potential historic sites and route segments.



# Historic trails course

NTIR partners with the University of New Mexico

Reaching new audiences for our national historic trails among a generation eager for something beyond the traditional pioneer narrative is a continuing challenge for trail historians and interpreters across the country. In what may be a first-of-its-kind effort, the National Park Service's National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) staff and the University of New Mexico (UNM) partnered to present a semester-long *National Historic Trails* course for 18 undergraduate students last fall. By all accounts, it was a resounding success.



Back in the spring of 2015, NTIR worked with UNM professors from across the academic spectrum to establish a Trails Advisory Committee. Since then, both UNM students and trail resources administered by NTIR have benefited from research projects in the departments of History, Geography, Spanish and Portuguese, Regional Studies, the Honors College, and the School of Architecture and Planning.

The idea for an upper-level undergraduate trails course sprang forth from that underpinning of shared interests. History professor Dr. Fred Gibbs and Ph.D. candidate Guy McClellan designed a 16-week course to provide students with a grounding in the historiography of the American West. Featuring readings and class discussions about Native history, gender, violence, cultural identities, economics, and politics, Gibbs and McClellan hoped students could use the national historic trails to identify and uncover the typically hidden stories beyond the dominant narrative of the westward movement and American expansion.

Eighteen undergrads with majors ranging from history, geography, and anthropology to criminology, geology, and film, participated in the inaugural *National*

*Historic Trails* course in the fall of 2018. "The success of the course depended on willing students who understood and appreciated the course's innovative and experimental nature," Gibbs said.

Although the syllabus had been completed weeks ahead of time, this initial trails course evolved in unexpected ways. As McClellan explained, "The syllabus ended up changing a lot over the semester, but the end goal was always the same: encourage students to think critically about the NTIR-administered historic trails and develop the skills to interpret them for a broader audience."

After the introductory class sessions, students plunged into the wide-ranging reading lists, often selecting—and debating—articles based on their own specific interests. The academic focus was balanced by visits from NTIR staff who offered real-world perspectives on trail history, interpretation, preservation, and other issues in trail administration.

The second half of the course emphasized the practical research and interpretive skills needed by public historians. Given New Mexico's location, where the Santa Fe, Old Spanish, and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trails and Route 66 have significant mileage, most students chose to focus their work on a New Mexico-based trail. Collectively, the students created an impressive online Santa Fe National Historic Trail Historic Sites Travel Itinerary and wrote brief vignettes of personalities—some well known, others less so—associated with various national historic trails. A pragmatic goal for both class projects was the compilation of material that would be peer-reviewed by fellow class members and then placed on a trail-based web page.

For their part, students welcomed the

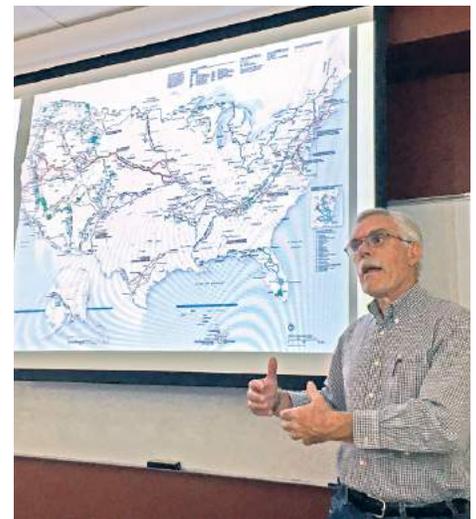


Photo Credit: NPS

Frank Norris, Ph.D. and historian with the National Park Service's National Trails Intermountain Region, presents the history of national trails to the University of New Mexico class.

new perspectives on American history available through the lens of our national historic trails. "It is a very different way of thinking about history from what you are taught in other classes. This class overall has changed many assumptions I had about humans and how they experience space and time," one student remarked. Another said, "It broadened my perspective on public history and how important it is to bring history in the public eye."

Gibbs plans to teach the course again in the 2019-2020 school year, after which the course will move to another university department, furthering the interdisciplinary goals of the course. "The fact that all students reported a highly positive experience with the course suggests that a *National Historic Trails* course goes far beyond merely teaching history of trails, but provides an important multidisciplinary venue for expanding students' conceptions of U.S. history, historical writing, historical interpretation, and public history," he said.



