

Pike National Historic Trail Feasibility Study



Outreach & Engagement Report

January 2022

U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service
National Trails Office - Regions 6, 7, 8



ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
AD	Audio description
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
NHT	National Historic Trail
NPS	National Park Service

Outreach & Engagement Report

PIKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

January 2022

U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service
National Trails Office - Regions 6, 7, 8

Preparers:

Jill Jensen and Lillis A. Urban, National Trails Office - Regions 6, 7, 8

Cover image: In the winter of 1806, Pike's expedition traversed the valley of what is today Great Sand Dunes National Park, CO. Courtesy of NPS/Patrick Myers.

CONTENTS

Overview	4
National Historic Trails and the Pike Trail Feasibility Study	4
Outreach and Engagement	6
Comments Received	10
Public Interest	12
Next Steps	13
Appendix A: Tribal Outreach Contact List	13
Appendix B: Mailing List for Notification Letters.....	15
Appendix C: Mailed or Emailed Comments	33
Appendix D: Website Comments.....	76
Appendix E: Online Public Meeting Comments.....	148

OVERVIEW

The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing a feasibility study for the proposed Pike National Historic Trail (NHT) to evaluate its eligibility and suitability for inclusion as a new National Historic Trail. The purpose of the Pike NHT Feasibility Study is to provide findings to Congress regarding the national historical significance of the route, as well as the feasibility, suitability, and desirability of designating the route as a new National Historic Trail. Once completed, findings of the study will be transmitted to the Secretary of the Interior who will submit the report to Congress. Only Congress, through legislated action, has the authority to establish a new National Historic Trail.

One of the first steps in conducting a feasibility study is information gathering and gauging the desirability and suitability of adding a proposed route to the National Trail System. Outreach and engagement efforts seek out comments and concerns about the study/project, answer questions, and explain the study process and communicate the decision, roles, and authorities at play.

Public engagement for the Pike Study was shaped by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, which was underway when the NPS Pike Study Team formed at National Trails (July 2020) and remained present throughout the duration of the public comment period of the study. Public comment on the study was formally solicited from April 1, 2021, to June 30, 2021 (90 days).

This report presents a brief overview of the purpose of National Historic Trails and what makes a given route eligible for inclusion, the methods of outreach and engagement, a summary of feedback received from April 1 to June 30 of 2021, and a brief discussion of what the next steps are for the feasibility study. Appendix A provides the tribal governments contacted. Appendix B provides the contacts used for the outreach and engagement effort. Appendixes C–E provide copies of the feedback received.

NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS AND THE PIKE TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

The purpose of a National Historic Trail is the identification and protection of a historic route and its historic remnants for public use and enjoyment.

To be considered eligible for inclusion in the National Trails System as a National Historic Trail:

- 1) It must be a trail or route established by historic use and must be historically significant as a result of that use; AND
- 2) It must be of national significance with respect to any of several broad facets of American history, such as trade and commerce, exploration, migration and settlement, or military campaigns. To qualify as nationally significant, historic use of the trail must have had a far-reaching effect on broad patterns of American culture; AND
- 3) It must have significant potential for public recreational use or historical interest based on historic interpretation and appreciation.

If all three of these criteria are met, then the trail must also meet at least one of the National Historic Landmark criteria:

- 1) Be the location of an event that had a significant impact on American history overall; OR
- 2) Be the property most strongly associated with a nationally significant figure in American history; OR
- 3) Provide an outstanding illustration of a broad theme or trend in American history overall; OR
- 4) Be an outstanding example of an architectural style or significant development in engineering; OR
- 5) Be part of a group of resources that together form a historic district; OR
- 6) Be a property that can provide nationally significant archeological information.

The Pike NHT Feasibility Study was directed by Congress in 2019 under the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (Public Law 116-9). Feasibility studies on National Historic Trails are undertaken following specific criteria that are provided in the National Trails System Act of 1968, as amended (Public Law 9-543).

The proposed Pike National Historic Trail represents the route taken by Lieutenant Zebulon Pike during his 1806–1807 expedition into the southern portion of the Louisiana Purchase and the northern provinces of Mexico (Figure 1). The route begins in Fort Bellefontaine, Missouri, and ends in Natchitoches, Louisiana. It spans approximately 2,700 miles, intersecting the states of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana, with an additional 1,000 miles of trail passing through 3 states in northern Mexico. The National Trails reached out to partners in Mexico for the purpose of understanding the international context of Pike’s expedition, but the section of trail which traverses Mexico is not eligible for designation as it falls outside of the United States.

To assist in the gathering of information and to better gauge the desirability and suitability of adding the Pike Trail to the National Trail System as a National Historic Trail, the National Park Service issued a press release, sent notification letters, sent a newsletter, set up a website, made social media posts, and held 14 online public meetings.

and Urban Development eGIS website (<https://egis.hud.gov/tdat/>); direct phone calls were made when contact information appeared to be incorrect. To date, sixty-nine (69) federally recognized Native American Tribes have been notified of the study and invited to confer with the National Park Service on the study (Appendix A).

Study Mailing List

A five-mile buffer was placed around the draft route alignment of Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition and then intersected with several datasets to generate a mailing list of federal and tribal land managers/owners along the route, national parks and monuments, state parks, counties, cities, and museums (Appendix B).

Study Webpage

A study webpage (<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/pike>) for the Pike Study was created August 2020 through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment portal. On the study webpage, information on the study process and maps of the draft route were posted. The study webpage is updated over time throughout the study process. As documents are completed, they are posted to the study’s webpage and newsletter. Documents made available to the public during the outreach and engagement period included a copy of the PowerPoint presentation that was shared during the virtual public meetings, links to the introductory Pike Study video, and the study sign-up form. During the public comment period for the study (April 1, 2021, to June 30, 2021), members of the public could visit the study webpage to submit comments, and the dates and times of virtual public meetings were posted.

Newsletter

A newsletter was created for the Pike Study and was sent to those on the mailing list via email and/or hard copy. Section 508-compliant versions of the newsletter were created and posted to the study’s webpage. English- and Spanish-language versions of the newsletter provided:

- a draft map of Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition;
- a summary of the expedition;
- explanations of “What is a National Historic Trail?” and “What is a feasibility study?”;
- information on the study process and timeline;
- answers to potential questions regarding impacts to private lands should the trail be designated;
- links to the study webpage, study sign-up sheet, and introductory Pike Study video;
- a listing of the five study questions;
- details on how to participate and comment; and
- a list of online public meeting dates and times.

Social Media

To engage new audiences, a short 3-minute introductory video on the Pike Study (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVqDxq0d1Ug&v=en-US>) was created by National Trails staff. The goal of the video was to generate interest in the study and increase participation in the comment period. In the resulting video, a succinct summary of Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition was presented, and National Historic Trails were defined. The importance of public comment and engagement was

emphasized. The video was posted on NationalTrailsNPS YouTube channel, with a link to the video shared on the study's webpage, in the newsletter, and via social media postings. Closed captioning and audio descriptions (ADs) were created for the video, along with a Spanish translation of the script. The video generated 100 total views (81 views of the regular version, plus 19 views of the AD version). A shorter clip of the video (about 15 seconds) was created for Instagram.

Press Release

A Press Release was emailed on May 2, 2021, to 120 media outlets/press organizations (Appendix B). The press release was distributed approximately one (1) month before the first online public meeting. Care was taken to include national syndicate press outlets in the distribution, as well as smaller, local media news sources.

Online Public Meetings

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public meetings for the Pike Study were conducted online. Section 508-compliant versions of the presentation were posted to the study's webpage prior to the online public meetings and made available for download.

Fourteen online public meetings were held on the Zoom platform in May and June of 2021. Meetings were organized by state, with one additional meeting conducted in Spanish. Organizing the meetings by state allowed for state- and place-specific issues, concerns, and comments to be expressed; the number of attendees to be kept smaller to ensure any information technology issues could be addressed; and ample opportunity for attendees to comment or ask questions. The presentation was the same across all meetings, save the final slide wherein a state-specific map of Pike's route was shared to correspond to the state meeting.

Aaron Mahr, Superintendent of National Trails, and Dr. Lillis Urban, former Planning Team Lead and Pike Study Project Manager with National Trails, led the online meetings. All non-NPS participants were placed on mute, and any comments or questions had to be entered into the chat box. A chat moderator (a staff member with National Trails) was present to read comments and questions entered in the chat box aloud and to enter information into the chat box (links to the study webpage and the study sign-up sheet, contact information for the project manager, study questions, etc.). Live captioning was provided for all meetings and a call-in number was provided.

For the Spanish-language meeting, a translator communicated with attendees over a "Spanish language channel," simultaneously translating the presentation portion of the meeting. In the public participation portion of the meeting, Dr. Angélica Sánchez-Clark (History Team Lead with National Trails) read comments and questions in the chat box aloud in Spanish, then translated them into English so that the NPS Study Team could respond. Dr. Sánchez-Clark then translated those responses back to attendees into Spanish.

Meetings were scheduled for two hours, with the first half dedicated to the presentation and the second half to an open comment period. The planning team began each meeting with a presentation of approximately 45 minutes; these presentations included information on the study process; a summary of Pike's 1806–1807 expedition, including maps; a review of the study questions; and details on how to comment on the study. Attendees were encouraged to ask questions and submit comments into the chat box throughout the meeting. Documentation of the online public meetings is housed digitally with National Trails.

Table 1 summarizes dates, times, state, and number of attendees for each meeting. Note: The number of attendees reported excludes NPS staff, supporting contractors, and live captioners.

Date and Time	State	Number of Attendees
May 24, 2021 Noon-2pm MST	Colorado, Meeting 1	18
May 24, 2021 6:00-8:00 MST	Colorado, Meeting 2	7
May 25, 2021 Noon-2pm CT	Kansas and Nebraska, Meeting 1	14
May 25, 2021 6:00-8:00 CT	Kansas and Nebraska, Meeting 2	5
May 26, 2021 Noon-2pm CT	Louisiana, Meeting 1	2
May 26, 2021 6:00-8:00 CT	Louisiana, Meeting 2	1
May 27, 2021 Noon-2pm CT	Missouri, Meeting 1	5
May 27, 2021 6:00-8:00 CT	Missouri, Meeting 2	3
June 1, 2021 Noon-2pm MST	New Mexico, Meeting 1	7
June 1, 2021 6:00-8:00 MST	New Mexico, Meeting 2	3
June 2, 2021 Noon-2pm CT	Texas, Meeting 1	6
June 2, 2021 6:00-8:00 CT	Texas, Meeting 2	2
June 3, 2021 6:00-8:00 MST	Spanish-speaking Meeting	8
June 12, 2021 10-Noon MST	Colorado, Meeting 3	5
Total in Attendance at Online Public Meetings (participants that attended more than one meeting are only counted once here)		67

Table 1. Summary of attendance at online public meetings.

COMMENTS RECEIVED

The formal comment period for the Pike Study was open from April 1, 2021, to June 30, 2021, for a total of 90 days. Comments on the study were received in three ways: mailed or emailed to National Trails (15 comments, Appendix C), through the study's webpage (102 comments, Appendix D), and during online public meetings (135 comments, Appendix E).

Comments received from tribes and State Historic Preservation Officers will be summarized and reported in the Pike National Historic Trail Feasibility Study.

Comments received through virtual meetings, the study's webpage, and written correspondence, were compiled, reviewed, and categorized into nine topics:

- Educational Opportunity
- Economic Development Opportunity (tourism)
- Information on Sites/Resources
- Information on Location of Route
- Historic Information
- Support for Designation
- Lack of Support for Designation
- Significance in the History of the United States
- Impact on Established National Historic Trails

Educational Opportunity

Although educational opportunity was not directly mentioned in any of the study questions, several respondents mentioned that they felt Pike's expedition was an important part of US history and that designation of this route as a National Historic Trail would provide additional incentive for schools and teachers to focus on his expedition.

Economic Development Opportunity (Recreation and Tourism)

There was expressed support for the perceived economic incentives that designation would bring to the communities along the trail. Generating extra cash flow through heritage tourism was a big draw to many attendees at the public scoping meetings as well as those who sent in written comments. Those coming from small towns along the various study segments were particularly interested in drawing tourists to their area.

Information on Sites/Resources

At the various public meetings, and throughout the public comment period, NPS staff asked for feedback on sites along Pike's route. Members of the public noted a variety of existing sites and proposed ways in which to engage visitors along the trail. Museums, state parks, and visitor centers were just some of the opportunities identified for visitors to learn about and experience the trail.

Information on the Location of the Route

Obtaining information on the location of the study trail segments was of primary importance to the National Park Service during the public scoping process. The National Park Service solicited feedback and information pertaining to this topic. Some members of the public provided useful information they had about the location and mapping of the trails.

Historic Information

Many people shared their knowledge and expertise with the NPS staff about the history of Pike's route and, in particular, stories about their regions. The public was asked to provide information about the route that they thought would be helpful for the feasibility study. Specific details related to the route were shared, and, in some instances, documentation was provided via email.

Support for Trail Designation

The majority of comments in support of designation didn't specify why they thought Pike's route should be a National Historic Trail. Of those that provided justification for their support, recognition of Pike as a hero and recognition of his efforts as an explorer were the most common. The second most common reasons for support were the need to "preserve history" and "tell the full story." Less common reasons were precedence of other National Historic Trails that commemorated an individual's accomplishments and educational opportunities. The least common of all were the two respondents that felt the route had local or national significance.

Lack of Support for Trail Designation

As noted, most comments received expressed support for designation, but there were some comments not in support of designation. Some respondents argued that Pike's route was not nationally significant in the history of the United States, others were concerned that designation of the route would negatively impact established National Historic Trails, and some felt that Pike's story would be best told as a part of the interpretation of the already-established National Historic Trails that Pike's expedition overlays.

Significance in the History of the United States

Most respondents in favor of designating Pike as a National Historic Trail cited his expedition as a counterpart to the Lewis and Clark expedition (Lewis and Clark's expedition is now a National Historic Trail). The rationale behind this argument is that if the Lewis and Clark Expedition was of sufficient historical significance to be found eligible as a National Historic Trail, then Pike's expedition should be as well. Many also cited Pike's heroism (typically in association with the War of 1812, not with respect to his expeditions) and worthiness of recognition given his illustrious military career.

Most respondents *not* in favor of designating Pike as a National Historic Trail questioned whether his actions along the trail were of national significance. Respondents against designation argue that Pike spent much of his time on existing routes and in known territory and thus did not contribute much in the way of exploration. Others argue that Pike's expedition fails to meet the criteria for a National Historic Trail as cited in the National Trails System Act, although it may meet some National Historic Landmark criteria. It was also noted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that segments of this route were historically significant for their creation and use *prior* to the Pike expedition.

Impact on Established National Historic Trails

The Pike Trail overlays and intersects three established National Historic Trails: Santa Fe, El Camino Real de los Tejas, and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro. Some commenters believed that designation of the Pike Trail would complement the existing National Historic Trails, adding to their value, appreciation, understanding, and visitation. However, several commenters expressed precisely the opposite sentiment, believing the Pike Trail would have a negative impact on established National Historic Trails by creating confusion among the public (e.g., multiple/overlapping signage), and/or suggesting that the story of Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition was best told as a part of the interpretation of existing National Historic Trails (for example, Pike on the Caminos Reales).

There is a precedent for National Historic Trails to overlay or intersect one another. The California, Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express National Historic Trails all share a significant portion of the eastern half of their routes, and their periods of significance overlap one another.

Lack of Comments Regarding Private Lands

Based on public comments received during previous trail feasibility studies, the study team expected to hear about concerns regarding potential impacts to private lands, but no such comments have been received by the Pike team. National Trails staff anticipate that these concerns may arise later in the study process or after the study is transmitted to Congress for consideration.

PUBLIC INTEREST

To better understand the degree of public interest in the Pike Trail, public comment from the Pike outreach was compared to two recently completed trail studies (the Butterfield Overland Trail and the Chisholm & Great Western Trail). This comparison is provided in Table 2.

Trail Study	Total number of attendees to public meetings	Total Comments Received	Number of comments submitted via the study webpage	Number of Verbal Comments	Number of comments emailed or sent hard copy
Pike Trail	67	252	102	135	15
Butterfield Overland Trail	252	484	14	437	33
Chisholm and Great Western Trail	326	602	95	386	121

Table 2. Comparison of public outreach and engagement efforts across three feasibility studies.

NEXT STEPS

Below is an outline (steps 1–8) for the Pike Trail feasibility study process.

Step 1. Public Outreach

Step 2. Trail Study Criteria Analysis *

Step 3. Prepare Draft Study Document

Step 4. Public Review Period of Draft Study Document

Step 5. Analysis and Incorporation of Public Comment

Step 6. Prepare Final Study Document

Step 7. Submit Study Document to Secretary of the Interior

Step 8. Secretary of Interior Transmits Study to Congress

* indicates the current step in the planning process

Step 1 (Public Outreach) has concluded with the completion of this report, which summarizes the activities and findings of civic engagement. The study team is presently engaged in Step 2, Trail Study Criteria Analysis.

Step 4 (Public Review Period of Draft Study Document) will allow for an additional opportunity for public comment. Pandemic protocols allowing, the Pike Study team intends to hold in-person meetings along the trail to solicit comment/input on the draft. These meeting opportunities will be shared widely.

Based on experience, trail studies typically take two and a half years to complete. Once completed, findings of the study will be transmitted to the Secretary of the Interior who will submit the report to Congress. At present, the study team aims to transmit the study document to Congress in the winter of 2022.

APPENDIX A: TRIBAL OUTREACH CONTACT LIST

Sixty-nine federally recognized Native American Tribes were notified of the study and invited to confer with the National Park Service on the study.

- Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town
- Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
- Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming
- Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
- Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma
- Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation
- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- Citizen Potawatomi Nation
- Comanche Nation
- Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
- Delaware Nation
- Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
- Hopi Tribe of Arizona
- Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
- Jicarilla Apache Nation
- Kaw Nation
- Kialegee Tribal Town
- Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
- Kickapoo Tribe of Indians of the Kickapoo Reservation in Kansas
- Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
- Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma
- Mescalero Apache Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation
- Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- Navajo Nation
- Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation
- Ohkay Owingeh
- Osage Nation
- Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
- Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Poarch Band of Creek Indians
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- Pueblo of Acoma
- Pueblo of Cochiti
- Pueblo of Isleta
- Pueblo of Jemez
- Pueblo of Laguna
- Pueblo of Nambe
- Pueblo of Picuris
- Pueblo of Pojoaque
- Pueblo of San Felipe
- Pueblo of San Ildefonso
- Pueblo of Sandia
- Pueblo of Santa Ana
- Pueblo of Santa Clara
- Pueblo of Taos
- Pueblo of Tesuque
- Pueblo of Zia
- Quapaw Tribe of Indians
- Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska
- San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San Carlos Reservation
- Santo Domingo Pueblo (Kewa Pueblo, New Mexico)
- Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Reservation
- Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
- Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation
- Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Tunica Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
- United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee
- Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation
- White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation
- Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco & Tawakonie)
- Yankton Sioux Tribe of South Dakota
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
- Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation

APPENDIX B: MAILING LIST FOR NOTIFICATION LETTERS

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Seven federal agencies were notified of the study and invited to confer with the National Park Service on the study.