If interested in developing a similar course, contact NTIR staff or UNM professors:

[angelica\\_sanchez-clark@nps.gov](mailto:angelica_sanchez-clark@nps.gov)  
[fwgibbs@unm.edu](mailto:fwgibbs@unm.edu)

## Youth program updates from the Santa Fe Trail Association

The Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) has been developing age-appropriate educational activity booklets for its Junior Wagon Master Program since 2008 and holding Santa Fe Trail Youth Trips, which use these booklets, every two years since 1985. These opportunities have exposed thousands of youth to the Santa Fe National Historic Trail (SFNHT). SFTA is currently seeking funding to prepare for another printing of these booklets: Cavvy (ages 5-7), Freightier (ages 8-11), Bullwhacker (ages 12-14), and Scout (ages 15-adult). Also, the trip leaders are thinking that 2021, which is the 200th anniversary of the SFNHT, might be a good time to schedule the last youth camping trip.



View the full article online at:  
[www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/](http://www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways/)

Contact program director Janet Armstead:  
[wagonmaster@santafetrail.org](mailto:wagonmaster@santafetrail.org)



# Della Orton's dream

## NPF project spurs Santa Fe Trail's Rock Creek Crossing

In 2015, Della Orton, owner of property located along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail (SFNHT) corridor and the Rock Creek Crossing, alerted the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) of her desire to open up her private property to allow the creation of a place where the public could enjoy the prairie that she loves so much. Orton wanted children and families to be able to hike and explore the prairie in its natural environment and learn about the significant history of the area, including the history of the SFNHT. After several years and many meetings, the SFTA received an opportunity to help make her dream a reality.

In February 2018, the National Park Foundation (NPF), an official nonprofit partner to the National Park Service (NPS), issued a call for projects to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act, signed by President Johnson in 1968, which led to the creation of the SFNHT in 1987. The SFTA, with support from the NPS National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) office in Santa Fe, applied and was notified in April 2018 that the Orton property was one of 20 nationwide projects to receive funding.

The SFTA submitted a project proposal with a budget of \$54,200. The funding received provided for four key components to making this area accessible to the public and included: creating a parking lot; moving and building new fence; creating a natural surface pedestrian trail; and creating wayside exhibits to tell the story of the area and the SFNHT.

SFTA was notified that it could also apply for an additional pilot project being developed by the NPF in partnership with the NPS known as a Love Your Park (LYP) pilot project. The LYP network was created to strengthen the national parks community, enhance national parks, and improve the visitor experience. LYP projects connect park partners and park enthusiasts across the country to coordinate opportunities to increase volunteerism and financial support to national parks and trails. The network created will provide members with the tools, materials, resources, shared learnings, data collection, and funding to create and expand innovative volunteer programs and foster meaningful connections across sectors.

The additional funding from the LYP project provided SFTA with the opportunity to apply for a key component that was missing from the initial request: promotion of the Rock Creek Trail. Working with the Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association, the Morris County Historical Society, and the Kaw Mission State Historic Site, a unique project was developed to promote the



Photo Credit: Joanne VanCoevern, SFTA  
**Above from left:** SFTA President Larry Justice, landowner Della Orton, and NTIR Superintendent Aaron Mahr during the Rock Creek Crossing Santa Fe National Historic Trail dedication on June 8, 2019.

SFNHT and the Rock Creek Trail on Della Orton's property. SFTA was awarded an additional \$5,000 to develop the Traveling Trail Troupe featuring a cast of characters from the historic Santa Fe Trail. The Traveling Trail Troupe can appear along the Rock Creek Trail, on the city streets of Council Grove, KS, or as part of a special program. They can take the message of the Santa Fe Trail to other venues, or wherever they want to go.

On June 8, 2019, the SFTA and the Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter hosted the first event at the Rock Creek Crossing Trail site. Larry Justice, SFTA President, welcomed the attendees and served as master of ceremonies. Providing brief comments about the project and the importance that partnerships with private landowners such as Orton play to administering national trails was Aaron Mahr, NTIR Superintendent. Joanne VanCoevern, SFTA Manager, provided a history of the project, as well as the funding provided by the NPF. Larry Short, SFTA Project Manager and Vice President, acknowledged all those involved with the project. Orton thanked all who attended and expressed her vision for opening her property to allow others to share the ability to experience the prairie and the Santa Fe Trail. Orton's family has signed a memorandum of understanding with SFTA and NPS to grant public access on her property.

Following the unveiling of the Traveling Trail Troupe and the Cast of Characters from the Santa Fe Trail and the seven wayside exhibits that provide information about the site, attendees were invited to enjoy the trail and the prairie and visit the exhibits.

# RIVERS & TRAILS

50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## PROJECT CRITERIA

Those who applied for the National Park Foundation's 50th anniversary of trails projects had to fit specific criteria, including having to:

- Take place in 2018 to align with the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act;
- Align with the Department of the Interior Secretarial priorities related to creating a conservation and stewardship legacy and working with local communities;
- Contribute to sustainable relationships;
- Have a developed budget that was between \$25,000-\$100,000;
- Provide sustainable access or improved access to trails;
- Have a significant relevance to a national trail;
- Develop new partnerships;
- Have a volunteer component.

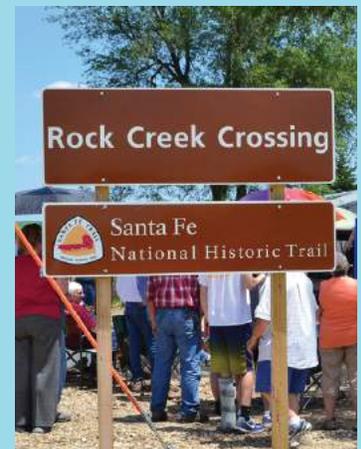


Photo Credit: Joanne VanCoevern, SFTA  
The Rock Creek Crossing along the Santa Fe National Historic Trail is located six miles east of Council Grove, KS, on Hwy. 56, and about a half mile north on S. 200 Road. The pedestrian trail is open dawn to dusk as weather permits. There is a parking lot for off-road parking. There are no restroom facilities.

# Reenvisioning St. Joseph

## Charette helps promote NHT heritage tourism

Late in 2017, the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) was awarded an internship grant from the Partnership for the National Trails System. OCTA chose Lauren Manning, a native of St. Joseph, MO, who had recently graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a degree in urban planning. Her historic preservation experience made her a perfect candidate for the ambitious work plan OCTA had put together for its intern project.

OCTA set out to partner with the city of St. Joseph to help it develop an urban plan that really brought national historic trails to life in a meaningful way. The goal was to help the city capitalize on heritage tourism, infrastructure improvements, economic development, and new educational and healthy lifestyle opportunities.

OCTA and its local Gateway Chapter partnered with the city of St. Joseph and placed Manning in the office of their city planner, Nic Hutchison. Manning started her internship in January 2018 and immediately set about the task of working with our National Park Service (NPS) partners to bring a charette to the city late in 2018. A charette is a week-long brainstorming session in which project stakeholders come together to formulate a conceptual plan.

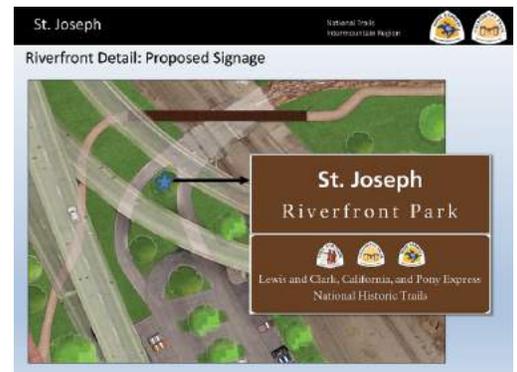
The focus of the charette in St. Joseph was the California and Pony Express National Historic Trails. There are more trail sites in St. Joseph than just the California and Pony Express (the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, among them), and the city has an interest in also promoting other significant parts of its history, including connections to other historic routes and periods. Charette participants also noted that the city's impressive late 19th century architecture and the role outfitting played in making St. Joseph into a thriving commercial and industrial center should also be of interest to city planners. The city also has an interest

in promoting its role related to the Mormon emigration to Utah, emigration to Oregon, and as the end of one of the branches of the Chisholm Trail. Although St. Joseph does not currently have national historic trail (NHT) status for any of those three trails, there is a possibility that NHT status for the Oregon Trail will one day become a reality.