- **Army Corps of Engineers**
 - » Albuquerque District, Albuquerque, New Mexico
 - » Harry S. Truman Lake, Warsaw, Missouri
 - » Kansas City District, Kansas City, Missouri
 - » Wilson Lake, Sylvan Grove, Kansas
- **Bureau of Land Management**
 - » Albuquerque District Office, Albuquerque, New Mexico
 - » Colorado State Office, Lakewood, Colorado
 - » Eastern States Office, Falls Church, Virginia
 - » Farmington District Office, Farmington, New Mexico
 - » High Plains District Office, Casper, Wyoming
 - » Las Cruces District Office, Las Cruces, New Mexico
 - » New Mexico State Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico
 - » Newcastle Field Office, Newcastle, Wyoming
 - » Oklahoma Field Office, Norman, Oklahoma
 - » Rio Puerco Field Office, Albuquerque, New Mexico
 - » Rocky Mountain District Office, Cañon City, Colorado
 - » Royal Gorge Field Office, Cañon City, Colorado
 - » San Luis Valley Field Office, Monte Vista, Colorado
 - » Socorro Field Office, Socorro, New Mexico
- » Southeastern States District Office, Flowood, Mississippi
- » Taos Field Office, Taos, New Mexico
- **Bureau of Reclamation**
 - » Upper Colorado Basin, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- **Department of Defense**
 - » Lake of the Ozarks Recreation Area, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
 - » National Guard Training Site Ike Skelton, Jefferson City, Missouri
 - » White Sands Missile Range, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico
- **National Park Service**
 - » Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, La Junta, Colorado
 - » Chamizal National Memorial, El Paso, Texas
 - » Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Division, Washington, D.C.
 - » Fort Larned National Historic Site, Larned, Kansas
 - » Gateway Arch National Park, St. Louis, Missouri
 - » Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, Mosca, Colorado
 - » Intermountain Regional Office (Regions 6, 7,8), Denver, Colorado
 - » Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, Omaha, Nebraska
 - » Midwest Regional Office (Regions 3,4,5), Omaha, Nebraska
 - » Park Planning & Special Studies Division, Washington, D.C.
 - » Park Planning, Facilities, and Lands Directorate, Washington, D.C.

- » Petroglyph National Monument, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- » San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, San Antonio, Texas
- » Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
 - » Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, San Antonio, New Mexico
 - » Flint Hills Legacy Conservation Area, Hartford, Kansas
 - » Region 2 (Southwest Region), Albuquerque, New Mexico
 - » Region 3 (Midwest Region), Bloomington, Minnesota
 - » Region 4 (Southeast Region), Atlanta, Georgia
 - » Region 6 (Mountain-Prairie Region), Lakewood, Colorado
 - » San Luis Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Alamosa, New Mexico
 - » Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge, Socorro, New Mexico
 - » Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge, Brussels, Illinois
 - » Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- United States Forest Service
 - » Carson National Forest, Taos, New Mexico
 - » Conejos Peak Ranger District, La Jara, Colorado
 - » Davy Crockett National Forest, Kennard, Texas
 - » El Rito Ranger District, El Rito, Colorado
 - » Leadville Ranger District, Leadville, Colorado
 - » National Forests and Grasslands in Texas, Lufkin, Texas
 - » Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Pueblo, Colorado
 - » Pikes Peak Ranger District, Colorado Springs, Colorado
 - » Region 2 (Rocky Mountain Region), Lakewood, Colorado
 - » Region 3 (Southwestern Region), Albuquerque, New Mexico
 - » Region 8 (Southern Region), Atlanta, Georgia
 - » Region 9 (Eastern Region), Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 - » Rio Grande National Forest, Monte Vista, Colorado
 - » Sabine National Forest, Hemphill, Texas
 - » Sabine Ranger District, Hemphill, Texas
 - » Salida Ranger District, Salida, Colorado
 - » San Carlos Ranger District, Cañon City, Colorado
 - » Santa Fe National Forest, Santa Fe, New Mexico
 - » South Park Ranger District, Fairplay, Colorado
 - » Tres Piedras Ranger District, Tres Piedras, New Mexico

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Seven State Governors, 14 United States Senators, and 65 United States Congressional Representatives were notified of the study and invited to confer with the National Park Service on the study.

GOVERNORS

State Governor of Colorado, Governor Jared Polis

State Governor of Kansas, Governor Laura Kelly

State Governor of Louisiana, Governor John Bel Edwards

State Governor of Missouri, Governor Michael L. Parson

State Governor of Nebraska, Governor Pete Ricketts

State Governor of New Mexico, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham

State Governor of Texas, Governor Greg Abbott

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Colorado Senators

Senator Michael F. Bennet

Senator John W. Hickenlooper

Kansas Senators

Senator Jerry Moran

Senator Roger W. Marshall

Louisiana Senators

Senator John Kennedy

Senator Bill Cassidy

Missouri Senators

Senator Roy Blunt

Senator Josh Hawley

Nebraska Senators

Senator Deb Fischer

Senator Ben Sasse

New Mexico Senators

Senator Martin Heinrich

Senator Ben Ray Lujan

Texas Senators

Senator John Cornyn

Senator Ted Cruz

UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Colorado Representatives

Congresswoman Diana DeGette

Congressman Joe Neguse

Congresswoman Lauren Boebert

Congressman Ken Buck

Congressman Doug Lamborn

Congressman Jason Crow

Congressman Ed Perlmutter

Kansas Representatives

Congresswoman Tracey Mann

Congressman Jake LaTurner

Congresswoman Sharice Davids

Congressman Ron Estes

Louisiana Representatives

Congressman Steve Scalise

Congressman Cedric Richmond

Congressman Clay Higgins

Congressman Mike Johnson

Congressman Garret Graves

Missouri Representatives

Congresswoman Cori Bush
Congresswoman Ann Wagner
Congressman Blaine Luetkemeyer
Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler
Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II
Congressman Sam Graves
Congressman Billy Long
Congressman Jason Smith

Nebraska Representatives

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry
Congressman Don Bacon
Congressman Adrian Smith

New Mexico Representatives

(former) Congresswoman Debra Haaland
(now Secretary of Interior)
Congresswoman Yvette Herrell
Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernandez

Texas Representatives

Congressman Louie Gohmert
Congressman Dan Crenshaw
Congressman Van Taylor
Congressman Pat Fallon
Congressman Lance Gooden
Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher
Congressman Kevin Brady
Congressman Al Green

Congressman Michael McCaul
Congressman August Pfluger
Congresswoman Kay Granger
Congressman Ronny Jackson
Congressman Randy Weber
Congressman Vicente Gonzalez
Congresswoman Veronica Escobar
Congressman Pete Sessions
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Congressman Jodey Arrington
Congressman Joaquin Castro
Congressman Chip Roy
Congressman Troy Nehls
Congressman Anthony Gonzalez
Congresswoman Beth Van Duyne
Congressman Roger Williams
Congressman Michael Burgess
Congressman Michael Cloud
Congressman Henry Cuellar
Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia
Congressman Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congressman John Carter
Congressman Colin Allred
Congressman Marc Veasey
Congressman Filemon Vela
Congressman Lloyd Doggett
Congressman Brian Babin

STATE AGENCIES

Seven State Historic Preservation Officers, 4 state land offices, 6 State Park and Recreation Departments, 7 State Departments of Transportation, 42 State Parks, and 6 other state agencies were notified of the study and invited to confer with the National Park Service on the study.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERS

Colorado State Historic Preservation Office
Kansas State Historical Society
Louisiana Office of Cultural Development, Division of Historic Preservation
Missouri State Historic Preservation Office
Nebraska State Historical Society
New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office
Texas Historical Commission

STATE LAND OFFICES

Colorado State Land Board
Louisiana Office of State Lands
New Mexico State Land Office
The Texas General Land Office

*A state land office or comparable department for Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska could not be identified.

STATE PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENTS

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, Parks Division
Louisiana Office of State Parks, Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism,
Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks

New Mexico State Parks, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Texas Parks and Wildlife, State Parks Division

STATE DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION

Colorado Department of Transportation
Kansas Department of Transportation
Louisiana Department of Transportation
Missouri Department of Transportation
Nebraska Department of Transportation
New Mexico Department of Transportation
Texas Department of Transportation

STATE PARKS

Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area, Colorado
Caballo Lake State Park, New Mexico
Caddo Mounds State Historic Park, Texas
Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, Kansas
Cheyenne Mountain State Park, Colorado
Clark's Hill/Norton State Historic Site, Missouri
Coronado Historic Site, New Mexico
Cottonwood Flats Wildlife Area, Kansas
Deutschheim State Historic Site, Missouri
Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park, Missouri
Edward "Ted" and Pat Jones-Confluence Point State Park, Missouri
Elephant Butte Lake State Park, New Mexico
Eleven Mile State Park, Colorado
First Missouri State Capitol State Historic Site, Missouri

Fort Boggy State Park, Texas
Fort Jesup State Historic Site, Louisiana
Fort Selden State Monument, New Mexico
Fort St. Jean Baptist State Historic Site,
Louisiana
Franklin Mountains State Park, Texas
Hamilton State Fishing Lake, Kansas
Hamilton State Fishing Lake and Wildlife Area,
Kansas
Harry S Truman State Park, Missouri
Hyde Memorial State Park, New Mexico
Jewell State Lake Wildlife Area, Kansas
John Martin Reservoir State Park, Colorado
Kansas Wildlife and Parks Area #1, Kansas
Katy Trail State Park, Missouri
Lake of the Ozarks State Park, Missouri
Lake Pueblo State Park, Colorado
Leasburg Dam State Park, New Mexico
Los Adaes State Historic Site, Louisiana
Magoffin Home State Historic Site, Texas
McKinney Falls State Park, Texas
Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park, New Mexico
Mission Tejas State Historic Site, Texas
Osage Village State Historic Site, Missouri
Percha Dam State Park, New Mexico

Rio Grande Nature Center, New Mexico
Saline State Fishing Lake, Kansas
Spinney Mountain State Park, Colorado
The Sandsage Bison Range & Wildlife Area
(formerly Finney Game Refuge), Kansas
Wild Turkey Playa Wetland, Kansas

ADDITIONAL STATE OFFICES/ENTITIES

Kansas Historical Society, Division Director,
Cultural Resources
Kansas Historical Society, National Register
Coordinator
Kansas Historical Society, Archeology -
Public Outreach
Kansas Historical Society, State Archeologist
Nebraska History Museum, National Register
of Historic Places Coordinator
Nebraska State Historical Society, Outreach
Coordinator
Louisiana Division of Archaeology
Missouri Department of Natural Resources,
Director
Texas Historical Commission, County
Historical Commission Outreach
Texas Historical Commission, Historic
Resources Survey Coordinator
Texas Historical Commission, Division
Director and State Archeologist

COUNTIES AND CITIES

Ninety-one counties and 81 cities were notified of the study and invited to confer with the National Park Service on the study.

COUNTIES

Leadership/representatives for every county through which the Pike Draft Route passed though received study notification and notification of public meetings by way of the newsletter.

A total of 91 counties were notified; they are listed below.

Colorado: Alamosa, Bent, Chaffee, Conejos, Costilla, Custer, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Lake, Otero, Park, Prowers, Pueblo, Saguache, Teller

Kansas: Allen, Barton, Bourbon, Chase, Coffey, Edwards, Ford, Gray, Hamilton, Jewell, Kearny, Kiowa, Lyon, Marion, McPherson, Mitchell, Osborne, Ottawa, Pawnee, Russell, Saline, Smith, Woodson

Louisiana: Natchitoches, Sabine

Missouri: Bates, Benton, Callaway, Camden, Cole, Franklin, Gasconade, Henry, Morgan, Osage, St. Charles, St. Clair, St. Louis, Vernon, Warren

Nebraska: Webster

New Mexico: Bernalillo, Doña Ana, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Sierra, Socorro, Taos, Valencia

Texas: Atascosa, Bexar, Cherokee, Comal, Dimmit, El Paso, Frio, Hays, Houston, La Salle, Leon, Milam, Nacogdoches, Robertson, Sabine, San Augustine, Travis, Williamson

CITIES

Leadership/representatives for every city with a population greater than 5,000 people (as per 2021 U.S. Census data) occurring within a 5-mile radius of the Pike Draft Route received study notification and notification of public meetings by way of the newsletter.

A total of 80 cities were notified; they are listed below and organized alphabetically by state.

Colorado: Alamosa, Cañon City, Colorado Springs, Fountain, Lamar, Pueblo, Pueblo West, Salida

Kansas: Dodge City, Garden City, Great Bend, Iola, Salina

Missouri: Ballwin, Bellefontaine Neighbors, Berkeley, Black Jack, Bridgeton, Chesterfield, Creve Coeur, Dardenne Prairie, Ellisville, Ferguson, Florissant, Glasgow Village, Hazelwood, Jefferson City, Maryland Heights, O'Fallon, Spanish Lake, St. Ann, St. Charles, St. Louis, St. Peters, Town and Country, Washington, Weldon Spring, Wildwood

New Mexico: Albuquerque, Anthony, Belen, Bernalillo, Corrales, Las Cruces, Los Chaves, Los Lunas, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, Placitas, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Socorro, Sunland Park, Truth or Consequences

Texas: Alamo Heights, Austin, Buda, Cibolo, Converse, Crockett, El Paso, Elgin, Kirby, Kyle, Live Oak, Manor, Nacogdoches, New Braunfels, Pflugerville, Pleasanton, Rockdale, San Antonio, San Elizario, San Marcos, Schertz, Selma, Socorro, Taylor, Terrell Hills, Universal City, Windcrest

TRAIL ASSOCIATIONS & OTHER PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The following seven trail associations and partner organizations were notified:

- El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association
- El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association
- Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
- Old Spanish Trail Association
- Partnership for the National Trails System
- Pike National Historic Trail Association
- Santa Fe National Historic Trail Association

UNIVERSITIES AND ACADEMICS

Universities and academics located in the United States, Mexico, and the United Kingdom were notified of the study. Academics with understood expertise in the historic period or topic were included. In addition, academic institutions occurring on or near Pike’s Draft Route received study notification. The presidents of these institutions, as well as the chairs of the history and geography departments, or parallel departments, received notification.

A total of 55 universities and academic organizations—listed below, organized by United States or international, and sorted alphabetically—were contacted.

United States

- Angelo State University, Chair, Department of History, Jason Pierce
- Aome Graduate School of Integrative Medicine, President, Mary Faria
- Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Director of Communications, Randal Whittington
- Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, President, Theodore Wardlaw
- Baptist University of the Americas, Chief of Staff, Gabriel Cortes
- Baptist University of the Americas, President/CEO, Gabriel Cortes
- Brigham Young University, Associate Professor of History; Director, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Jay Buckley
- Chadron State College, Associate Professor of Social Sciences, Kurt Kinbacher
- Colorado State Historian’s Council, Council Member, Colorado State Historian’s Council, Jared Orsi
- Colorado State Historian’s Council, Council Member, Colorado State Historian’s Council, Nicki Gonzalez
- Colorado State Historian’s Council, Council Member, Colorado State Historian’s Council, Thomas Noel
- Colorado State University - Pueblo, Administrative Assistant, Lorraine Blasé
- Colorado State University - Pueblo, Chair, Department of History, Political Science, Philosophy and Geography, Grant Weller
- Colorado State University - Pueblo, Director of Communications, Haley Sue Robinson
- Duke University, Associate Professor of History, Juliana Barr

- Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Dean and President, Cynthia Briggs
- Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Vice President for Communications and Marketing, Eric Scott
- Humboldt State University, Emeritus Faculty, Department of Geography, Environment & Spatial Analysis, Harold “Hal” E. Jackson
- Huston-Tillotson University, Interim Director of Public Relations, Autumn Caviness
- Huston-Tillotson University, President, Colette Pierce Burnette
- Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development, Marketing Director, Eric Davis
- Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development, President, Robert Martin
- Kansas Wesleyan University, Associate Coordinator of Marketing and Communications, Karen Bonar
- Kansas Wesleyan University, Chair of the Department of History, Mike Russell
- Kansas Wesleyan University, President, Matt Thompson
- Linwood University, Director of Communications, Julee Mitsler
- Linwood University, History and Geography Program Director, Barbara Hosto-Marti
- Linwood University, President, John Porter
- Maryville University of Saint Louis, Director of Communications, Rebecca Dohrman
- Maryville University of Saint Louis, Director of the History Department, Lisa Lillie
- Maryville University of Saint Louis, President, Mark Lombardi
- New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Director of Marketing & Communications, Dave Lepre
- New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, President, Stephen G. Wells
- New Mexico State University Director of Marketing, Web & Brand Development, Melissa Chavira
- New Mexico State University, History Department Lead, Mark Cioc-Ortega
- New Mexico State University, President, John Floros
- New Mexico State University, Geography Department Head, Carol Campbell
- Northern New Mexico College, Communications Creative Director, Sandy Krolick
- Northern New Mexico College, President, Richard J. Bailey
- Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Department Chair of Criminal Justice, History and Social Sciences, Mark Melder
- Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Director of Communications, David West
- Northwestern State University of Louisiana, President, Christopher Maggio
- Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Vice President for External Affairs, Jerry Pierce
- Our Lady of the Lake University, Chief Communications Officer, Anne Gomez

- Our Lady of the Lake University, President, Diane Melby
- Saint Edward's University, Director of Communications, Gwendolyn Schuler
- Saint Edward's University, President, George E Martin
- Southern Methodist University, University Distinguished Professor of History, Edward Countryman
- Southwestern Indian Polytechnical Institute, Instructor Geospatial technology, Dennis Dye
- Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, President, Sherry R. Allison
- St. John's College, President, Mark Roosevelt
- St. John's College, Vice President of Communications and Creative Strategy, Carole Carpenter
- Stephen F. Austin State University, Chief Marketing Communications Officer, Graham Garner
- Stephen F. Austin State University, President, Scott Gordon
- Texas A&M University - San Antonio, Marketing Manager, Erin O'Brien
- Texas A&M University - San Antonio, President, Cynthia Teniente-Matson
- Texas Health and Science University, President, Giuseppe N. Coasurado
- Texas State University, Assistant Director, Communications, Yvonne Rhodes
- Texas State University, Chair of the Department of History, Jeffrey Helgeson
- Texas State University, President, Denise M. Trauth
- Trinity University, Communications Operations Manager, Albert Salinas
- Trinity University, History Department Chair, Anene Ejikeme
- Trinity University, President, Danny Anderson
- University of Nebraska Lincoln, Professor of Landscape Architecture, Kim Wilson
- University of Arizona, Professor of Anthropology, Richard Stoffle
- University of California-Davis, Associate Professor of History, Rachel St. John
- University of California-Los Angeles, Professor of History; Chair, Institute for the Study of the American West, Autry Museum, Stephen Aron
- University of Mississippi, Assistant Professor, Susan Stearns
- University of Nebraska-Kearney, Associate Professor of History, Christopher Steinke
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Professor of Geography, David Wishart
- University of New Mexico, Associate Professor of History; Director, Center for the Southwest, Sam Truett
- University of New Mexico, Director, Spanish Colonial Research Center, Joseph P. Sánchez
- University of New Mexico, Professor of History; Editor, New Mexico Historical Review, Durwood Ball
- University of North Carolina Bowman and Gordon Gray Distinguished Term Professor of History, Kathleen Duval
- University of North Carolina, Gussenhoven Distinguished Professor of Latin American Studies; Professor of History, Cynthia Radding
- University of North Texas, Associate Professor of History; Director of Graduate Studies, Michael Wise