Over the course of 2018, Manning and others in OCTA worked to set the table for the charette, which took place during the first full week of November. Manning and others worked with local civic, business, nonprofit, education, tourism, and neighborhood leaders to put together a team of approximately 50 people to help drive the discussion. The charette planning team included four people from the NPS National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) Office in Santa Fe, NM. NTIR staff members Kristin Van Fleet and Coreen Donnelly brought design and development expertise, Carole Clark brought interpretive expertise, and Lee Kreutzer brought cultural resource expertise. NTIR Superintendent Aaron Mahr kicked off the week by introducing the team and main themes.

After a tour of the project area—including downtown St. Joseph and some nearby trail-related sites—on Monday, November 5, the planning team met the following day, Tuesday, with the 50 local leaders to begin the process of gathering input about how best to present national historic trails in the city. Wednesday and Thursday were spent accumulating input and developing draft plans, themes, and media ideas. The NPS team met again on Friday with the same group of people who attended the Tuesday session to share their draft ideas and gather more feedback.

While the charrette document is being finalized, the city of St. Joseph is taking steps toward implementing some of the “low hanging fruit” that will help keep momentum on national historic trail development in



Screenshot

Part of the St. Joseph charette planning, design, and interpretive concepts presentation from November 2018 included proposed signage of Riverfront Park featuring the emblems of the Lewis and Clark, California, and Pony Express National Historic Trails.

St. Joseph moving forward. OCTA will soon submit a request to the city's tourism commission asking it to fund some items near the riverfront and downtown areas, such as a large stone monument entrance sign to the riverfront park with silhouettes of wagon trains, Pony Express riders, and Lewis and Clark; some interpretive exhibits at important trail sites in the downtown area; some replacement exhibits for damaged interpretive panels; and perhaps even the beginnings of the “line on the sidewalk” that will eventually trace a hiking/biking experience from the riverfront to the Pony Express National Museum and Patee House Museum a few miles to the south.

The finalized design concept document will help guide the city through development and promotion of its trails story. Other ideas are also being considered, and brainstorming about how to make St. Joseph a vibrant destination for historical tourism is continuing beyond the scope of the NHT charette. It includes many ambitious and exciting ideas, but whatever the city decides, there can be no doubt that St. Joseph has started on the path of becoming a model urban area for development and promotion of national historic trails heritage tourism.



View the entire 60-slide presentation from the St. Joseph charette:

[www.pnts.org/new/pathways](http://www.pnts.org/new/pathways)

## Trail Intern Spotlight

Since 2018, the Partnership for the National Trails System, in collaboration with the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service, has been able to provide 37 intern grants to national trail organizations to strengthen the National Trails System.



Lauren Manning

### LAUREN MANNING

**Age:** 28

**Hometown:** St. Joseph, MO

**How has the internship prepared you:**

It has really opened my eyes to what networking can do for trail projects, and I have learned so much about GIS, research techniques, and land use.



Learn more and view full versions of the submitted intern biographies:

[www.pnts.org/new/spotlight-trail-interns/](http://www.pnts.org/new/spotlight-trail-interns/)



# Saving a path for connection

## Ala Kahakai Trail Association secures funding to purchase Waikapuna

This year's Hike the Hill in Washington, D.C. focused on the perpetual renewal of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which had far reaching effects for protection of the National Trails System through land acquisitions. The importance of passing this effort through the Senate and House—as part of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act—demonstrated the awareness that our trails are deserving of protection.

The Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail (AKNHT), or traditionally named the Alanui or Ala Loa, is in constant danger of development. Hawaii's coasts are considered prime lands and are highly sought by speculators. The Ala Kahakai Trail Association (AKTA) realizes the importance of protecting its national trail, and therefore it has focused its efforts in the past few years in protecting the AKNHT through acquisition opportunities.