- University of North Texas-Dallas, Associate Professor, Matt Babcock
- University of Oklahoma, Professor of History; editor, Western Historical Quarterly, Anne Hyde
- University of Texas at Austin, President, George L. Fenves
- University of Texas at Austin, Professor; Director, Institute for Historical Studies, Miriam Bodian
- University of Texas at El Paso, Chair Department of History, Jeffrey P. Shephard
- University of Texas at El Paso, Director of Communications, Jenn Crawford
- University of Texas at El Paso, President, Heather Wilson
- University of the Incarnate Word, History Department Chair, Lopita Nath
- University of the Incarnate Word, Office of Communications, Michael Valdes
- University of the Incarnate Word, President, Thomas Evans
- Urshan Graduate School of Theology, Director of Marketing & Events, David Molina
- Urshan Graduate School of Theology, President, Brent Coltharp
- Washington University (St. Louis), Samuel K. Eddy Professor of History; History Department Chair, Peter Kastor
- Yale University, Professor of History and American Studies, Ned Blackhawk

International

- Archivo General del Estado de Coahuila, Director del Archivo del Estado de Coahuila, Lucas Martínez, Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico
- Archivo Histórico de Jiménez, Encargada del Archivo Histórico de Jiménez, Susy Chaparro, Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico
- Instituto Nacional de Anthropología e Historia (INAH), Coordinador Nacional de Centros INAH, René Alvarado López, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Coordinadora Nacional de Monumentos Históricos, INAH, Valeria Valdero Pié, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Director del Centro INAH Chihuahua, Jorge Carrera Robles, Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico
- INAH, Director del Centro INAH Coahuila, José Francisco Aguilar Moreno, Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico
- INAH, Director del Centro INAH Durango, Jorge Antonio Reyes Valdéz, Durango, Durango, Mexico
- INAH, Director del Centro INAH Estado de México, Antonio Huitron Santoyo, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Director del Centro INAH Sonora, José Luis Perea González, Hermosilla, Sonora, Mexico
- INAH, Director del Centro INAH Tamaulipas, Tonantzin Silva Cárdenas, Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico
- INAH, Director del Centro INAH Zacatecas, Carlos Augusto Torres Pérez, Zacatecas, Zacatecas, Mexico
- INAH, Director General del Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Diego Prieto Hernández, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Directora de la Mediateca INAH, Jimena Escobar Sotomayor, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Directora de Patrimonio Mundial, INAH, Luz de Lourdes Herbert, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Directora del Centro INAH Nuevo León, Martha Elda Aválos Salazar, Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico
- INAH, Directora del Centro INAH Querétaro, Rosana Esthela Reyes García, Santiago de Querétaro, Querétaro, Mexico
- INAH, Responsable de Proyectos Especiales, DPM-INAH, Rosana Calderón Martín del Campo, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Secretaria Técnica del INAH, Aída Castilleja González, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Subdirector de Infraestructura y Señalización, DOS-INAH, Ricardo Luis López, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- INAH, Coordinador de Laboratorio de Geomática, DOS-INAH, Jaime Cedeño Nicolás, Ciudad de México, México, Mexico
- Instituto Regional del Patrimonio Mundial en Zacatecas, Director del Instituto Regional del Patrimonio Mundial en Zacatecas, José Francisco Román Gutiérrez, Zacatecas, Zacatecas, Mexico
- Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez, Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades (Historia), Dolores Araceli Arceo Guerrero, Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico
- Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila, Directora de la Escuela de Ciencias Sociales, Cristina Martínez, Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico
- Oxford University, Rhodes Professor of American History, Pekka Hamalainen, Oxford, England, United Kingdom

MUSEUMS

One hundred eighteen museums, listed below, including several tribal museums, received notification of the study.

- Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Miami, Oklahoma
- Albuquerque Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Allen County Historical Society and Museum, Iola, Kansas
- American International Rattlesnake Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Austin Children’s Museum, Austin, Texas
- Barton County Historical Society Museum and Village, Barton, Kansas
- Blue Star Art Space Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- Boot Hill Museum, Dodge City, Kansas
- Branigan Cultural Center, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- Caddo Nation of Oklahoma - Caddo Heritage Museum, Binger, Oklahoma
- Central Kansas Flywheels Yesteryear Museum, Salina, Kansas
- Charles S. Cock House Museum, San Marcos, Texas
- Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma - Cherokee Heritage Center, Park Hill, Oklahoma
- Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma - Cherokee National History Museum, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma - Choctaw Cultural Center, Durant, Oklahoma
- Cienega Village Museum, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Coffey County Historical Museum, Burlington, Kansas
- Comanche Nation, Oklahoma - Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center, Lawton, Oklahoma
- Daughters of the Republic of Texas Museum, Austin, Texas
- Delaware Nation, Oklahoma - Delaware Tribe of Indians - Archives, Bartlesville, Oklahoma
- Edwards County Historical Society Museum, Kinsley, Kansas
- El Paso Centennial Museum, El Paso, Texas
- El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center, El Paso, Texas
- El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, Texas
- El Paso Museum of History, El Paso, Texas
- Elisabet Ney Museum, Austin, Texas
- Ezekiel Cullen Home Museum, San Augustine, Texas
- Finney County Historical Museum, Garden City, Kansas
- Fort Sam Houston Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- French Legation Museum, Austin, Texas
- George C. Davis Archeological Site and Museum (Caddo Mounds State Historic Site), Alto, Texas
- George Washington Carver Museum, Austin, Texas
- Geronimo Springs Museum, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico
- Hamilton County Museum, Syracuse, Kansas
- Hangar 9 Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- Haskell Indian Nations University - Haskell Cultural Center and Museum, Lawrence, Kansas
- Hearne Depot – Railroad and Local History Museum, Hearne, Texas
- Hoisington Historical Society Museum, Hoisington, Kansas
- Hopi Tribe of Arizona - Hopi Tribe - Hopi Cultural Center, Second Mesa, Arizona
- Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Insights - El Paso Science Museum, El Paso, Texas
- Institute of American Indian Arts - Museum of Contemporary Native Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico

- International Museum of Art, El Paso, Texas
- Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska - Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska - Baxoje Wosgaci: Iowa Tribal Museum and Culture Center, White Cloud, Kansas
- Kaw Nation, Oklahoma - Kaw Nation - Kanza Museum, Kaw City, Oklahoma
- Kearny County Historical Museum, Lakin, Kansas
- Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma - Kiowa Tribe - Kiowa Museum, Carnegie, Oklahoma
- Koshare Indian Museum, La Junta, Colorado
- Lone Star Buckhorn Museums, San Antonio, Texas
- Lyndon Baines Johnson Museum, Austin, Texas
- Marion Museum, Marion, Kansas
- Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- McKenna Children's Museum, New Braunfels, Texas
- McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- Meteorite Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Milam County Railroad Museum, Cameron, Texas
- Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians - Archives, Choctaw, Mississippi
- Mitchell County Historical Society Museum, Beloit, Kansas
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation - Historic & Cultural Preservation National Library & Archives, Okmulgee, Oklahoma
- Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Museum of Southwestern Biology, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- National Atomic Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah - Navajo Nation - Diné College - Ned Hatathli Museum, Tsaile, Arizona
- Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah - Navajo Nation - Navajo Nation Museum & Visitors Center, Window Rock, Arizona
- New Braunfels Fire Museum, New Braunfels, Texas
- New Mexico Bureau of Mines Mineral Museum, Socorro, New Mexico
- New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- New Mexico Museum of Natural History, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Old German Free School Museum, Austin, Texas
- Old Jail Museum (Allen County Historical Society, Inc.), Iola, Kansas
- Osage Nation - Wahzhazhe Cultural Center, Pawhuska, Oklahoma
- Osborne County Historical Museum, Osborne, Kansas
- Palmer Museum, Jewell, Kansas
- Pawnee Indian Museum (in Kansas), Republic, Kansas
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma - Museum of the Pawnee Nation, Pawnee, Oklahoma
- Poarch Band of Creek Indians - The Kerretv Cuko Poarch Creek Indians Museum and Gift Shop, Atmore, Alabama
- Poeh Cultural Center and Museum, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Pueblo of Acoma - Sky City Cultural Center & Haak'u Museum, Pueblo of Acoma, New Mexico
- Quapaw Nation - Quapaw Tribal Museum, Quapaw, Oklahoma
- Ripleys Believe It or Not Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure Museum, Salina, Kansas

- San Angel Folk Art Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- San Antonio Art League Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society, San Antonio, Texas
- San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, Texas
- San Carlos Apache Tribe - San Carlos Apache Cultural Center, Peridot, Arizona
- Santa Fe Trail Museum, Larned, Kansas
- Smoky Hill Museum, Salina, Kansas
- Sophienburg Museum and Archives, New Braunfels, Texas
- South Park City Museum, Fairplay, Colorado
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Reservation, Colorado - The Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum, Ignacio, Colorado
- Telephone Pioneer Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Texas Memorial Museum, Austin, Texas
- Texas Military Forces Museum, Austin, Texas
- Texas Transportation Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- The Bullock State History Museum, Austin, Texas
- The Gadsden Museum, Mesilla, New Mexico
- The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment (Aquarena Springs Museum), San Marcos, Texas
- The Stone Fort Museum, Nacogdoches, Texas
- The Williamson Museum, Georgetown, Louisiana
- Tigua Indian Reservation Cultural Center, El Paso, Texas
- Tonkawa Tribal Museum, Tonkawa, Oklahoma
- Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum, Austin, Texas
- United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians - John Hair Cultural Center & Museum, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
- United States Army Medical Department Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- University Art Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- University Museum, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- Valencia County Historical Society Museum, Belen, New Mexico
- Washington Historical Society Museum, Washington, Missouri
- Wheelwright Museum, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- White Mountain Apache Tribe - Nohwike' Bágowa Museum, Fort Apache, Arizona
- Witte Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- Wooden Nickel Historical Museum, San Antonio, Texas
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Cultural Center, Eules, Texas
- Yturri Edmonds House & Mill Site, San Antonio, Texas
- Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation, New Mexico - Pueblo of Zuni - Zuni Tribal Archives, Zuni, New Mexico

PRESS RELEASE/DISTRIBUTION LIST

A press release announcing the Pike Study and attendant virtual public meetings was distributed via email to the following 120 press outlets, organized alphabetically by state:

General

United States Associated Press

Colorado

Colorado Associated Press

Alamosa Valley Courier, Alamosa

Cañon City Daily Record, Cañon City

Center Post Dispatch, Monte Vista

The Chaffee County Times, Buena Vista

Colorado Springs Gazette, Colorado Springs

Colorado Springs Business Journal,
Colorado Springs

Colorado Springs Independent,
Colorado Springs

Colorado Sun, Denver

The Conejos County Citizen, Monte Vista

Daily Transcript, Colorado Springs

The Denver Post, Denver

El Paso County Advertiser and Fountain Valley
News, Fountain

Florence Citizen, Florence

Fort Carson Mountaineer, Fort Carson

The Herald Democrat, Leadville

KRZA, Alamosa

Monument/Palmer Lake Tribune, Monument

The Mountain Mail, Salida

Pike Peak Courier Extra, Woodland Park

Pikes Peak Courier Gazette, Woodland Park

The Pueblo Chieftain, Pueblo

Pueblo Star Watch, Pueblo

Pueblo West View, Pueblo

Sangre de Cristo Sentinel, Westcliffe

The Westside Pioneer, Colorado Springs

Wet Mountain Tribune, Westcliffe

Woodmen Edition, Colorado Springs

World Journal, Huerfano County

Illinois

St. Louis Daily Journal, Saint Louis

St. Louis Post Dispatch, Saint Louis

Kansas

Kansas Associated Press

Abilene Reflector-Chronicle, Abilene

The Bulletin, Emporia

Dodge City Daily Globe, Dodge City

Downs News & Time, Downs

Emporia Gazette, Emporia

Fort Scott Tribune, Fort Scott

Garden City Telegram, Garden City

Great Bend Tribune, Great Bend

High Plains Journal, Dodge City

Hillsboro Free Press, Hillsboro

Hillsboro Star-Journal, Hillsboro

Iola Register, Iola

KANZ, Garden City

Larned Tiller & Toiler, Larned

Marion County Record, Marion

McPherson Sentinel, McPherson

Peabody Gazette-Bulletin, Peabody

Salina Journal, Salina

Salina Post, Salina

Louisiana

Louisiana Associated Press

The Advocate, Baton Rouge

Alexandria Town Talk, Alexandria

Bossier Press Tribune, Bossier City

Leesville Daily Leader, Leesville

Natchitoches Times, Natchitoches

Red River, Lake Charles

Sabine Index, Sabine Parish

Shreveport Sun, Shreveport

The Shreveport Times, Shreveport

Missouri

Missouri Associated Press

Belle Banner, Belle

Bland Courier, Bland

The Kansas City Star, Kansas City

Nevada Daily Mail, Nevada

News Tribune, Jefferson City

Washington Missourian, Washington

Nebraska

Nebraska Associated Press

Red Cloud Chief, Red Cloud

New Mexico

New Mexico Associated Press

Albuquerque Journal, Albuquerque

Alibi, Albuquerque

Corrales Comment, Corrales

The Daily Lobo, Albuquerque

Desert Exposure, Las Cruces

El Defenso-Chieftan, Socorro

KRWG, Las Cruces

KUNM, Albuquerque

Las Cruces Bulletin, Las Cruces

Las Cruces Sun-News, Las Cruces

NMSU Round Up, Las Cruces

Northern New Mexico Tribune, Chama

Questa del Rio News, Questa

Rio Rancho Observer, Rio Rancho

Santa Fe New Mexican, Santa Fe

Santa Fe Reporter, Santa Fe

Santa Fe Times, Santa Fe

Santa Fe Times – Magazine, Santa Fe

Santa Fe Times – Pasatiempo, Santa Fe

Sierra Country Sentinel, Truth or
Consequences

Sierra Country Sun, Truth or Consequences

Taos News, Taos

Valencia County News-Bulletin, Belen

Texas

Texas Associated Press

Austin American Statesman, Austin

The Austin American Statesman, Austin

The Austin Chronicle, Austin

The Bastrop Advertiser, Bastrop

The Daily Sentinel, Nacogdoches

The Eagle, Bryan

Eagle Pass News Leader, Eagle Pass and
Del Rio

El Diario de Nuevo Laredo, Nuevo Laredo
El Mañana de Nuevo Laredo, Nuevo Laredo
El Paso Herald-Post, El Paso
El Paso Times, El Paso
The Hays Free Press, Kyle
Houston Chronicle, Houston
KUT, Austin
Laredo Morning Times, Laredo

New Braunfels Monthly Magazine,
New Braunfels
New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung, New Braunfels
San Antonio Business Journal, San Antonio
San Antonio Current, San Antonio
San Antonio Express-News, San Antonio
San Marcos Daily Record, San Marcos
The Sequin-Gazette, Seguin
The Victoria Advocate, Victoria

APPENDIX C: MAILED OR EMAILED COMMENTS

Pike National Historic Trail Study: Public Outreach and Engagement Questions

1. Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

¿Hay sitios o áreas en o adjuntos a la ruta que son, o podrían ser, visitados por el público para disfrutar de oportunidades recreativas o para la apreciación histórica (por ejemplo, senderismo o acceso al aire libre, museos, sitios históricos, exposiciones educativas)? Si es así, por favor cuéntenos sobre ellos.

2. Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

¿Opina usted que la ruta bajo estudio identifica con precisión la ruta de 1806–1807 de Pike? Si no es así, ¿dónde difiere? ¿Hay algo más que quiera que el Servicio de Parques Nacionales sepa sobre esta ruta y sus sitios asociados?

3. How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

¿Cómo podría afectarles a usted y a su comunidad la designación de esta ruta como un Sendero Histórico Nacional? ¿Tiene algunas dudas? ¿Qué beneficios ve?

4. Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

¿Le gustaría ver la expedición de 1806–1807 de Pike designada como un Sendero Histórico Nacional? ¿Por qué o por qué no?

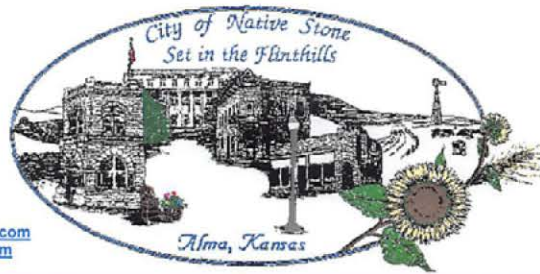
5. Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

¿Cree usted que esta ruta es importante en la historia de los Estados Unidos? ¿Por qué o por qué no?

City of Alma
PO Box 444
Alma, KS 66401
Office: 785-765-3922
Fax: 785-765-2263

Sherry Smith
City Clerk

e-mail: ssmith@cityofalma-kansas.com
www.cityofalma-kansas.com



Mayor:
Maurice Baker

Council Members:
Pam Bales
Dan Deiter
Paul Gronquist
Chris Torrey
Karen Wright

June 13, 2021

Lillis Urban
National Trails National Park Service
1100 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Pike National Historic Feasibility Study Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

The City Council of Alma, Kansas, is supportive of the National Park Service conducting a feasibility study to determine if the Pike Trail route can be designated as the Pike National Historical Trail. At the May 18, 2021 Alma City Council meeting, the council agreed that pending my recommendation we would write a letter of support of the study with the understanding that no rights of ownership would be transferred, participation is entirely voluntary, and non-federal landowners are under no obligation to participate or to allow the public on their land under the National Trails System Act of 1968.

This project concerns our area and affects the interests of our region. We are surrounded by the Flint Hills and are proud of the legend that these very hills were so named by Zebulon Pike.

Our town is proud to be nestled in the heart of the Flint Hills and is keenly interested in anything that brings people to and through our area.

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to provide official comment regarding this proposed project. We look forward to learning more, participating in the study process and reviewing study results to the best of our ability.

Sincerely,

Pamela L Bales
Alma City Councilperson
Alma City Council
326 Missouri
Alma, Kansas 6640

Comments Regarding the Proposed Pike National Historic Trail

██████████
National Park Service: retired

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed Pike National Historic Trail Study. I began working on National Historic Trails in 1989 as an outdoor recreation planner in the Branch of Long Distance Trails in the Planning Division of the NPS Southwest Regional Office. Starting in the mid-1990s, Long Distance Trails became an independent field area with its own superintendent. I was Chief of Interpretation and Resource Management, and at various times, Acting Superintendent of that office until I retired in 2008. During that time I participated as a team member or reviewer of a number of National Historic Trail feasibility studies.

At this stage of the trail feasibility study, it is difficult to comment in detail, as there are no specific proposals regarding the trail. Once there is a draft study, it will be easier to evaluate to eligibility of the route.

I would like to comment on the specific questions you pose at the study website.

1. Are there sites, segments, or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. historic sites, educational exhibits, museums, hiking or outdoor access)? If so, please tell us about them.

For any historic route, there are always sites and segments that “could be” visited by the public. As I read the Pike journal, I was struck by the fact that historic sites along the route tended to be very repetitive in nature. Many of the entries stated that they went a number of miles and then camped. Some entries mention that they killed bison or deer or other animals, and when they started to get into trouble in Colorado, they often suffered from the cold. This is not a lot of variety, and I would wonder, in many cases, how accurately campsites could be identified. Once taken captive by the Spanish, entries set out distance traveled, where they stayed, and how they were treated. They meet people, Spanish soldiers and officials, sometimes American and French ex pats, etc. but again, there is I think, a distinct lack of variety in the types of sites. Thus, interpretation of sites could tend to be quite repetitive. While a die-hard Pike enthusiast might want to visit every place he camped, I do not see this being of great interest to the general public.

2. Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

The only map I have seen so far does not provide sufficient detail to evaluate how accurate the route is identified. Over much of the route it would appear that Pike was following trails that are now part of existing National Historic Trails, i.e. Lewis and Clark, Santa Fe Trail, Old Spanish Trail, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, El Camino Real de los Tejas.

It is my understanding that trail enthusiasts, primarily, have mapped the route, but I would say that I have seen both excellent trail mapping from such sources, and also a great deal of speculation and assumption in such mapping. Nor can I tell from the information available now, how accurately sites along the trail have been identified. That is why in trail feasibility studies that I was involved in between 1989 and 2008, professional historians and/or archaeologists were always part of the study team to evaluate documentation and check the trail on the ground.

3. How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

I do not see a great deal of benefit in designating a new national historic trail that already overlaps existing trails. One major problem that I see is a proliferation of signing along the routes. Already in the Albuquerque area, where I live, for example, the route of the Camino Real also has signs for the national historic trail, the Camino Real scenic byway, and the Route 66 scenic byway. (Current legislation in Congress could designate Route 66 as a National Historic Trail. That route has already been found to meet the criteria for designation.) Multiple trail signs might not be as problematic in rural areas, but all these trails in Albuquerque follow busy city streets.

The push for a Pike National Historic Trail comes primarily from a limited number of individuals. It started during the time I was working in the trails' office. I did not see much general public interest in this trail. I do not see a Pike trail as being able to generate sufficient additional public interest in visiting the route and associated sites. At this point, however, I am not aware of the extent of participation the NPS had in the Zoom meetings for the trail, nor do I know the extent of public comment. My experience tells me that it will be limited compared to other trails that have been studied.

To the extent that there may be some general public interest in the Pike expedition, I would suggest that there may be some specific sites related to the expedition that offer interpretive and historic interest potential along the existing National Historic Trails to justify interpretation of those sites, and it would be appropriate for museums along the existing routes, where they overlap the expedition routes, to provide exhibits relating to Pike and his travels. Further, I think it is completely within the purview of the role of the National Park Service to provide technical and limited financial assistance for such interpretation, especially along the two Camino Reales.

4. Would you like to see Pike's 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

At this point, I would not want to see this expedition route designated as a National Historic Trail. As I mention above, I do not believe that the expedition route(s) have sufficient interpretive and recreational potential and as I mention below, I do not believe the trail to be of national significance as defined in the National Trails System Act. (See below.) I think that if the Pike trail is designated, it will be very difficult to turn down other trails of minor significance in the future. Funding for trails and parks within the National Park service is limited and serious consideration should be undertaken before adding new areas.

5. Do you think this route is important in America's history? Why or why not?

During the one Zoom meeting I attended, it was mentioned that the significance of Pike's route would be evaluated using National Historic Landmark eligibility criteria. I would suggest that this is not appropriate. The National Trails System Act [16USC1244] sets forth one, and only one, criterion for national significance of a historic route. In Section 5 (b) (11) (C), the act clearly states, "To qualify as nationally significant, historic use of the trail must have had a far reaching effect on broad patterns of American culture." That is a very high standard, and it was deliberately set in the act so that only the most significant trails in American history would be designated as National Historic Trails.

In the 19th Century, there were many routes of exploration of the West at the behest of the U.S. Government. Taken as a whole, the exploration of the West, it could be argued, was nationally significant, but that does not mean that every single exploration, by itself, is nationally significant. There are similar situations, such as a National Historic Landmark district in a city that may be nationally significant, but that contains many individual structures that are not, by themselves, nationally significant. Another example might be a National Historic Trail, such as the Santa Fe Trail or Oregon Trail. Overall, the trail can be nationally significant, but there are often individual historic sites along the trail that are not nationally significant. Pike's expedition, by itself, did not have a "far reaching effect on broad patterns of American culture." But, overall the whole of the exploration of the west did.

I have always argued that a national historic trail should be nationally significant for one over-riding reason that extends from end to end of the route. It is not appropriate to create an entire national historic trail out of parts that have different uses with different significance. For example, during the Old Spanish Trail study, there were people who proposed that the trail was nationally significant because Fremont followed part of it or because a section was used by Mormons traveling from Salt Lake City to Southern California. All existing National Historic Trails have an overall national significance in their entirety. Doing otherwise sets a precedent to piece-meal various routes into one National Historic Trail.

The Pike route can be seen as two, or perhaps three separate segments that all have different historical significance. The first of the two is Pikes travels through lands that are part of the Louisiana purchase as he was assigned to do. That could be further broken down into the first segment where the expedition repatriates a number of American Indian individuals to their homeland and spends time in the Indian villages. The expedition then leaves the Osage and Pawnee villages and explores to the west. Once the expedition has left the Indian villages, any significance of that first segment of the route ends and cannot make the next route segment significant. The expedition then explores to the west into Colorado. They found the headwaters of some streams, took note of various elements of the natural history of the region, and viewed the mountain that would become Pike's Peak but nothing done would reach the level of significance called for by the National Trails System Act.

The final segment of Pike's travels happens after he is taken captive by the Spanish who escort him down the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro to Chihuahua and up the Camino Real de los Tejas to Nachitoches. In some ways, this could be seen as a separate trail as what occurs along this segment is of, I would argue, separate significance from the earlier explorations. During this time he is treated well, meets and talks with many people, no doubt allowing him to gather a lot of information about New Spain, which he does in amazing detail and reports on it in his journal. I would suggest that the use of the Camino Reales does not constitute a separate trail, but is simply a continuation of the use of these trails by the Spanish authorities.

One argument I see often in accounts of Pike's expedition is that he made people aware of the potential for trade with New Mexico and this led to the Santa Fe Trail. I have not seen any particular evidence that this is the case in the form of letters, newspaper articles, or other documents that support this, but I cannot rule out that his journal did make some people aware of the potential for trade with New Spain. However, I would argue that the idea of trade with New Mexico was already well known to many people, especially along the Mississippi valley.

In 1792, Pedro Vial traveled from New Mexico to St. Louis to explore potential for trade. In 1802, William Morrison, a trader from Kaskaskia, sent his agent Jean-Baptiste LaLande with goods to New Mexico. Indeed, Dr. Robinson who is with Pike was an investor in this trade attempt. Jacque Clamorgan, a trader from St. Louis, traveled to Santa Fe and on to Chihuahua in 1807. There were others who tried to trade with New Mexico prior to the opening of the Santa Fe Trail in 1821. Were any of these inspired by Pike's journal? If so, what is the documentation. It is likely that a key figure in the opening of the Santa Fe Trail is Ezekial Williams who spent time in New Mexico in 1812-13. Williams moved to Franklin, Missouri, where he would have interacted with William Becknell and provided information about overland routes, tribes, and other information that would have been important in Becknell's first trading trip on the Santa Fe Trail. Prior to Pike's trip, there would have been considerable communication between French (especially) and Americans who were in New Spain and their contacts along the Mississippi valley in places like St. Louis and Nachitoches. There was no doubt a good bit of awareness of the potential for this trade without any input from Zebulon Pike, and the Santa Fe Trade was inevitable.



Board of Directors

Adam Adams
Rebecca Blankenbaker
Frank Briscoe
Tom Byrd
Lucinda Freeman
John Kisalus
Bob Perkins
John Pruett
Dave Regan
Jesús Treviño
Lynn Young

Executive Director

Steven Gonzales

Contact

P.O. Box 41286
Austin, Texas
78704
P: 512-850-9073
F: 512-451-3110

August 5, 2021

National Park Service – National Trails Office

Attn: Lillis A. Urban, Ph.D. – Chief of Planning
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

**Subject: El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association's
Comments on the proposed Zebulon Montgomery Pike National Historic Trail**

Dear Lillis A. Urban,

This letter serves to illustrate El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association's (EICaT) disapproval of the potential designation of a Zebulon Montgomery Pike National Historic Trail.

The reasons for this are many including, but not limited to, the fact that Pike's journey along El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trails is just an aspect of each trail's history and not worthy of an independent NHT designation on its own, and EICaT feels that Pike's story should be interpreted as elements of each Camino's history; the route of Pike's journey along the central portion of El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT is not sufficiently known, and it therefore does not meet the criteria of the National Trails System Act; the designation of a Pike NHT would glorify one individual, rather than cultural movements or patterns that had a wide-ranging effect on American history.

This document contains input from multiple board members and employees of EICaT and each individual illustrates specific reasons why they do not support the designation of a Pike National Historic Trail. Consequently, as representatives of El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association, we respectfully request that the idea of a Zebulon Montgomery Pike National Historic Trail be dismissed in favor of telling Pike's story as part of already existing National Historic Trails.

If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at (512) 850-9073 or steven@elcaminorealdelostejas.org.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Gonzales".

Steven Gonzales
Executive Director

8/4/2021

El Camino Real de los Tejas Mail - Pike NHT feasibility study



Steven Gonzales <steven@elcaminorealdelostejas.org>

Pike NHT feasibility study

Tom Byrd <Tom.Byrd@outlook.com>

Thu, Jul 29, 2021 at 5:44 PM

To: Steven Gonzales <steven@elcaminorealdelostejas.org>, John Kisalus <kisalus@aol.com>

Cc: Lucinda Freeman <lucindafree@gmail.com>, John Pruet <oldtiger65@gmail.com>

Steven,

My comments simply mirror those of my colleagues on the Board.

The feasibility study brings more detail and an interesting 1807 snapshot along the Caminos in New Mexico and Texas.

It is a welcome narrative, but does not merit the recognition or interpretive curation as a National Historic Trail in either of these two states.

I note the route ambiguity in Texas. The PowerPoint slide showed it on the 1709-1755 route through Travis and Milam Counties. Did Pike not pass through the 1807 sites of San Marcos de Neve and Puesta Colorado (site of Mina/Bastrop twenty years later) on the OST? It's worth taking a deeper look just for our own curation. Let's avoid a conflicting narrative on that item.

As a "personality route", they already named a mountain for him and anyone on the plains could sight-in on it as a distant landmark. It would take its place behind Cindy's Crocket or Houston examples, perhaps even behind a John Brown Trail or a Frederick Law Olmstead Trail - all very interesting white guys but not NHT material.

My friend Jerry suggested an Easy Rider Trail which I find very, very interesting ...Nikt, Nikt, Nikt...Swaaamp.

-Tom

Immediate Past-President

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=d1525d1d58&view=pt&search=all&permmsgid=msg-f%3A1706660904730610483&simpl=msg-f%3A17066609047...> 1/1

August 5, 2021

National Park Service – National Trails Office
Attn: Lillis A. Urban, Ph.D. – Chief of Planning
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Subject: Statement Concerning the Lack of National Significance of the Potential Zebulon Montgomery Pike
National Historic Trail

Dear Lillis A. Urban,

This letter serves as a public comment demonstrating my opposition to the potential designation of a Zebulon Montgomery Pike National Historic Trail. My opposition to the proposal is based on numerous factors including: 1) Much of Pike's journey is really just part of the history of two currently designated National Historic Trails (El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT and El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT), 2) Pike's journey was not nationally-significant, as it was one of many expeditions that took place within the same period of time, and therefore it would not meet the criteria of Section 5(b)(11) (B) of the National Trails System Act, 3) Pike's route along El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail is not sufficiently known to document whether his travels were along the Camino Real de los Tejas portion of the trail or the Camino Arriba / Old San Antonio Road portion of the trail, and hence the designation would not meet the criteria of Section 5(b)(11) (A) of the National Trails System Act, and 4) The designation of a Pike NHT would celebrate the life of a single individual and therefore is not based on broad patterns affecting American culture, which would also prevent the trail from meeting the criteria of Section 5(b)(11) (B) of the National Trails System Act.

As noted above, Pike's journey along El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail and El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail is simply a layer of history of each of those NHTs. Pike was a prisoner of the Spanish government at the time and was escorted along those routes as a captive. Pike was not exploring and discovering new land and in fact he was being escorted deeper into Spanish territory by Spanish Lieutenant Facundo Melgares, so that Pike could be questioned about his activities before being ushered out of New Spain and back into US Territory.

It should also be noted that Pike's journey was not nationally-significant, as it was one of several US expeditions taking place west of the Mississippi at that time. Other expeditions of the era included the nationally-significant Lewis and Clark expedition, which was integral to negotiations of the Adams – Onis Treaty of 1819, which defined the boundaries between the US and Spain, the Philip Nolan expedition, William Dunbar expedition, and Freeman – Curtis expedition. More so, each of the other mentioned expeditions were ordered by President Thomas Jefferson, whereas Pike's expedition was ordered by U.S. General James Wilkinson. This in itself illustrates that Pike's expedition did not have the national significance of the other expeditions even in the contemporary timeframe that it was taking place in. Consequently, Pike's expedition does not meet the criteria of Section 5(b)(11) (B) of the National Trails System Act.

It is also important to note that Pike's route does not meet the criteria of Section 5(b)(11) (A) of the National Trails System Act, which requires that "The route need not currently exist as a discernable trail to qualify, but its location must be sufficiently known to permit evaluation of public recreation and historical interest potential." Pike's route does not meet this criterion because there is not agreement as to which path of El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail he was transported along as he was escorted out of Spanish Texas. It is my belief that Pike was guided along the branch of the NHT known as the Camino Real de los Tejas route, which runs from San Marcos through present-day Austin through the former San Xavier Mission Complex and Rancheria Grande in Milam County to its junction with the Camino Arriba / Old San Antonio Road portion of the NHT, just east of present-day Crockett, Texas. There are many others, however, who contend that Pike would have been escorted along the Camino Arriba / Old San Antonio Road portion of the NHT, because the Camino Arriba was becoming the primary route of travel across Texas at the time of his passing through the area. To further demonstrate this, I have even been quoted in the online Austin360 newspaper as stating, "Traditional thinking concerning this era of Camino history would suggest that the route of the road known as the Camino Arriba or the Old San Antonio Road would have been utilized for travel

during the time frame that Pike crossed the Colorado in Texas. Some reasons for this are that San Marcos de Neve was founded in 1805 along the Arriba route and the route was the most utilized west-east corridor of the trail from about 1795 until the late 1800s.¹ More so, "It should be noted, however, that from Pike's description of his short journey from the San Marcos River to the Colorado, it also makes sense that he may have crossed the Colorado at Montopolis or the Longhorn Dam [in Austin]. I say this because, as more is being learned about the trail and the founding of Waterloo [Austin], I am beginning to believe that Pike's survey of Texas actually informed and aided in the placement of Waterloo, as according to *The Annals of Travis County and the City of Austin: From the Earliest Times to the Close of 1875*, 'The site occupies, and will effectually close, the pass by which the Indians and outlawed Mexicans have for ages past traveled east and west, to and from the Rio Grande to eastern Texas, and will now force them to pass by way of Pecan Bayou and San Saba.'² The second part of this quote is based on information from the late 1830s and the term "ages past" indicates that the writers were aware of the road's age, even though they would have only been in the area for a relatively short time, which begs the question of how they would have known about the trail since they were recent arrivals? Pike's journal is a potential source of this knowledge and the fact that there is not agreement on whether his route came through Austin or Bastrop (on the Camino Arriba) demonstrates that the proposed NHT designation would not meet the criteria mandated by the National Trails System Act.

And once again, a potential Pike NHT would not meet the criteria of Section 5(b)(11) (B) of the National Trails System Act because the designation would be celebrating the story of one man, who did not "have ... a far reaching effect on broad patterns affecting American culture." As noted above, not only was much of Pike's journey as a captive of the Spanish government along routes of already designated National Historic Trails, but his expedition was ordered by a lesser figure in American history than other expeditions of the same time period, which were ordered by the President of the United States. More so, if a precedent is set to glorify one individual with a National Historic Trail designated upon their journeys, where will it end? As an example, could a future David Crockett National Historic Trail be proposed to honor his journey from Tennessee to Texas? Therefore, it is important for the proposed Pike NHT to be abandoned, because honoring one man's journey would lead to a slippery-slope that could allow future designations honoring an individual, and not mass movements or patterns of expansion that broadly affected American culture and history. This would be a detriment to the National Trails System and detract from what makes our National Historic Trails worthy of their designations.

If I can provide more input as to the Pike proposal, please let me know. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,



Steven Gonzales
4601 Dudmar Drive
Austin, Texas 78735
stevenegonzales@msn.com

¹ Austin360.com. August 26, 2019. "Rare map shows explorer's 1807 journey through the Austin area." Austin360.com online. Home page online. Available from <https://www.austin360.com/entertainmentlife/20190826/rare-map-shows-explorers-1807-journey-through-austin-area> (last accessed August 5, 2021).

² Austin360.com. August 26, 2019. "Rare map shows explorer's 1807 journey through the Austin area." Austin360.com online. Home page online. Available from <https://www.austin360.com/entertainmentlife/20190826/rare-map-shows-explorers-1807-journey-through-austin-area> (last accessed August 5, 2021).

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to voice my disapproval of Zebulon Pike's itinerant wanderings as a national historic trail. This concept is delusional and a waste of everyone's time.

Pike's journey was not an original route of historic travel. He merely followed the path of Spanish Lieutenant Facundo Melgares through the initial portion of his travels, and then was taken prisoner by Melgares and escorted through New Spain along El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and El Camino Real de los Tejas, both of which are already National Historic Trails. This in itself demonstrates that Pike's story is really just part of the story of two currently designated National Historic Trails.

It should also be stated that Pike's expedition had no significant effect on diplomatic relations of the time, as the more consequential expedition of Lewis and Clark did. The latter led to the Adams – Onís Treaty of 1819 that delineated the territories of Spain and the United States. Nothing of even close to that magnitude can be said of Pike and his purposeless travels.

Celebrating Pike's story with its own National Historic Trail designation, separate and apart from the stories of the Caminos Reales, does a disservice to those two trails because it elevates one man to a position above others, who were equally or more momentous than him. It would also force the administering agency to diminish its attention and resources from the Caminos, as it would need to turn attention from them to the efforts necessary for a fledgling Pike NHT.

The preposterous notion that Pike's journey would share or override any part of the Caminos Reales is cultural appropriation of lamentable proportions. To give this idea credence is to question the credibility of anyone who would give it any kind of sanction or consideration.

Thank you,

Jesús Treviño

El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association, Board Member

[EXTERNAL] PNHT Public Comment (Kansas)

Kate Emmett-Sweetser <kansaskate@gmail.com>

Fri 6/25/2021 6:16 AM

To: Urban, Lillis A <lillis_urban@nps.gov>

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

TOPIC QUESTION 1: Are there sites, segments, or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. historic sites, education exhibits, museums, hiking or outdoor access)?

SOUTHERN LINN COUNTY, KS

While it's unlikely Pike was in present-day Linn County, the southernmost part of that county may fall within the corridor. These 2 nearby attractions are worth mentioning.

Skyview Farm & Creamery

SkyviewFarm.net

Skyview is a cornerstone of agritourism in SE Kansas. Bill & Sheri Noffke sell an assortment of artisan cheeses, as well as raw cow's milk, in a small retail shop on their dairy farm in eastern Linn County. They occasionally offer farm tours.

Mine Creek Civil War Battlefield State Historic Site

KSHS.org/mine_creek

In October of 1864, this was the location where 2500 Union troops defeated 7000 Confederates in what was one of the largest cavalry battles of the Civil War. The battlefield is accessible for self-guided tours along a 2.6 mile walking trail dotted with interpretive panels; the visitor center includes displays.

NORTHERN BOURBON COUNTY, KS

Pike and his party crossed into what is now Kansas on 3 September 1806. They marched west across present-day Bourbon County, generally following the Little Osage River in the northern part of the county.

The Long Shoals Bridge over the Little Osage River

bridgehunter.com/ks/bourbon/long-shoals

This 1902 iron bridge is on 265th St just north of Wagon Rd. Now closed to traffic, it is only a few yards away from the modern bridge that runs parallel to it. It's believed to be the most ornate bridge

west of the Mississippi; it's certainly the most ornate bridge in Kansas. It's listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

[KSHS.org/resource/national_register/nominationsNRDB/Bourbon_LongShoalsBridgeNR.pdf](https://www.kshs.org/resource/national_register/nominationsNRDB/Bourbon_LongShoalsBridgeNR.pdf)

The "Military Mile" (aka Magic Mile or Miracle Mile)

This stretch of gravel county road is said to run right on top of where the Western Frontier Military Road ran. It's 242nd St, between Xavier Rd and Xylem Rd. The Military Road was surveyed in 1837 for the purpose of connecting Ft Leavenworth to Ft Gibson. (In 1842 Ft Scott was established near the military road on a bluff overlooking the Marmaton River.)

Barnesville Cemetery

[FindAGrave.com/cemetery/91985](https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/91985)

This cemetery in NE Bourbon County includes several Civil War burials.

"See What Laura Saw"

[SeeWhatLauraSaw.com](https://www.seewhatlaurasaw.com) (under construction)

According to her journal (published as *On the Way Home*) Laura Ingalls Wilder, along with her husband and daughter, came through Fort Scott on 21 August 1894. The day before, they had stopped in Mound City to buy provisions (bread, a pie, tomatoes) before stopping to camp for the night somewhere east/southeast of there; the next day they went through Prescott on their way to Fort Scott.

Note: [REDACTED] is currently developing a driving/cycling route and list of attractions as a way to market the Fort Scott area to die-hard Ingalls fans.

Kansas Rocks Recreation Park

[KsRocksPark.com](https://www.ksarocks.com)

Owned by a non-profit organization, this park offers a system of challenging trails for Jeeps and other 4x4 vehicles. Annual membership as well as daily passes are available. The park, which includes rustic campsites, is open on weekends. Hikers are welcome.

Timber Hills Lake Ranch

[TimberHillsLake.com](https://www.timberhillslake.com)

This 1500-acre private property offers hunting and fishing packages for serious sportsmen. Limited lodging is available in comfortable cabins.

Guthrie's Mound

From Pike's journal, 5 September 1806: "we struck a beautiful hill, which bears south on the prairie: its elevation I suppose to be 100 feet. From its summit the view is sublime to the east and southeast."

The hill later became the setting for a local legend about the hanging of a school teacher accused of stealing a horse. The mound, which is now thickly covered in trees, is private property and trespassing is discouraged; however, it can be approached on 120th St north of Victory Rd.

U.S. Route 69

The 168 miles of US-69 from Ft Leavenworth in the north to the Oklahoma state line in the south is designated the Frontier Military Historic Byway. What's known as "old 69 highway" was once the Jefferson Highway.

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area

[FreedomsFrontier.org](https://www.freedomsfrontier.org)

Bourbon County is included in the FFNHA which "shares the stories of 19th century Americans living in Kansas and Missouri who struggled to define the meaning of freedom during the Bleeding Kansas and Civil War years and how these historic struggles have shaped our nation's concept of American democracy today as freedom for all continues to evolve." Quote from [NPS.gov/places/freedom-s-frontier-national-heritage-area.htm](https://www.nps.gov/places/freedom-s-frontier-national-heritage-area.htm)

THE CITY OF FORT SCOTT, KS

Fort Scott is located at the intersection of US-69 and US-54. That's about 22 miles SE of Mapleton and about 13 miles S of Fulton. Though probably outside the corridor, Fort Scott can and will play a crucial role in promoting the trail once it's established. It certainly will provide many necessary services and cultural/recreational attractions to travelers. The county seat and largest town in the county, Fort Scott is virtually the only option in Bourbon County for restaurants, hotels, gas, provisions, car repair, medical care, etc. Fort Scott also has many cultural and educational attractions.

Downtown Fort Scott Historic District

The Victorian-era downtown is listed in the National Register; several of its buildings are also individually listed.

National Ave, Judson St, Crawford St, Burke St

In the old residential area SW of the fort there are dozens of large Victorian houses. Several of them retain their ornate "gingerbread" trim.

The Gordon Parks Museum & Center for Diversity (Fort Scott Community College)

GordonParksCenter.org

Gordon Parks was born and raised in Fort Scott. His book and movie "The Learning Tree" are a fictionalized account of his childhood. Gordon was a true renaissance man -- photographer, author, director, composer, choreographer -- who used a camera as his weapon of choice to expose poverty and systemic racism. In addition to the museum, a variety of educational programs are offered by the Center.

The Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes

LowellMilkenCenter.org

The LMC provides guidance and support to teachers who use project-based learning to uncover the stories of unsung heroes throughout history. It began after a local teacher and his students discovered the story of Irena Sendler and created the "Life in a Jar" project. The Center welcomes visitors to view the many displays featuring unsung heroes in their spacious lobby.

Fort Scott National Historic Site

NPS.gov/FoSc

Established in 1842, it was a frontier fort. It was decommissioned then later re-commissioned as a Civil War fort. The town of Fort Scott grew up around it.

National Cemetery #1

NPS.gov/places/000/Fort-Scott-National-Cemetery.htm

Originally a Presbyterian burial ground established in 1861, it was designated a National Cemetery by President Lincoln in 1862; it was among the first 12 and was listed as Number 1.

6/29/2021

Mail - Urban, Lillis A - Outlook

Municipal Recreation

The City of Fort Scott has several municipal parks and offers many recreational options. Among them are: golf, walking trails, mountain bike trails, aquatic center, tennis, pickleball, disc golf, fishing, playgrounds, picnicking, camping.

Old Fort Genealogy Society Library

ksqenweb.org/society/ftscott/

An excellent heritage tourism resource for researching family history. In addition, the library contains a great deal of information about local history in general.

--

KATHERINE (KATE) EMMETT-SWEETSER
1012 S. National Ave. Fort Scott, KS 66701
620.224.4442 (cell) 620.224.2292 (fax)

"Tolerance is giving to every other human being
every right that you claim for yourself." -- Robert Green Ingersoll

<https://outlook.office365.com/mail/inbox>

4/4

[EXTERNAL] PNHT Public Comment (Kansas)

Kate Emmett-Sweetser <kansaskate@gmail.com>

Wed 6/30/2021 11:57 AM

To: Urban, Lillis A <lillis_urban@nps.gov>

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

TOPIC QUESTIONS:

1. Are there sites, segments, or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. historic sites, education exhibits, museums, hiking or outdoor access)?

The Fort Lincoln School House, built in 1864, was located west of Fulton, near Ft Lincoln. Ft Lincoln, which no longer exists, was located W/NW of Fulton near the Little Osage River. In 1974, the schoolhouse was moved to the SW corner of 18th St and Horton, on the edge of the Fort Scott Community College campus.

U.S. Bicycle Route 255 (USBR-255) is a proposed North-South bike route designation which, if approved, will run from Atchison to the Oklahoma state line. The section north of Fort Scott would follow 215th St. which is locally known as "Old 69" -- i.e., the former 2-lane US-69 highway which was replaced by the current 4-lane divided highway. Old 69 runs along the eastern edge of Fulton and crosses the Little Osage River just north of Fulton.

The Pike NHT route would intersect or run near the existing (USBR-66 and -76) and proposed (USBR-55 and -255) bike routes. The USBR System can be seen here: <https://www.adventurecycling.org/routes-and-maps/us-bicycle-route-system/maps-and-route-resources/>

2. Does the study route accurately identify Pike's 1806-1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

The NPS study route I've seen online does not provide the scale and detail necessary for me to feel confident in voicing an opinion on the proposed routes in western Missouri and eastern Kansas. Routes mapped out by other sources raise some questions in my mind about the location of Camp Independence in MO and Pike's route in Allen County KS.

3. How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have

concerns? What benefits do you see?

For most residents of Bourbon County, this region's history seems to begin with the establishment of Ft Scott in 1842. Pike's trek, the comings and goings of French traders, and the presence of Native Americans are largely ignored. A NHT designation will bring more attention to late 18th century and early 19th century history -- both the specifics of local history and its place in the bigger picture of American westward expansion.

The increase in visibility that comes with NHT designation will almost certainly result in an increase in tourism which will have a significant positive impact on Bourbon County.

4. Would you like to see Pike's 1806-1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

Yes, I would. NHT designation will bring attention to Pike's life and the role this expedition played in our history. In addition, it will bring attention to the history of the Osage, Pawnee, and other tribes. It will provide an opportunity for their voices and points of view, so often overlooked in local history, to be included in the interpretation of the expedition's goals.

5. Do you think this route is important in America's history? Why or why not?

Yes, I do. For much of the American public, their first impression of the Great Plains was not based on first-hand experience; for better or worse, Pike's description informed their opinions. Over two centuries later, many Americans still think of Kansas as vast, empty "flyover" country. With the NHT designation will come a closer examination of Pike's journal and the interpretation of local sites which will show that Kansas has always been rich in flora and fauna as well as human history.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input on the proposed Pike NHT.

Kate

--

KATHERINE (KATE) EMMETT-SWEETSER
1012 S. National Ave. Fort Scott, KS 66701
620.224.4442 (cell) ~ 620.224.2292 (fax)

"Tolerance is giving to every other human being
every right that you claim for yourself." -- Robert Green Ingersoll

[EXTERNAL] PNHT Letter of Support

William Fischer Jr <wefjr7944@gmail.com>

Tue 6/29/2021 8:26 PM

To: Urban, Lillis A <lillis_urban@nps.gov>

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Greetings

I fully support creation of the Pike National Historic Trail.

The Pike expedition is an epic part of US history that has been largely overshadowed by the near-contemporary Corps of Discovery. It's efforts to understand the central Great Plains and initiate relationships with Plains Indians is just as important as what Lewis and Clark attempted to do further north.

That the Pike expedition was captured and forced to go to Mexico is an important episode in early relations with our southern neighbor that similarly has been forgotten.

Establishment of the PNHT will compliment the stories shared by the Lewis and Clark NHT, the Santa Fe NHT, and NPS sites such as FOSC, FOLS, BEOL, and others. It is an important story in the expansion of a young nation, relationships with Native American tribes, and international diplomacy.

Sincerely

William E. Fischer, Jr.
NPS Retired
(FOSC Historian, 2010-2016)



June 28, 2021

RE: PNHT Letter of Support

Dear Pike NHT Association and the National Park Service,

The Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce is honored to submit this letter of support for National designation of Pike's Trail. This designation would bring recognition to an important event in American history as well as be a great tool for promoting tourism and recreation.

Fort Scott is in Bourbon County, Kansas where we are rich in history and fortunate to have multiple attractions telling the stories and building awareness of our region's past, present, and future. Those sites include the Fort Scott National Historic Site, Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes, Gordon Parks Museum, US National Cemetery No. 1, Old Fort Genealogy Society Library, and an active Historical Preservation Association of Bourbon County. Not to mention wonderful public parks including the 155-acre Gunn Park (with biking/hiking trails), Riverfront Park, Ellis Park, and Nelson Park; in addition to the Kansas Rocks Recreation Park and Timber Hills Lake Hunting Lodge in northern Bourbon County; and a selection of lakes throughout including Lake Fort Scott, Rock Creek Lake, Elm Creek Lake, and Cedar Creek Lake.

Our Downtown Historic District is on the National Register of Historic Places and sprinkled with local mom-and-pop shops in addition to restaurants who rely on not only locals but visitors passing through and the Pike NHT designation would be a great addition to impact their retail foot traffic.

On behalf of the community, we are in full support of the Pike National Historic Trail designation and would proudly share the history of Pike's expedition and its importance to the history of America and the State of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Lindsay B. Madison
President & CEO

Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce
231 East Wall Street, Fort Scott, Kansas 66701
PHONE 620-223-3566 FAX 620-223-3574
EMAIL information@fortscott.com WEB www.fortscott.com

PIKE Monuments- Panels, Markers, Stones, Plaques Commemorative EXISTING SW EXPEDITION (65)

CO count	Existing	PIKE	SW	EXPEDITION	MO,KS,CO,NM,TX,LA MN,WS,IA,IL,MO Other states- PA, NY,CA, etc.	for FEDERAL Inventory and Pike Smart Phone app	'Pike Legacy'													
116 In US & Can	16 (21)	Pike Marker Locations- SW Exp				a. Location Name	b. Location location	c. Location gps reading	d. Location gps reading	elevation (feet)	d. Date of encampment or passing	e. Picture file see pdf	f. Location info- text, sound files, links	g. Notes	h. Interesting tidbits					
		Missouri- 5																		
		Missouri- Second expedition- 4																		
	√10				Butler MO			38 257975, -94 332493												
	√11				Butler Building Mural, MO	2-98 E Dakota St Butler, MO 64730		38 257449, -94 331740												
	√12				Paperville MO Museum	Main & Court St. Paperville, MO Schell City, MO 64783		38 096989, -94 228987												
	√13				Bushwacker Mus Nevada, MO	212 W Walnut St. Nevada, MO 64772		37 836487, -94 358247						bushwacker.org (417) 697-9602						
		Nebraska- 1																		
	√14				Guide Rock, NE	501 University Ave. (NE 78) & State St., Guide Rock, NE 68942 40 074835, -98 330459		40 074838, -98 330536						Republic Pawnee sign.jpg						
		Kansas- 3																		
	√15				Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site	480 Pawnee Trail Republic, KS 66954 (785) 361-2255		39 907890, -97 860352						KS Leo Oliva pages kansastravel.org						
	√16				Delphos Monument SW of town	City of Delphos 205 N Washington St Delphos, Kansas 67435 (785) 523 4361 Chamber- 785- 1-800-872-0222 Museums (785) 523-4540		39 16'00.4"N 97 51 04.6"W 39 29'07.83, -97 85'12.97		KS Front Stone marker in Delphos -KS 36 16.007 97 51.076			5 miles West of Delphos N 42nd just South of Victory Rd. North of Ute Rd.	http://www.km.org/directory/cities.php?ID=173						
	√17				Pike's Memorial Area Larned KS	310 NE Trail St/ US 99 Larned, KS 67350		38 172157, -98 104750					On October 25, 2006 an interpretive plaza near the Pawnee River in Larned KS, 200 years to the day Pike crossed the Pawnee River. Rev. Dr. Roy Escot Pike, President of the Pike Family Association delivered remarks. Read more...	On October 25, 2006, the West/Dry Routes Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association dedicated an interpretive plaza near the Pawnee River in Larned KS, 200 years to the day Pike crossed the Pawnee River. Rev. Dr. Roy Escot Pike, President of the Pike Family Association delivered remarks. Read more...						
		Colorado 54 as of 9/2017																		
1	√18				Pikes Tower City of Lamar Lamar, CO	on Rotary Way in Willow Creek Park just E of S Main St/US385 Lamar, CO 81052		38 071995, -102 914427						Lamar Phone 719 335 4376						
2	√19				Blue Cloud marker South of Las Animas	County Road Ft 5 Las Animas, CO 81054		Marker close 38 04'12.1"N 103 09'44.7" W 38 070028, -103 112419		Tunnel under RR on road Ft 5 38 096264, -103 112503										
3	√20				LaJunta Pike Sign	Barnes & US 50 302 Barnes Ave La Junta, CO 81050		37 986916, -103 554430 close		A6 Nov 24			Brad @Parks & Recreation 719-384-5991	KIT Shy's material 2Feb2015- ArtWork						
4	√21				Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo	101 S Union Ave Pueblo, CO 81003		38 295756, -104 912985		A6 Nov 5			Pueblo River front							
5	√22				Pueblo County Courthouse Rotunda	215 W 16th St Pueblo, CO 81003		38 275733, -104 509584												
					Gen. Palmer dedicating Pike statue Co. Spr	North of CO Springs on US 85- US 87		Replaced												
6	√23				Colorado Springs Road sign	North of CO Springs on US 85- US 87		38 826788, -104 822131												
7	√24				Pike Cartoon Garden of the Gods Visitor Center Colorado Springs, CO	1805 N 30th St Colorado Springs, CO 80904 (719) 634-6999		38 878233, -104 859978			This photo of Pike is in the GCG building next to the men's room.									
8	√25				Uta trail sign Garden of the Gods Colorado Springs, CO	1805 N 30th St Colorado Springs, CO 80904 (719) 634-6999		38 878233, -104 859978												
9	√69				Pikes Peak			38 840532, -105 044205					Heey-otoyoo (Arapaho) El Captain (Spanish)	The ultra-prominent 14,115-foot (4,302.31 m) fourteen'er is located in Pike National Forest, 12.0 miles (19.3 km) west by south (bearing 293°) of downtown Colorado Springs, Colorado.						
10	√26				Pikes Peak ascent Garden of the Gods Colorado Springs, CO	1805 N 30th St Colorado Springs, CO 80904 (719) 634-6999		38 878233, -104 859978												
11	√27				Pike Garden of the Gods Colorado Springs, CO	1805 N 30th St Colorado Springs, CO 80904 (719) 634-6999		38 878233, -104 859978												
12	√28				Bates & Pike Garden of the Gods Colorado Springs, CO	1805 N 30th St Colorado Springs, CO 80904 (719) 634-6999		38 878233, -104 859978												
13	√29				Zebulon Pike statue	Colorado Springs on Tejon street (200 S block)		38 830325, -104 823918					I think the Zebulon Pike statue in Colorado Springs is right across Tejon street from the Old El Paso County Courthouse - so, standing at the old El Paso County Courthouse, looking west across Tejon, on the grounds of the NEW court facility. It used to be in a much more prominent location there, before they expanded the new court building.							