AKTA's board is made up of members with genealogical ties to sections of the trail. Board member Keoni Fox has such a tie to the lands of Kau, the southern portion of the trail. He has long sought a way to protect his ancestral lands, which have archaeological sites, family burials, and trails. These trails are both the Alanui and those that connect the sea to the uplands. For Fox, the protection of these lands goes



Photo Credit: AKTA

Above at right: Keoni Fox, Ala Kahakai Trail Association Board Member, speaks to community members about the ongoing preservation work being done in the Kau district of Hawaii, which includes Waikapuna.

far deeper than saving the sites or the trail; it is his responsibility to his ancestors who for generations have lived on these lands.

When the opportunity arose to purchase one of these properties, AKTA, led by Fox, sought the help of the Trust for Public Land (TPL). It was important to AKTA that the community be involved at the beginning of the process. Fox worked with TPL to secure the blessing from the community. He held many community meetings, spoke to county decision makers, and, most importantly,

walked the property to do an inventory of culturally significant resources.

AKTA was able to secure funding from the State Legacy Land Fund as well as the County Open Space Fund to purchase Waikapuna for \$8 million. AKTA is in the process of closing on the property and the title transfer is scheduled for September 2019. The property lies in the land division of Kahilipali and on its shore lies the ancient village of Waikapuna. The trail goes through the village and continues both north and south to neighboring land divisions. The dramatic vistas of the landscape are breathtaking.

In ancient times, the Alanui was the main route that connected the coastal villages. Commerce, travel between these villages, and fishing were the main activities. The chiefs would use this ancient trail to gather taxes from the people. The trail was the hub of each village.

In saving Waikapuna, AKTA ensures the perpetual protection of a portion of the trail and the resources within the property. The 2,300-acre acquisition is the first step in potentially saving more lands in neighboring land divisions. AKTA will continue to work with the community to foster a stewardship program. The beauty of Waikapuna can be shared with this generation and the many more to follow.

## Trinity Divide deal protects 17 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail

by Megan Wargo, Director of Land Protection

Pacific Crest Trail Association

In June, a significant step forward was achieved in the goal to permanently protect the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) with the \$15 million acquisition of the 10,300-acre Trinity Divide project in Northern California.

This major land protection accomplishment is the result of an extraordinary five-year combined effort that included the Pacific Crest Trail Association, the Trust for Public Land, the Michigan-California Timber Company, the U.S. Forest Service, and the surrounding local communities. Thanks to this partnership, a total of 17 once private miles of the PCT are now in public ownership.

The Trinity Divide lies in the tallest range of Northern California's vast Klamath Mountains. It was named after the mountains that divide the headwaters of the Trinity and Sacramento rivers. The acquisition will create new public access for hikers, horseback riders, campers, hunters, and anglers along this scenic stretch of the PCT, including new legal access to 10 alpine lakes and many streams.

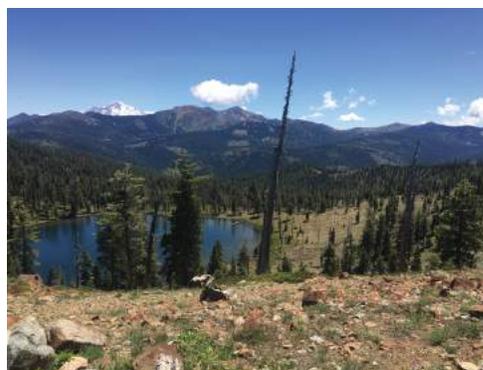


Photo Credit: Megan Wargo, PCTA

The historic conservation of more than 10,300 acres along Northern California's Trinity Divide in the Klamath and Shasta-Trinity national forests protects 17 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail, securing one of the largest privately-owned segments along the trail.

The effort to permanently protect this stretch of the Pacific Crest Trail was completed using private donations, a grant from The Wyss Foundation, and significant funding from The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).



# Eastern Legacy Extension Act

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail nonprofit partners provide updates

by Lou Ritten, *President*

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation



The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) celebrated the 50th anniversary of its official establishment on March 11, 2019. The very next day, as part of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, the President signed into law an extension of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (LCNHT) that relocates the eastern terminus from Wood River, IL down the Mississippi River and then up the Ohio River all the way to Pittsburgh, PA. The added 1,200 miles bring the total length of the LCNHT to 4,900, and also adds Indiana to the national trails map, the final State to be included.