	Museum									
15	√79	Zebulon Pike Youth Services Center Col. Spr. CO	1427 W Rio Grande Colorado Springs	38° 49' 26.249" 104° 51' 5" 198"						
16	√8	Pikes Peak Summit Plaque	14,100' @ summit	38° 44' 28.63633" -105° 42' 24.8"						
17	√31	Pike Cave	SW ridge of Mt. Rosa	38° 74' 71.53" -104° 54' 35.24"						I can assure you there is one outside a rock shelter (Pike's cave of 11/29/1805). It is located at about 10, 700' on the south east ridge of Mt. Rosa - John Murphy
18	√32a	Cripple Creek	Cripple Creek Heritage Center	38° 75' 14" -105° 15.3"						Pike Display
19	√32b	Cripple Creek	Cripple Creek Heritage Center	38° 75' 14" -105° 15.3"						Separate Pike Map display
20	√33	Florence site Upper Arkansas River Valley Pike NHTAssoc		38° 23' N 105° 02' W		A6 Dec 5				KIT Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
21	√34	Sawtooth Upper Arkansas River Valley Pike NHTAssoc	On US 50 S of Salida NW of Howard	38° 28' 32" N 105° 53' 10" W		87 JAN 7				On the Arkansas
22	√35	Wellsville Upper Arkansas River Valley Pike NHTAssoc	US 50 approach to Cañon City	38° 29' N 105° 58' W						KIT Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS KIT Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
23	√36	Cañon City site Upper Arkansas River Valley Pike NHTAssoc	????	38° 25' N 105° 15' W		A6 Dec(10)				KIT Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
24	√37	Pike Marker, Cañon City MOVED Upper Arkansas River Valley	205 Tunnel Dr near Parking lot Cañon City, CO 81212 DAR Marker	38° 43' 777" -105° 25' 4582"		87 Jan 1				
25	√38	Pike Marker, Cañon City BEING MOVED Upper Arkansas River Valley	IN POOR CONDITION Royal Gorge Monument	38-432933 -105-255714 Royal Gorge Monument						
26	√39	Garden Park site Pike NHTAssoc	N of Cañon City on 4Mile Ck on CR9	38° 31' N 105° 13' W		A6 Dec(10)				Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
27	√40	South Park- Kenosha Pass South Park	US 285 & Kenosha Pass	39° 40' 35.17" -105° 75' 44.49"		A6 Dec				
28	√41	Near Como on US 285 South Park	US 285 before Como 39 332850. -105.897222	39 333855 -105.897253		A6 Dec				33238 U.S. 285 just E of Tarryal, Jefferson, CO 80455
29	√42	Pike Trail Friends Upper Arkansas River Valley	563-763 Arizona to 28509 Ramsour Rd Buena Vista, CO 81211	38 836314 -105 122459 38 836381 -105 118735						Friends of Pike
31	√44	Royal Gorge Upper Arkansas River Valley	Royal Gorge Bridge and Park, CR 3a Cañon City	38 463150 -105 323393		Jan 1				
32	√45	Temple Canyon site (On Grape Creek Pike NHTAssoc	CR 3 Temple Canyon Rd Canon City, CO 81212 Near Grape Ck Picnic	38° 24' 28.0" N 105° 19' 34.5" W 38 407774 -105 329293		Jan 14				Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
33	√46	Reid Ranch site Wet Mtn Valley Pike NHTAssoc	Johnson Gulch at Custer County Road 255 E of CO 69 N of CR 255 ggs on panel- 38° 12' N 105° 24' W	38° 11' 39.0" N 105° 2' 405.8" W 38 1941697 -105 40161		7532 Jan 16				Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS Pike's Probable Route Leaving Grape Creek Canyon- 38° 13' 05.9" N 105° 24' 52.4" W 38 218303, -105 414558 Top of Johnson Gulch (Between Johnson Gulch and Four Mile Gulch)- 38° 11' 39.0" N 105° 24' 05.9" W 38 194163, -105 401641 Crossing Grape Creek- 38° 09' 57.8" N 105° 27' 59.0" W 38 099344, -105 465561 Horn Creek 38 052862, -105 528162
34	√47	Silver Cliff site Wet Mtn Valley Pike NHTAssoc	300-358 Co Road 255 201 French St Silver Cliff, CO 81252	38° 08' 12.5" N 105° 29' 25.8" W 38 1398056 -105 4405		7699 Jan 17				Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
35	√48	Silver Cliff Museum Wet Mtn Valley	Expedition Name Plaque 610 Main St. (CO 96) Silver Cliff	38 136281 -105 445803 38° 08' 10.4" N 105° 29' 42.5" W		Jan 17				
36	√49	Canda Ranch site Wet Mtn Valley Pike NHTAssoc	4504 Macy Ln Custer CR129 Westcliffe, CO 81252 between road no. 140 and road no. 130	38 425 47N 105 29 18 W 38 074 -105 488333 3		7774 Jan 17-21				Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
37	√50	Macy Lane Wet Mtn Valley Pike NHTAssoc	4001 Horn Rd Westcliffe, CO 81252	38 058936 -105 488840		Jan 17-21				
38	√51	Music Pass site Wet Mtn Valley Pike NHTAssoc	near Custer CR 119 - on panel 37° 56' N 105° 27' W	37° 55' 48.4" N 105° 27' 29.4" W 37 5301111 -105 457333		8850 Jan 23				Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
39	√52	Wolf Springs Ranch site on Panel- 37° 50' N 105° 18' W Wet Mtn Valley Pike NHTAssoc	Black Mtn. on CO 69 S of Westcliffe (Muddy Creek)	37° 50' N 105° 18' W		Jan 24-26				Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS
40	√53	Madame Pass site Pike NHTAssoc	CR 550 1	37° 50' 56.9" N 105° 29' 05.2" W 37 486958 -105 435048		Jan 27				Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS, Kit Shy's material 2Feb2015> Grant INFO> FINAL PIKE PANELS

Existing		Pike Marker Locations- SW Exp		for FEDERAL Inventory and Pike Smart Phone app 'Pike Legacy'							
116 In US & Can	16 (2/1)	a. Location Name	b. Location location	c. Location gps reading	to Location gps reading	Elevation (feet)	d. Date of encampment or passing	e. Picture file see pdf	f. Location Info-text, sound files, links	g. Notes	h. Interesting tidbits
41	V54	Mosca site West of Great Sand Dunes San Luis Valley -Pike NHTAssoc	Lane 6 N and CO 17 in Mosca	37° 40'N 105° 52' W 37.732761 -105.512364			Jan 28		HT: [link]		
42	V55	Great Sand Dunes NP - In the Visitor Center 37 7331 -105 5127 San Luis Valley	US 150 Mosca, CO	37.732975, -105.512483 Google					Great Sand Dunes Visitor Center, Alamosa County, CO		
43	V56	Great Sand Dunes NP - In the Visitor Center 37 7331 -105 5127 San Luis Valley	US 150 Mosca, CO	37.732975, -105.512483 Google					Great Sand Dunes Visitor Center, Alamosa County, CO		
44	V57	Plaque on Mosca-Trail Great Sand Dunes NP - E of CO 150 San Luis Valley	US 150 Mosca, CO	37.7332 -105.5057							
45	V58	Great Sand Dunes NP Roadside Panel - S of Visitor Center on CO 150 San Luis Valley		37.730711 -105.513504 Google							
46	V59	North Zapata Creek on CO 150 San Luis Valley -Pike NHTAssoc	Mosca, CO 81146	37.5377 -105.5894							
47	V60	Highway 160/150 site San Luis Valley -Pike NHTAssoc	E of Alamosa on US 160 W of Blanca	37° 28'N 105° 36' W			B7 Jan 29		HT: [link]		
48	V61	Alamosa site San Luis Valley -Pike NHTAssoc	Adams Ln & Emperius Rd ???	37° 28'N 105° 51' W 37.469533 -105.845812	37° 29' 18.5" N 105° 48' 10.6" W 37.438476 -105.802938		B7 Feb 1		HT: [link]	Wildlife Ref ?	
49	V62	Rio Grande site or South Alamosa San Luis Valley -Pike NHTAssoc	12717 Road South 112 Alamosa, CO 81101 CR 24 near Conejos R	37.385583, -105.820340			B7 Feb		HT: [link]		
50	V63	Pike Stockade sign site San Luis Valley -Pike NHTAssoc		37° 18'N 105° 49' W			B7 Feb 2-26		HT: [link]		
51	V64	Pike Stockade monument San Luis Valley	22852 Co Road 24 Sanford, CO 81151	37.294514, -105.811194			B7 Feb 2-26				
52	V65	Pike Stockade (replica) San Luis Valley	Sanford	37.253828, -105.810381			A7 Feb 2 to 26				
53	V108	Pike Roadside Panel San Luis Valley	CR 116 S on Bluff Overlook Road on ridge over the Rio Grande Alamosa Co. Road 116 S	37.3851 -105.754							
		New Mexico									
		Mexico									
		Chihuahua								Frederic Remington's painting of Pike in New Spain	
		Durango									
		Coahuila									
		Texas									
		Zebulon Pike Campsite Historical Marker (hrmdb.org)	near Alto, Texas, in Cherokee County On County Road 2907 0.4 miles west of State Highway 21, on the right when travelling west. Marker is located in the El Camino Real De Los Tejas section of Caddo Mounds State Historic Site	31° 35.94' N, 95° 9.05' W			June 23, 1807				
		Lost Pines of Texas Historical M	The intersection of Park Road 1 and Loop State Highway 150, on the right when traveling east. Marker is located just inside the entrance way to Bastrop Paid Advertisement	30° 6.538' N, 97° 17.589' W							
		Louisiana (Hatchitoches)-1									
V87		Fort Pike and State Historic Site	Click on the ad for more information.	30.166751, -89.737294	30°9'58"N 89°44'13"W				https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Pike	http://www.crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-parks/historic-sites/fort-pike-state-historic-site/index	

Preface

This may be the longest preface you have run across. In order to support the creation of the Pike National Historic Trail it is necessary to let the public know what the situation was when Pike made his year-long trip in 1806-1807. And this is no small task because few text books or books have correctly set the stage for the trip.

There is a map that has been in virtually every high school and college textbook that shows the Louisiana Purchase. Millions, perhaps tens of millions, of these maps have been seen by students and the public. The problem for us is that the map shows the result of the Adams-Onís treaty of 1819 and is not the Purchase that we are dealing with in 1807.

The United States purchased “Louisiana” in 1803 from France. The French purposely left the definition of Louisiana out of the document. When pressed for defining the boundaries they said that the Americans and Spanish should sort out the boundaries on their own.

This was to be a conflict between a world power, Spain, and a very young and weak republic to the east of the Mississippi River.

The positions of the two antagonists are important here. Spain possessed “Louisiana” from 1762 until France took it back in 1800. In the Treaty of San Ildefonso, by which Spain gave up Louisiana to France, it was stipulated that France would never sell the territory to another country. So Spain felt very much deceived by the French and felt the transaction was illegal. Spain was willing to let the United States annex the few communities that lay along the Mississippi River’s western shore, St. Charles and St. Louis in the north, New Orleans and some Cajun communities in the south. On the United States’ part, Jefferson claimed all the territory in the watersheds of the Missouri, Arkansas, and Red rivers. (This would be the map you used in the material you sent out on your website).

So, where are we? The map we use should accurately show the contested area as it was in 1807. A simple map of the U S with state boundaries perhaps shown lightly for orientation. Boldly written across the contested area should be written “Territory claimed by Spain and the United States.” I have never seen a map like that. I googled “Louisiana Purchase 1803” and every map shown was the U S version, the version with all the watersheds on it. That is the challenge for us. Pike was entering a territory that was claimed by Spain and Spain had the troops to back up their claim.

(Almost there.) Both countries took steps to reinforce their claims immediately after the treaty was signed. The U S sent Lewis and Clark up the Missouri River to find their way to the Pacific Ocean. They left St. Louis in 1804 and returned in 1806. This reinforced the U S claim in the northern portion of the territory. Jefferson also sent a contingent up the Red River, but it was turned back by Spanish troops. One area the two sides were in direct conflict over was north and west of New Orleans. Natchitoches in present Louisiana (the point to which Pike was escorted out of Spanish-claimed territory in 1807) was accepted by Spain as being in the U S. But west of that site to the Sabine River was claimed by both parties. So here we had the two sides musket to musket. Finally, military commanders on the ground, Gen. James Wilkinson for the U S and Lt. Colonel Simon de Herrera for Spain agreed to back off and make the contested area a “neutral zone” which avoided open warfare. The agreement here was after Pike had left St. Louis, yet another example of potential danger for Pike and his men.

What I am trying to say is that the geopolitical situation was a dangerous one for Pike. His trip was not to be a walk in the park. The dangers for Pike, including his arrest and detention, must be considered as an important part of making his journey into a National Historic Trail.

Pike's Journey 1806-1807.

Pike was given specific orders by Gen. Wilkinson. His party was overly large to start because he had numerous Indians to return to their home areas. This requirement meant going west by way of the Osage villages in western Missouri and then northwest to the Pawnee village in southern Nebraska. On this latter leg he had to bend his trip west to avoid the Kaw Indians in NE Kansas. He also was to seek the headwaters of the Arkansas and Red rivers. For these latter tasks he had only the vaguest notion of where these rivers headed, and the map he had available was very inaccurate. As he traveled upstream on the Missouri River, his last stop at a marginally-civilized village was at La Charrette on the north bank of the Missouri some 40 miles upstream from St. Charles. Although he did not mention it, he gained some knowledge of the rivers to the west from the hunters and trappers at La Charrette (See Lowell Schake, *La Charrette: A History of the Village Gateway to the American Frontier Visited by Lewis and Clark*Daniel Boone*Zebulon Pike* [2006]). From there he continued up the Missouri, he and his men by boat, the Indians under escort by land. At the confluence of the Osage River and the Missouri he turned up the Osage following that stream to the Osage villages in western Missouri. After a short stay he continued west on the Osage River and finally left that stream crossing many others on his way to the Pawnee villages. He arrived at the large village in present Nebraska on 25 September 1806 and departed from there 7 October.

I said that the contest was one world power against a smaller weaker country, the U S. When Pike arrived at the Pawnee village he discovered that a Spanish force had visited the site a month earlier. The Spanish force, under Lt. Facundo Melgares, was some 300 men (he had left another 300 encamped southwest of present Larned KS), some of whom were soldiers, others New Mexican militia. Pike's 23 men did not make the same impression as the Spanish had. Spanish soldiers, traders, and missionaries had traversed the Great Plains for centuries. Coronado in 1541 and Oñate in 1601, many others since then. One of their expeditions, led by Pedro de Villasur in 1720, had been overwhelmed by the Pawnees near present Columbus, Nebraska, about 100 miles northeast of the village Pike visited. Pike found the Pawnee village flying a Spanish flag, present by Melgares, and persuaded them to replace it with a US flag. He did not take the Spanish flag, leaving it for the Pawnee to use in case Spanish troops returned. Pike left the Pawnees and followed the trail of the Spanish troops south to the Arkansas River. His second-in-command was Gen. Wilkinson's son, also James, a lieutenant in the U S Army. The young Lt. was to return to St. Louis with five privates, following the Arkansas downstream.

After watching Wilkinson raft his way down the river, Pike with the remaining 15 men headed up the same stream. Since leaving the Pawnees, he had been following the route the Spanish expedition took on their return to Santa Fe. With such a force the Spanish left a well-marked route. Pike even marked the Spanish campsites on his field maps. The party crossed the Pawnee Fork of the Arkansas River at present Larned, and then crossed the Arkansas to the right bank, the south side of the river, where Melgares's troops traveled.

The party traveled without incident on the right bank. The first perennial stream they would cross on this bank was the Purgatory River, which they reached on November 15. On this day Pike thought he saw a small blue cloud on the horizon and that would be the peak that bears his name today, Pike's Peak. Moving on they intersected a worn-out Pawnee war party east of present Pueblo and passed over Pike's "second fork," the Huerfano River. It was at this confluence that the Spanish force turned up the Huerfano and made an easy cross of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains at Sangre de Cristo Pass. This route had been used for many years and it was here that New Mexico Gov. Juan Batista de Anza crossed twice when he sought and defeated the Comanche, 1779. The Spanish later built a small fort here at the pass in anticipation of an American invasion. They made it to Fountain Creek which was the first stream entering the Arkansas River from the north since they passed Coon Creek soon after crossing the Arkansas near Larned.

I will divide Pike's journey into three parts. The first ends here at Fountain Creek. The second will cover that portion from here to Pike's capture in southern Colorado. The final section is from the stockade to Louisiana.

This first section is really unremarkable. Pike did as he was directed to do and most importantly showed the flag, enhancing the U S claim. The meeting at the Pawnee camp did not really accomplish very much. Much has been made of Pike demanding that the Spanish flag be lowered and the U S flag raised. Good story but. . .who knows? Pike had 23 men, the Spanish 300, so who made the bigger impression? I don't know what to say about Gen Wilkinson. We know now that he was receiving a regular stipend from the Spanish. This payment was likely for information. The Spanish knew of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and sent four military expeditions to find them. All failed, but Melgares's Expedition to the Pawnee Village provided a route for Pike, whom the Spanish discovered encamped near the Rio Grande in 1807. Pike was apparently unaware of Gen. Wilkinson's plans to join with Vice President Aaron Burr to create a new empire west of the Mississippi River. I think it's better to leave Wilkinson out of the story at this point, although his actions should be included in any interpretation of Pike's Southwest Expedition.

Pike made camp at or near the confluence of the Arkansas River and Fountain Creek. He immediately departed camp to attempt to reach the summit of what became Pike's Peak. He thought he could do it in one day. Six days were spent here as Pike used three days attempting his climb unsuccessfully. The party continued upstream in December reaching today's Canon City on 5 December. They stayed until the 9th.

Pike made his most important decision here. He was torn by three possible choices. The Arkansas was the middle stream and there was a creek coming in from the north and another from the south. He chose the stream from the north, thinking apparently that the Spanish force had gone that way. He had seen a campsite that he thought was Spanish. He not only got it wrong but very wrong.

Taking the route north brought him to the drainage of the Platte River in several days. He recognized that it was the Platte. He then went west and dropped into a river basin he assumed was the Red River, one of the streams he was told to find.

He ascended the river until he was certain he was near its headwaters. Remember that he thinks it is the Red as he shows it that way on his map. Descending the river in late December he turns east at today's Salida to follow the river. Things went from bad to very bad in the descent. It was partially frozen and the horses had trouble getting along. And his food was running very short. As the canyon narrowed deer became ever scarcer. By some miracle he did get to the mouth of the stream and discovered to great dismay that he was on the Arkansas. He was at Canon City once again and has wasted almost an entire month.

The party had no horses now but was able to hunt deer successfully. They were forced to leave two men here with a promise to return and retrieve them later. Finally they took the creek that went south. On foot now it was not too bad to move south and then confront the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Again leaving men behind but this time because of frozen feet, they finally crossed the Sangre de Cristo range at Medano Pass. The descent to the San Luis valley followed by a few days seeking a place to build a stockade. They built a modest stockade along the Conejos River a few miles upstream from that river's confluence with the Rio Grande. Pike was certain he had finally found the Red River because of the map he carried.

I'm not sure what to say about the middle portion of the journey. On the one hand, this is the most dramatic section with mountain climbs, wrong turns, and near disaster. Our friends in Colorado seeking to have the route made a NHT certainly find it the most important section. The key point in the section is the disastrous decision Pike made at Canon City. He must have sent men to continue

up the Arkansas but they likely met the Royal Gorge and told him it was not a good way to go. It was December and the river choked with ice so it was a good decision.

But as one stands at the river in Canon City looking west, up the river, one knows the Red River is south of here. So why did Pike go north? In his journal he writes that he thought he detected a Spanish camp to the north but that does not hold up. He did not report any Spanish camps between Pueblo and Canon City so why a camp here. It was simply a bad, very bad, choice and it almost turned into a disaster with death to at least some of his party.

Building a stockade along the Conejos River was a very good idea. He had left several of his party along his route north of there and had to send men back to retrieve them. Also, it was chance to recover from the ordeal of the past weeks. He was captured there by the Spanish and told he was not on the Red River, nor even close to it.

His trip south and the east under the Spanish is an important part of the story. I think that when his journal was published in 1810 the Spanish section is the most important. Frontiersmen in Missouri would read about New Spain and its many trading opportunities. And it is clear that those frontiersmen were reading his journal because they mention it, and they used his maps to reach Santa Fe.

One might ask why the Spanish did not send Pike back to St. Louis when he reached Santa Fe. They could have taken him north to the Sangre de Cristo Pass and bid him farewell. The governor in Santa Fe questioned Pike and then sent him south to Chihuahua where the military commander was located. He was extensively grilled there as the Spanish were still thinking the U S might invade New Mexico.