LCTHF expects that the enhanced visibility of and closer proximity to the trail for residents in the eastern States will eventually lead to greater appreciation for the story nationwide. The extension will also increase tourism to the States included in the extended route, as well as to the originally designated western States, as travelers follow the trail from Pittsburgh to the Pacific.

The members of the LCTHF Eastern Legacy Committee, consisting principally of Phyllis Yeager and Jerry Wilson of Indiana, Mike Loesch of Ohio, and Paige Cruz of West Virginia, are to be especially commended for this achievement. They will continue to carry out the site marking efforts, both on and off the officially recognized trail, that they have been doing for years via funding by grants from LCTHF.

Following a wonderful and well-attended media event announcing the trail extension in Clarksville, IN, on May 13, 2019, the committee members (Clay Jenkinson, editor of the *We Proceeded On* quarterly journal, and LCTHF President Lou Ritten) met with Superintendent Mark Weekley and his team with the LCNHT.

LCTHF is committed to working with the National Park Service (NPS) and other partners to incorporate the additional miles seamlessly into the existing trail. Since it is primarily a water route, LCTHF intends to work with the Corps of Engineers along with NPS on matters pertaining to the river itself. LCTHF will assist the NPS in data collection, make introductions to partners it has worked with for years, and lend its on-the-ground expertise and local knowledge. LCTHF will inform tourist bureaus and chambers of commerce in the extension States of the new opportunities for travel and tourism now available to them. LCTHF will also give advice on where to place auto-route signage along roads on both sides of the Ohio that will direct visitors to sites of interest.

LCTHF believes the extension of the trail and increased recognition of the Lewis and Clark story bode well for the nation, all States along the now-extended trail, and LCTHF itself as it enters into the next half-century. LCTHF thanks the Partnership for the National Trails System and its sister trail organizations for helping to make this extension a reality. Let us proceed on together!



Map Credit: NPS

A map produced by the National Park Service of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, showing the authorized trail segments and new Eastern Legacy Extension segments.

by Jim Mallory, *Vice Chairman*

Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc.



Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc.

Official Friends Group and Partner with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail



The Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc. (LCT) is very pleased with the addition of 1,200 miles to the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (LCNHT). The trail now totals 4,900 miles from Pittsburgh, PA to the mouth of the Columbia River.

The trail addition is filled with “high potential historic sites” and “high potential route segments” that strengthen the LCNHT’s service to all people. The newly added trail segment will help in telling a fuller story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and will emphasize the importance of the preparation for the expedition to help make it a success.

The announcement celebration on May 13, 2019, was held at the Falls of the Ohio State Park, Clarksville, IN, across the Ohio River from Louisville, KY. More than 300 people attended the event, even in the face of cold, windy weather. Speakers included Sen. Todd Young (IN), Rep. Trey Hollingsworth, (IN), Indiana Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, LCNHT Superintendent Mark Weekley, retired Executive Director of the Clark-Floyd County Tourism Bureau Jim Keith, and William Clark’s third great grandson Peyton C. (Bud) Clark. Greetings and congratulations were delivered by the Louisville staff of Sen. Mitch McConnell (KY) and Rep. John Yarmuth (KY).

The John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act was recognized as the legislative vehicle to bring this service to the American people and international visitors. Bud Clark said, “This is an opportunity for all the communities along the new trail segment to tell their story of Lewis and Clark while being linked together in a historical event.” Rep. Hollingsworth said, “The curiosity of the American people is what we celebrate today, to explore what is unknown. Today, we continue that spirit of curiosity, to explore what we can do as a people.”

This is clearly the reason we need more LCNHT auto tour route miles, miles that encourage tourism, preservation of cultural and natural resources, health and wellness in the outdoors, and educational opportunities in the classroom and field. The values of Lewis and Clark—perseverance, shared responsibility, and pride in accomplishment—will still bring success today just as it did from 1803-1809.

For more information, please contact the Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc. at (859) 278-7723 or email [pmjmallory@windstream.net](mailto:pmjmallory@windstream.net).



# National Trails Inventory underway

The third round of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Trails Inventory is underway! The entire FWS trail network will be inventoried on National Wildlife Refuges, Wetland Management Districts, and National Fish Hatcheries. As part of the inventory, segments of the National Trails System will be identified, their condition assessed, and geospatial data recorded or updated.