Pike's amiable relationship with his Spanish escort from Santa Fe south through Chihuahua is worth noting. Facundo Melgares, the commander of the large Spanish force in Kansas and Nebraska earlier, was assigned to escort Pike to Chihuahua. He was very generous with Pike, and they became good friends (they exchanged gifts when they parted). Melgares, by the way, was the last Spanish governor of N M and the first Mexican governor. He was the governor who welcomed William Becknell and party, Thomas James and party, and Hugh Glenn and party to open trade in Santa Fe, November 1821 to February 1822. It is most likely that his friendship with Pike was a factor in welcoming traders from the US at that time, a complete reversal of Spanish policy for centuries. The importance of Pike to the boundary settlement in 1819 and the opening of successful trade via the Santa Fe Trail in 1821 are perhaps the most significance reasons to honor Pike and his route with a National Historic Trail (much more significant in outcome than Lewis and Clark, whose journals were not published for years).

Three points to be made after Pike crossed the Rio Grande heading east with a Spanish escort. First, just short of San Antonio he mentions a river, the Nueces, the well-known boundary between the Spanish provinces of Coahuila and Texas. This is the very same border that the Texans ignored when they became independent and later President Polk would ignore when he picked a fight with Mexico leading to the Mexican War.

Several times in his journal Pike mentions meeting Spanish troops returning from the conflict in the east. That would be when the U S and Spain were facing off over the Sabine border. When Pike left St. Louis that conflict was unresolved and is an important factor in the Pike story.

The last point is when Pike and escort reach the Sabine River. The Spanish left him on his own here because he would be traversing the Neutral Zone. His expedition ended at Natchitoches on 1 July 1807.

My version of the Pike Story may be different from others but I think it works. If Pike's journey is to be made important it has to be more than some soldier wandering around in the mountains of Colorado. The fact that a few years later Pike is in command of the U S troops at the Battle of York which decided the War of 1812 can be added in an addendum.

6/29/2021

Mail - Urban, Lillis A - Outlook

[EXTERNAL] PNHT Letter of Support

[REDACTED]

Tue 6/29/2021 12:56 PM

To: Urban, Lillis A <lillis_urban@nps.gov>

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dr. Urban,

It is with deep appreciation that I am sending this letter in support of recognition of Pike National Historic Trail. This is yet another significant contribution honoring the rich history of Bourbon County, Kansas. Our small rural community is blessed by the economic impact of having Fort Scott National Historic Site.

As a community, we embrace America's rich history and will take great pride in being home to yet another story of America's growth. The Tourism Division and the City of Fort Scott is robust in promoting our region's context in American history, capitalizing on the opportunity to enrich and preserve our rural life. This concept is a key contributor to our survival as a small rural Kansas town.

Recognizing Pike's brave journey and bringing it to public attention allows future generations to honor those young adventurers who blazed the trail by sheer determination and true grit. An important revelation as we find ourselves unable to navigate the next county without Google Maps on our phones and reliable internet service.

Thank you to the National Park Service for preserving and protecting America's stories allowing citizens to fully appreciate those who carved the way for our great country.

Sent with enthusiasm for designation of Pike National Historic Trail from

[REDACTED]

Citizen of historic Fort Scott, Kansas

[REDACTED]



Virus-free. www.avast.com

<https://outlook.office365.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADc4OWQ3MDhmLWVmM2Q0NDIiNi1OTk5LWUyYjE3MWMzNDcyOAAQAEWb7FJZSxMknYFtqeG...> 1/1

Statement of No Significance to the Consideration of Zebulon Montgomery Pike
National History Trail

Submitted by [REDACTED] Ph.D.

Program Coordinator/Historian

Spanish Colonial Research Center

University of New Mexico

Recommendations:

- 1) **No Significance:** Zebulon Pike's second expedition lacks appropriate national significance to U.S. history, as the expedition did not have a far-reaching effect on broad pattern of American culture, and is questionable for elevation to National Trail status given its military purposes depending on violation of an international border. Despite this, it was not significant in terms of either exploration or as part of a military campaign. While Pike was lauded as a great explorer in his early memoirs, he was no different than many other explorers of the time (William Dunbar, Philip Nolan, or the Freeman-Custis Expedition of 1806, to name a few) save that he was arrested for violating the Spanish border following a path of exploration created by Falcundo Melgares, the same man who would detain him and bring him back to Santa Fe. Pike did not greatly expand U.S. exploration with this expedition but did fully intend to trespass on Spanish territory, making his second expedition problematic at best.
- 2) **Suggestion to Rename Route:** If National Trail status is still considered, it is suggested the trail should be renamed. Given the realities of the path taken by Pike's expedition, including the fact he was largely following trails blazed by other explorers, in particular Melgares, the trail should at least be renamed the Pike-Melgares National Historic Trail to better reflect the Spanish historical elements central to its creation in order to incorporate them into our national history.

Historical Narrative Supporting Statement of No Significance:

Zebulon Pike's second expedition was not significant to our national history or culture as Americans, and the trail that bears his name that follows his route is not worthy of being recognized as a National Trail. While it has been presented as a journey of exploration on par with Lewis and Clark by biographers of Pike, Pike's second expedition was primarily a military expedition with the goal of swaying local Native American tribes from their support of Spain, and to scout an invasion route into Spanish New Mexico. It was a mission of intentional trespass into Spanish territory during a time when war between the United States and Spain seemed very likely.

At best, Pike did little of note beyond being a military leader for one of the many expeditions taking place in the same period, such as the expeditions by Lewis and Clark, William Dunbar, Philip Nolan, or the Freeman-Custis Expedition of 1806. In fact, Pike largely followed the path of the Spanish officer who later detained him, Falcundo Melgares. Melgares in 1806 had already led a massive Spanish army of 600 men with Native American support into the area Pike would later enter, speaking to the various Pawnee leaders along the Republican river and along the Great Plains of Kansas and Nebraska. Pike's comparatively small expedition of twenty men followed trails already blazed by previous explorers to the Great Plains and crossed Melgares's path, following it for a time before turning westwards where Melgares had turned to the southwest. Pike was even told that the Spanish had previously passed through the area by Pawnee leaders,

who were resistant to being told they had to abandon their alliances with Spain in favor of the United States. As such, Pike did not break much new ground with his expedition and was not very successful at gaining the support of Native American tribes, other than the section where his expedition was “lost” traveling from the Arkansas River to the Rocky Mountains before encountering Melgares again and being taken back to Santa Fe with his men.

At worst, Pike was following the orders of the traitorous General James Wilkinson, a double agent for the Spanish and a conspirator with Aaron Burr’s plan to invade Louisiana to carve out an independent kingdom who had an interest in provoking a war with Spain to seize territory. Between 1803 and 1819, very idea of the Louisiana Purchase had been called into question as an illegal sale by Spain per international law. Spain had negotiated Louisiana back to France with the Treaty of San Ildefonso (1800), which specified France would in return assist Spain in claiming territory in northern Italy while giving them first right to take Louisiana back in the event this was not accomplished. France never followed through on the Treaty of San Ildefonso requirements, despite promising in a later treaty (Treaty of Aranjuez, 1802) to do so, therefore the original treaty was never fulfilled and Louisiana legally should have returned to Spanish control. As a result, Spain still claimed anything west of the Mississippi to have reverted to Spanish control and regularly intercepted American expeditions and settlers heading westwards.

The United States and Jefferson refused to consider the treaties between Spain and France treaties as valid as they pertained to the legality of the sale of Louisiana. Thomas Jefferson, among others, was eager to push American borders westward all the way to the Rocky Mountains and viewed the Spanish as too weak to properly control the territory. In a 1786 letter, Jefferson spoke of expanding into not just North America but South America as well, with America “the nest from which all American north and south is to be peopled” where his only concern for the Spanish was: “My fear is that they are too feeble to hold them until our population can be sufficiently advanced to gain it from them piece by piece.” Jefferson clearly planned that the United States would take Spanish lands, either by treaty, by military force, or by de facto possession by American settlers.

Expeditions by the United States into what Spain considered disputed territory was often met with Spanish forces being dispatched to turn back or detain such explorers. Pike’s second expedition was not the first to be arrested, though notably the Spanish were much more concerned about Lewis and Clark and other expeditions; the force under Melgares that arrested Pike had been organized and dispatched arguably before Pike’s expedition was even known to the Spanish, and, at that point, there is no evidence Melgares knew about Pike or was given orders to intercept Pike specifically. When Pike and his sick and starving men found themselves stranded in the cold mountains of southern Colorado, Pike sent a messenger to Santa Fe and asked for help. Then, Melgares was sent north to apprehend the intruding Pike Expedition.

Being aware of all this, and the high tensions between the United States and Spain, Pike intended to violate the Spanish border and lie to the Spanish about doing it, as maps of his route, and his own words making clear. The fact he was likely under order from General Wilkinson does not change that he fully intended to carry out those orders. It is this purposeful trespass that makes Pike’s Trail questionable as a National Trail, setting aside its lack of broad influence over American history or culture.

Early biographers, starting as early as 1810, hailed Pike as a heroic explorer, but even then, others expressed suspicions over the true purpose of his 1806-1807 exploration. One, Elliot Coues, outright stated that he was aware a military spy, a man named Robinson, had been sent with Pike, though he also allowed that Pike’s own motivations were unclear without specific evidence. There would be no need for a spy for a mission of exploration dealing primarily with Native American tribes; a spy would be needed for operating in foreign surroundings over the Spanish border, however.

But there is more information that strongly suggests the true purpose of Pike's expedition was not entirely peaceful exploration. Pike's insistence that he was lost at the time of his arrest by Spanish forces is countered by evidence that he had always intended from the beginning to violate the Spanish border deliberately. Tellingly, for example, in 1907 historian Herbert Bolton uncovered one of the maps confiscated after Pike's arrest in the Spanish archives in Mexico City. This map clearly shows Pike having marked the proper headwaters of the Red River well east of the position at which he was captured. Pike's expedition path on this map showed he had deliberately passed to the south of the Rio Grande towards Santa Fe. Pike was thus either aware of where he was at the time of his arrest, or he had previously drawn a map for his projected path that showed him knowingly violating the Spanish border.

Other historians have similarly questioned Pike's purpose. Donald Jackson, editor of *The Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike* (1966) suggests that Pike fully intended to go astray and "act lost" if he was caught. Evidence of this is found in the correspondence between Pike and Wilkinson, which outlines how such an expedition would be helpful in the event of war for invasion into Mexico (or simply to benefit Wilkinson's own desires to profit from trade to Santa Fe). Certainly Pike's own journal suggests he was thinking of the use of his route invasion, noting in one entry: "Any number of men. . . would find no difficulty in marching by the route we came with baggage waggons [sic], field artillery, and all the usual appendages of a small army." Pike also used outright threats of American retaliation sent to "gather our bones and revenge our deaths upon his people" to cow Pawnees already allied with Spain when they tried to block him from moving westward. Jackson, however, allowed that Pike actually could have been lost by the time he ended up at the Rio Grande, given the difficulties the expedition had experienced over the winter.

More damningly, Pike specifically mentions in his diaries he planned to lie to the Spanish if caught by saying his goal was Natchitoches, and that his expedition was unsure about river they were following. The excerpt below is found in Jackson's work with Pike's journals, where the part in italics was deliberately removed by Pike in his initial memoirs:

. . . as to the mode of conduct to he pursued towards the Spaniards I feel more at a loss: as my Instructions lead me into the Country of the Ietans—part of which is no Doubt claimed by Spain—although the Boundary's between Louisiana & N. Mexico have never yet been defined—in consequence of which should I reencounter a [Spanish] party . . . in the vicinity of St. Afee [Santa Fe]—I have thought it would be good policy to give them to understand that we were bound to join our Troops near Natchitoches hut had been uncertain aboute the Head Waters of the Rivers over which we passed—but that now, if the [Spanish] Commandt. [at Santa Fe] desired it we would pay him a visit of politeness —either by Deputation, or the whole party—but if he refused: signify our intention of pursuing our Direct rout to the posts below— this if acceded to would gratify our most sanguine expectations; but if not [would] . . . secure us an unmolested retreat to Natchitoches.

It's notable here that Pike, like many American military officers and politicians, insisted that the border of Louisiana had never been determined, ignoring decades of Spanish and French negotiations and definitions of this border.

In terms of his capture being a possible trigger for war, Pike went on to say:

But if the Spanish jealousy, and the instigation of traters, should induce them to make us prisoners of War—(in time of peace) I trust to the magnanimity of our Country for our liberation—and a Due reward to their opposers for the Insult, & indignity, offer'd their National Honor.

Thus, Pike understood this violation of the Spanish border might lead to his arrest, and even a cause for war, while putting any such blame for it on the expected Spanish response than his own for crossing into New Mexico. The United States had already made threats of invasion in this

period when Spain had restricted access to the port of New Orleans previous to the sale of Louisiana to France and had refused to sell its rights to the Mississippi and New Orleans to America.

Despite this hidden mission of Pike, however, the Spanish did not consider his expedition significant. The man who intercepted him, Melgares, had been sent out to search for other expeditions, such as that of Lewis and Clark (which Wilkinson had reported to his Spanish paymasters and urged to intercept, as well as encouraging the Spanish to protect her claims against intruders by force). The Melgares expedition was created well before Pike set out and was mostly notable at the time for his arrest. Spanish authorities in Santa Fe released him well before that arrest could be used a pretext for war but did not consider him anything more than a possible bargaining chip with the United States over the disputed Louisiana territory.

Thus, Pike's expedition outlines a period of time where the United States, looking at the facts, was behaving aggressively towards Spanish territory. George R. Mathews in his book *Zebulon Pike: Thomas Jefferson's Agent for Empire* argues Jefferson as well as Wilkinson wanted Pike to go into Spanish territory as a precursor to invasion; that Pike was a spy first and an explorer second. Stephen Harding Hart, Archer Butler Hulbert and Mark Lee Gardner in their 2006 book *The Southwestern Journals of Zebulon Pike, 1806-1807* confirm that Jefferson had sent out expeditions like Lewis and Clark personally, but it was Wilkinson who was responsible for Pike's expedition being dispatched.

In truth, Jefferson in this period seems to have been unable or unwilling to prevent American citizens crossing the border to settle on Spanish-held lands, something that politicians on both sides were increasingly alarmed over. In the time leading up to the Burr Conspiracy, Jefferson also encouraged tensions between Spain and the United States through what Cook calls "western restlessness as useful leverage in securing concessions from Madrid." This political gambit, allowing Americans to encroach on Spanish sovereignty unofficially, was part of what encouraged Aaron Burr in his conspiracy to seize American and Spanish territory to create his envisioned nation. Jefferson had repeatedly not forbidden and or blocked previous American encroachments; it was not unreasonable to assume Jefferson might ignore a *fait accompli* if Burr's forces were able to carry out their plan.

Jefferson's reaction to the Burr Conspiracy is thus suspicious, in that Jefferson seemingly refused to respond to either Burr's plans even after they were reported to him repeatedly, or to reports of Wilkinson working with the Spanish, until Wilkinson betrayed Burr and turned evidence against him. Jared Orsi in his book *Citizen Explorer: The Life of Zebulon Pike* has suggested that Jefferson's overlooking of Wilkinson's betrayals was political motivated, as at the time Wilkinson was busy testifying against Burr before Congress and Jefferson may have wanted to provide support to strengthen that testimony by claiming some responsibility for Pike's expedition. Jefferson was notably silent on Burr's expedition, even when he was repeatedly told of its existence and Burr's intent to conquer Spanish territory on the other side of the Louisiana border.

Thus, it is not impossible to say that Jefferson may have deliberately allowed Burr's plan to proceed, despite repeated warnings from officials and military officers. With Wilkinson, Jefferson may have felt it would be too disruptive to the country to investigate him; with Burr, it seems likely that Jefferson planned a *fait accompli*, where an unofficial force would cross the border and seize Spanish land. As the U.S. military under Wilkinson had made plans for war, and Pike's second expedition clearly was intended to find invasion routes into Mexico and to sway local native peoples to support America over Spain, it seems that if Burr had succeeded, a *causa bello* would have been achieved. Perhaps Jefferson felt this method was a better way of testing Spanish resolve than more militant pressure, but it is obvious that the United States planned and executed plans for taking Spanish territory, even setting aside the legality of the Louisiana Purchase itself. Thus, the traditional view of the Louisiana Purchase is best tempered with the reality of the pressure the

United States placed upon Spain and its obvious intentions to take as much as it could to push its dominion westward.

There is thus a reasonable argument to be made that Pike's expedition did not accidentally veer off course, but deliberately took the route he did to reconnoiter the Spanish frontier and the path towards Mexico from the United States. If he was lost when he was finally arrested by Spanish forces, it is undeniably that he had always intended to violate that border, both in his words and in the map found by Bolton. His expedition was exactly what the Spanish had feared would happen, an attempt by the United States to violate Spanish borders to scout an invasion route to Santa Fe, while attempting to sway local tribes to support the United States over Spain. As such, it is perhaps unwise to hold up this expedition trail as worthy of National Trail status, given the questionable and aggressive purposes behind Pike's second expedition. It is not a moment in our nation's history that was purely a moment of exploration and expansion, but a very real moment where this expedition could have triggered a war with Spain over American expansionism.

Bolton, Herbert. "Papers of Zebulon Pike, 1806-1807." *American Historical Review* 13 (July 1908): 798-827.

Cook, Warren L. *Flood Tide of Empire: Spain and the Pacific Northwest, 1543-1819*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1973.

Harris, Matthew L. *Zebulon Pike, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2012.

Hart, Stephen Harding, Archer Butler Hulbert, Mark Lee Gardner, and Zebulon Montgomery Pike. *The Southwestern Journals of Zebulon Pike, 1806-1807*. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2006.

Jackson, Donald, and Zebulon Montgomery Pike. *The Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike. The American Exploration and Travel Series*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1966.

Kukla, Jon. "Thomas Jefferson to Archibald Stewart, January 25, 1786." In *A Wilderness So Immense*. New York: Knopf, 2013.

Orsi, Jared. *Citizen Explorer: The Life of Zebulon Pike*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Pike, Zebulon Montgomery. *The Expeditions of Zebulon Montgomery Pike to Headwaters of the Mississippi River, through Louisiana Territory, and in New Spain, during the Years 1805-6-7*. Edited by Elliott Coues. Ross & Haines, 1965.

Salcedo. "Salcedo to Cas Clavo, Chihuahua, April 12, 1806," 1806. Spanish Colonial Research Center.

Sánchez, Joseph P. "Old Heat and New Light on New Mexico and the U.S. Purchase of the Louisiana Territory, 1762-1819." *New Mexico Historical Review* (Accepted for Publication) (2021).

6/22/2021

Mail - Urban, Lillis A - Outlook

[EXTERNAL] RE: Support for Pike National Historic Trail

heyitseve2@gmail.com <heyitseve2@gmail.com>

Sat 6/19/2021 10:09 PM

To: Urban, Lillis A <lillis_urban@nps.gov>

Cc: 'Harvey Hisgen' <harv.pike@gmail.com>

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Lillis,

I am writing in support of the Pike National Historic Trail. On January 4, 1807, Zebulon Pike entered the west end of the "Grand Canyon of the Arkansas" as the first documented visit to the Royal Gorge in Fremont County, Colorado. This event was so significant that 2006 Colorado Governor, Bill Owens, issued an Honorary Proclamation on behalf of the State of Colorado declaring Zebulon Pike's historic quests include "one of America's most distinctive landmarks, the Royal Gorge."