FWS Transportation Asset Management Coordinator, and reemployed annuitant Caldwell will be working on the trails inventory until Caldwell's appointment ends in March 2020.

The FWS and ACE interns and staff have met and mapped out the inventory process, which is scheduled to wrap up by December 31, 2021. ACE has three interns on board now who are working on data reconciliation from the previous inventory cycle and the FWS Asset Database. After the data reconciliation, the ACE and FWS staff will have meetings with station staff, and then a field visit will be scheduled. ACE will be hiring additional interns to do the data collection later in the year.

One major item that will be dealt with is the "linear features," which are used as trails by refuge and hatchery visitors but are in the Asset Management Database as roads, or other asset types. To help resolve this issue and others, FWS thinks that expanding the use of the Designed and Managed use categories of the Federal Trail Data Standards (FTDS) may be part of the solution. This third round of inventory will continue to use the FTDS for other data fields as it did for the two previous cycles.

The collected data will also be formatted in such a manner that once it is finalized, it can be transmitted directly into the FWS' asset and work order databases and geodatabases. Once the tabular and geospatial data is finalized, it will be made available widely through the FWS GIS public facing web portal and via [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). For more information contact Caldwell at [nathan\\_caldwell@fws.gov](mailto:nathan_caldwell@fws.gov) or (571) 426-8748.

The inventory process began with the awarding of the project under the FWS's Public Land Corps Cooperative Agreement. Four Service Corps responded to the Notice of Funding Opportunity in November, and after a Merit Review process, the American Conservation Experience (ACE) was selected. The first set of funds was obligated on December 21, 2018, the day before the partial government shutdown.

Fortunately, ACE was able to continue working during the shutdown, and when the FWS resumed work after the government reopened, preliminary steps had already been taken to bring ACE staff on board. In March, retiree Nathan Caldwell was brought back as a reemployed annuitant and getting the trail inventory "on the ground" was a large part of his responsibilities.

In May, the FWS was able to fill a longtime vacancy in the inventory area. Peter Tomczik joined the FWS from the Department of Transportation's Volpe Center, where he had worked assisting the FWS with its Roads Inventory Program, which the trails inventory will be modeled closely after. Tomczik, the

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# DOI changes under Secretary David Bernhardt

## by Partnership for the National Trails System

Adapted from DOI news releases and articles

Congress confirmed David Bernhardt as the 53rd United States Secretary of the Interior on April 11, 2019. He succeeds Ryan Zinke, who resigned from the position on January 2, 2019.

During a House Natural Resources committee meeting in May, Bernhardt testified and spoke about reorganizing the Department of the Interior and relocating some operations, like the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), out west. Bernhardt also temporarily redelegated the authority for vacant non-career Senate-confirmed positions through July 31, including Casey Hammond (BLM Director), Dan Smith (NPS Director), and Margaret Everson (FWS Director).





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## Event Calendar



[www.pnts.org/new/events/](http://www.pnts.org/new/events/)

July 13-21, 2019	Latino Conservation Week	Nationwide	<a href="http://www.latinoconservationweek.com">www.latinoconservationweek.com</a>
July 17, 2019	<b>Empowering Women in the Outdoors</b>	<b>Webinar</b> <b>2PM EDT</b>	<a href="http://www.pnts.org/new/webinars/">www.pnts.org/new/webinars/</a>
July 18-31, 2019	Ice Age Trail University	Cross Plains, WI	<a href="http://www.iceagetrail.org">www.iceagetrail.org</a>
July 19-28, 2019	Nez Perce Trail Foundation's Summer Educational Trail Tour	Yellowstone NP, WY - Bear Paw Battlefield, MT	<a href="http://www.nezperctrail.net">www.nezperctrail.net</a>
September 3-8, 2019	Oregon-California Trails Association Convention	Santa Fe, NM	<a href="http://www.octa-trails.org">www.octa-trails.org</a>
September 21-25, 2019	51st Annual Meeting of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation	St. Louis, MO	<a href="http://www.lewisandclark.org">www.lewisandclark.org</a>
September 25-28, 2019	Santa Fe Trail Association Symposium	St. Louis, MO	<a href="http://www.santafetrail.org">www.santafetrail.org</a>

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