Pike climbed out of the Royal Gorge via the steep crevice where the Royal Gorge Incline Railway was constructed in 1930. In July 2006, Fremont County Commissioners and the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park honored Pike's achievement by renaming the crevice "Pike's Gulch."



Millions of visitors from every country in the world have come to the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park. I think they would appreciate learning more about Zebulon Pike via a historic trail through Royal Gorge Park that honors the 1806-1807 Pike Expedition.

Best,
Eve Nagode
Royal Gorge Bridge & Park Historian
Canon City, Colorado
719-431-2823

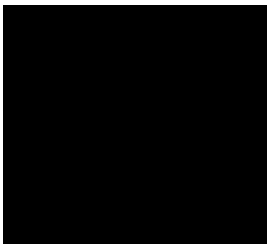
<https://outlook.office365.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADc4OWQ3MDhmLWVmM2QlNDliNi1OTk5LWUyYjE3MWMzNDcyOAAQAPcyb4sFmUm7syYOi2g...> 1/1

PIKE EXPEDITION SIGNIFICANCE

(Recommendation for adding Pike's Southwest Expedition route, 1806-1807, to the National Trails System as a National Historic Trail)


Zebulon Montgomery Pike's Southwest Expedition, 1806-1807, is not as significant for the route he followed as it is for the importance of what he did for national expansion. Compared to Lewis and Clark, Pike is many times more significant. Lewis and Clark had a fascinating journey, saw lots of country, flora and fauna, and many Indigenous Americans, but they had almost no significance for national expansion and development. Their journals were not published for many years, most too late to affect national expansion. Pike, on the other hand, published his journal and notes in 1810 and influenced several national developments, including the boundary of the Louisiana Purchase (Adams-Onís Treaty 1819), opening of the Santa Fe Trail (many attempts from 1812-1821, all influenced by Pike's reports on trade opportunities and aided by his journal and maps), encouragement of Anglo-American settlement in Texas (again, not successful until 1821), and later developments, including the war with Mexico and the Mexican Cession of 1848. In addition, his friendship with Lieutenant Facundo Melgares in 1807, with all the information Melgares provided that Pike included in his journal and reports which encouraged trade between the U.S. and New Mexico, was important when William Becknell, Thomas James & John McKnight, and Hugh Glenn and Jacob Fowler arrived in New Mexico within weeks of Mexican independence in 1821. Governor Melgares welcomed them, invited them to trade, all most likely influenced by his friendship with Pike in 1807. In the long story of U.S. expansion into the Southwest, Pike's Southwest Expedition, his journal and reports, and what followed as noted above, was a key factor in the addition of part or all of nine states in the present United States. Pike was significant far beyond his exploration, meetings with Indigenous Americans (he was important in the later U.S. relations with the Osage, Kanza, and Pawnee nations), and search for the sources of the Arkansas and Red rivers. No one person was more important in the expansion of the United States during the first half of the 19th century. Pike's route deserves designation as a National Historic Trail (much more important than Lewis & Clark's route which is already a National Historic Trail) for that national significance. If Lewis and Clark deserve a National Historic Trail, then Pike's route is at least ten times more worthy of the designation. I strongly recommend adding Pike's Southwest Expedition route to the National Trails System. The route was fully documented by  and many others during the bicentennial commemoration of the Southwest Expedition, 2006-2007.

The special issue of KANSAS HISTORY, XXIX:1 (Spring 2006) devoted to Pike's Southwest Expedition is highly recommended for documentation of the above statements. If you do not have that issue, I can send you copies (just let me know). I will be glad to answer any questions you have regarding Pike's Southwest Expedition and its significance.



From: Joseph Sanchez <jpsa@unm.edu>
Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 11:46 AM
To: Joseph Sanchez <jpsa@unm.edu>
Subject: Pike Statement of No Significance

Hi Lillis,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important undertaking by the National Park Service. While the idea expressed in the Feasibility Study does have merit, my "Statement of No Significance," spells out the reasons why the NPS should reconsider its position stated in the referenced Feasibility Study.

Joseph P. Sánchez, PhD
Director
Spanish Colonial Research Center
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Statement of No Significance to the consideration of Zebulon Montgomery Pike
National Historic Trail

Submitted by

Joseph P. Sánchez, PhD

Director and Former National Park Service Historian

Spanish Colonial Research Center

University of New Mexico

Recommendations:

1. No Significance: dismiss the idea of the insignificant Zebulon Montgomery Pike National Historic Trail for lack of appropriate historic significance. Although some historians tell about the importance of Pike's Journal, it was not published until 1810 and did not become an immediate best seller nor did it have an impact on the contemporary diplomatic debate regarding Spanish sovereignty to lands claimed west of the Mississippi River. Pike's Journal had little to do with the importance of Pike's expedition other than it was a good story. In that period, the U.S. grappled with Great Britain over maritime issues and U.S. expansion that led to the War of 1812. Too, the U.S. was involved with similar issues with Spain. Thus, Pike's expedition, other than intruding onto Spanish territory, had very little significance to the over all issues of the period. The Lewis and Clark Expedition brought the issues before diplomats and the public, not Pike other than his Journal. Were it not for Pike's Journal his story would not have been known such as other expeditions of the same period including the Philip Nolan Expedition of 1801, William Dunbar Expedition of 1804, and the Freeman-Custis Expedition of 1806, all along the Red River. Thus, some preceded Pike's Expedition of 1806 and one other took place that year. The Question is what makes Pike's Expedition more notable--other than it was publicized in his Journal?
2. Rename the route, more appropriately, "The Pike-Melgares National Historic Trail."
(Zebulon Montgomery Pike-Facundo Melgares National Historic Trail.
 - A. By adopting this recommendation, the national significance is that the Pike-Melgares National Historic Trail is a part of our shared national history and heritage with Spain, Mexico and Regional Native American Tribes. Our shared national story theme has great value and potential.

Historical Narrative supporting Statement of No Significance

A few weeks before Zebulon Montgomery Pike's expedition into Spanish claimed territory in 1806, Lieutenant Facundo Melgares led 600 troops and Indian allies from New Mexico onto the Great Plains of Kansas and Nebraska and visited many tribes including a Pawnee settlement along the Republican river. When Pike and his 20 soldiers passed through the area, they visited the Pawnee settlement and became aware of the Spanish presence on the Great Plains on the Republican River. It was there that Pike followed Melgares' pathway and used his abandoned campsites along the way. At that time, Pike and his men followed Melgares' return route toward the Arkansas River. While Melgares and his men continued southwest into New Mexico beyond the Arkansas River, Pike and his men moved westward toward present Colorado. Pike and his men, feared crossing beyond the Arkansas River because they realized that, theoretically, beyond there was a definite sovereign line defining Spanish New Mexico. The two expeditions, one by Pike and one

by Melgares, were led by military officers of different sovereign nations competing for the region west of the Mississippi River. Given the diplomacy of the period, Pike was a minor figure and his expedition, aside from his journal, was of little or no consequence. More significant, the Lewis and Clark Expedition took precedence and significance during the period 1803-1819 as Spanish diplomats charged that the U.S. had violated Spanish sovereignty by trespassing on Spanish soil. Spain correctly charged that the Louisiana Purchase was an illegal possession as France under Napoleon Bonaparte did not own Louisiana. Louisiana belonged to Spain.

Were it not for a series of succeeding events, the Pike's story would have ended there. The tale of those two expeditions and their respective leaders became more intertwined after the capture of Pike's exploring party near the Rio Grande in present southern Colorado. Pike and his men, under arrest for trespassing, were held in detention in Santa Fe and were soon taken to Chihuahua. During a portion of that time Lieutenant Melgares was Pike's guard, overseer, and guide. Thus, given the intertwining events, Pike's route, which largely followed Melgares's route should not be considered for Zebulon Montgomery Pike National Historic Trail designation. The only portion "blazed by Pike" was from a certain point when he left the Arkansas River to the Rocky Mountains south of Pike's Peak, which is a misnomer as he never got to the one currently named "Pike's Peak."

To U.S. readers, Pike's Journal revealed details which he learned from Melgares and his New Mexican officials about the Great Plains and the provinces of northern New Spain. Pike's Journal was published in 1810, and sparked interest in the U.S. to open trade with New Mexico. Before 1821, such trading efforts were thwarted as Spain retained control of New Spain (Mexico) but after Mexican Independence from Spain, economic results for both the U.S. and New Mexico opened up in 1821, when Governor Facundo Melgares welcomed the first trade expedition from Missouri led by William Becknell to Santa Fe. Tied to the old Camino Real, the trail from Santa Fe to Ciudad Chihuahua, became known as "the Santa Fe-Chihuahua Trail."

Yet, between 1803 and 1819, competition between the U.S. and Spain over domination of a vast region of the Louisiana Purchase, diplomatic negotiations were the main order of business. A critical issue in this pursuit of control was the establishment of the boundaries of the Louisiana Purchase. Spain refused to recognize the sale of Louisiana to the United States by France, claimed almost everything west of the Mississippi River, and prohibited U.S. citizens from entering the territory. The United States wished to push that boundary as far west as possible, certainly to the Rocky Mountains and hopefully all the way to the Rio Grande in the Southwest and the Pacific Ocean in the Northwest. The boundary issue was not settled until 1819.

Still, other than the issue of U.S. trespass on Spain's centuries-old claim to lands west of the Mississippi, Pike's Expedition was not even a minor part of the diplomatic discussions. In contrast to Pike's Expedition, the Lewis and Clark Expedition played a major role in the negotiations leading to the Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819 defining the U.S.-Spain boundary of the Trans-Mississippi West including lands along the Red River eastward to the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Northwest. The lands in present day Greater Southwest, bordering Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, California and part of Colorado were not part of the 1819 Treaty.

It should also be noted that when Pike returned to the United States it was as a released prisoner not as an explorer. Indeed, in the first leg from Southern Colorado where Pike and his men were arrested, they were taken to Santa Fe as prisoners not as explorers. Secondly, when taken from Santa Fe to Chihuahua along the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, they were taken as prisoners not as explorers. Similarly, when taken along the Camino Real de Tierra Afuera from Chihuahua to Saltillo and north to San Antonio on the Camino Real de los Tejas, Pike and his men were not explorers, they were taken as released prisoners.

Significantly, Spain paid more attention to the Lewis and Clark Expedition particularly after U.S. Gen. James Wilkinson in Louisiana, also a paid agent of the Spanish government, sent a secret message to Spanish officials in the winter of 1804 about the Lewis and Clark expedition's plans and recommended ways for Spain to protect her claims from U.S. intrusions. Between 1804-1806, Spanish officials sent four expeditions from Santa Fe to try to find and arrest Lewis and Clark, without success. The fourth of those was led by Lieutenant Melgares. To that end, in mid-June 1806, Melgares led his large force onto the Great Plains. Pike followed Melgares' trail. Thus, Pike's expedition, while part of U.S. intrusions onto Spanish sovereign lands was only one of several exploratory efforts to establish its claim to Spanish lands and played a minor role in those efforts.

Rio Grande Trail

There is a plan in the works to carve a 500-mile-long trail along the Rio Grande in New Mexico. This planning started many years back, and although little trail has been produced, lots of time and money have been spent. It all seems to have gone into hibernation since the pandemic started, but it is likely to be back, as a “gung-ho” response to any trail seems the norm—regardless of its feasibility.

Since I have lived, fished, hunted, and worked at both ends of our grand river in New Mexico for 50 years and think this trail is a bad idea: for the potential hiker, for the environment, and for legitimate outdoor businesses.

The cart came before the horse on this idea, because if you look at a map it doesn't take five minutes to figure out that – the terrain, the land status and river flow – show this to be an impossible effort; and since it will only be near a flowing Rio Grande a fraction of the time, I suggest a new name-- the “Don Quixote Trail.” That man who--while fighting through thorn thicket--imagined himself in fields of waving grasses, bubbling springs and shade trees. Don Q was a thru-hiker for sure.

The thru hiker of today is not the big spender the business minded folks behind the trail are targeting. I met a lot of them when I guided out of Chama; these are nervous folks who pace back and forth between Canada and Mexico. They do little shopping in between.

The 97-page master plan of the trail is 96 pages of well-done fluff and must have cost a fortune. It has few real facts, but one of those is that the Pueblos don't want the trail. So the planning commission—when faced with such realities--goes to extremes of fancy. For instance, since the Rio water is full of heavy metals the throng of hikers are gonna need water every 8 miles they suggest that they will simply drill wells. That's nearly 50 wells by my math—and maybe a 1000 miles of roads. And so many hikers are expected that good order must be kept, and to cut down on elbowing a “trail rangers program where volunteers hand out local restaurant gift cards or other rewards for good trail behavior.”

But let's imagine a few months of a thru-hike on the “Don Quixote Trail.” (You have, of course, chosen to do this in winter to avoid the 100-degree heat.)

To get a full international feel to your journey, start at the wall in Texas, just brace one foot against it and with a mighty shove leave the heartbreaking view of Juárez behind you. But good times are ahead because with the Rio is dry in winter, and you can dance right up the channelized ditch for the first 100 miles! The trail is designed to go through the few towns along the way in case you want to shop, eat – or buy a house and retire from hiking. They have all that at Elephant Butte Lake and Truth or Consequences. But you'll get to the north side of the lake and be glad to be out of that much civilization; but come up against a wall of savage wilderness. The roadless portions will fit the Don Quixote model well: cactus, mesquite, lions, bears, deer, oryx, bighorns, rattlers and wild cattle will have to give way to trail progress.

But the Bureau of Reclamation wildlife biologist might nix that, and if so, another route needs to be figured out. But as the nearby terrain is not conducive to a trail—and a Turner ranch is on the east side-- the best route is the old highway and/or I-25 itself.

No more wasting time with the slow routes and Albuquerque can be conquered in a couple weeks on a proper highway (no hitch hiking please). The city has trails by the Rio, but remember that it also has got that crime thing going, so you will need an urban hiking mentality--pack accordingly.

So hustle northward until you hit that massive expanse of Indian land and take the huge eastward detour through Madrid, New Mexico –a very nice town though nowhere near the Rio.

Although not on the trail map, the capital city is just ahead. With the throngs of hikers there will probably be some trick signage attempting to steal you toward the “city different”. A glamorous shopping destination that will leave you penniless—unless you figure out that the “trail” is really a disguised shopping extravaganza and flee toward the tranquility of the mighty Rio – off to the west somewhere.

Our proposed portion of the hike ends here for now, and yes, there are some sensible places for a trail heading further north. It’s just the lower 450-mile section that’s problematic.

Let’s hope all the money and effort spent for the Rio Grande Trail are being put to better use at this time of great trauma. But if the idea comes back, maybe gears will be shifted to a plan that works: perhaps highlighting the individual towns along the Rio and the great wildlands that are in the vicinity of these towns. That could be good for everyone and would not insult the economy and the environment.

There are no less than a dozen mountain ranges from El Paso to Albuquerque within 30 miles of the Rio – with sensible lands for trails, including wilderness areas and wildlife refuges and even some miles of legitimate trail along the Rio for day use. This should help business that need a boost; and books, trail guides, and outdoor-related stuff could be created.

I own a fly-fishing guiding outfit that has been booming since the pandemic started because outside minded people quickly figured that being out in the breeze is the safest place to be in a pandemic. Same holds true for hiking – but a trail has got to be boots-on-the-ground good, not just a dream of Don Quixote’s.

6/29/2021

Mail - Urban, Lillis A - Outlook

[EXTERNAL] PNHT Letter of Support

Jackson Tough <jtough@fscity.org>

Tue 6/29/2021 3:50 PM

To: Urban, Lillis A <lillis_urban@nps.gov>

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

To: Dr. Lillis Urban

The community of Fort Scott, Kansas is highly in favor of the Pike National Trails designation.

Why We are in Favor

Fort Scott, Kansas holds a rich historical heritage. The Pike National Trails designation would be a benefit to our nation, the state of Kansas and to the community of Fort Scott. National Historic Trails are an integral and impactful part of America's landscape. For millions of Americans, trails are a link to the outdoors and our history, providing opportunities for recreation, education, exercise and transportation.

As former US Secretary of the Interior, Stewart Udall said "A national trail is a gateway into nature's secret beauties, a portal to the past, a way into solitude and community. It is also an inroad to our national character. Our trails are both irresistible and indispensable."

National Historic Trails offer the opportunity to enjoy, visit, connect and understand our nation's history.

Pike in Bourbon County & Fort Scott, Kansas

On September 3, 1806, not far from what would later become Fort Scott, Pike entered present-day southeast Kansas. He had just completed his first major assignment from General Wilkinson, returning 51 Osages to their village in western Missouri. His next assignment was establish peace between the Kansa and Osage nations.

In 2019 Bourbon County Commissioners proclaimed an annual Zebulon Pike Day on September 4th to remember one of our nation's most celebrated explorers on the date his expedition party first trekked through the wilderness of the area later known as Fort Scott.

Fort Scott Offers Visitors an Experience

Fort Scott, Kansas is the home of the Fort Scott National Historic Site, a treasure for visitors and local residents alike. The 1840s military fort connects visitors with the lives of the soldiers, laundresses, the sutler, surgeon, and others who strived to create a semblance of home at a frontier military post; visitors discover what frontier life was about. The site is open daily for self-guided tours, ranger-led tours are also available.

<https://outlook.office365.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADc4OWQ3MDhmLWVmM2QlNDIiNi1iOTk5LWUyYjE3MWMzNDcyOAAQAJluw5BUND9GmY%2BI...> 1/2

6/29/2021

Mail - Urban, Lillis A - Outlook

The Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes educates and inspires by celebrating history's lesser-acclaimed individuals who have helped shape our global society. The center engages students and community in self-discovery, effecting positive change in the lives of many.

The Gordon Parks Museum honors the life and work of internationally renowned photographer, filmmaker, writer and musician who grew up in Fort Scott. The museum inspires creativity and affords an appreciation for diversity.

The community also features a variety of accommodations, restaurants and attractions including our Riverfront Park, Gunn Park, hiking and biking trails, bicycle and scooter rentals, historic trolley tours *plus much more!*

Economic Impact

The impact of the Pike National Trails designation is priceless to our nation because of the history it holds. The economic impact is also substantial. Directing visitors into the heartland, especially into rural communities means revenues to local shops, restaurants and other attractions.

Pike's Expedition is Important History

Needless to say, soldier and explorer Zebulon Pike is remembered for two expeditions that changed our nation. Pike's voyages into the previously unexplored western states are second only to Lewis and Clark because of his intent to expand the limits of our nation's boundaries. Considering his heroic actions in the War of 1812, Zebulon Pike was remembered as a military hero as well as a brave explorer of what would become these United States.


Given these facts, the City of Fort Scott, Kansas overwhelmingly and enthusiastically supports this project.

If you have any questions or would like more information please reach out to us any time.

W. Jackson Tough
Tourism Manager
City of Fort Scott
123 South Main St.
Fort Scott, KS. 66701
O: (620) 223-0550
C: (417) 321-2000
www.visitfortscott.com
[Visit Fort Scott KS | Facebook](#)

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

<https://outlook.office365.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADc4OWQ3MDhmLWVmM2QlNDliNi1iOTk5LWUyYjE3MWMzNDcyOAAQAJluw5BUND9GmY%2Bl...> 2/2



Lillis A. Urban
Chief of planning
National Trails Office
National Park Service
1100 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Re: Establishment of Zebulon Pike Exhibitions designation trail

NPS Question # 1 Sites-segments, or areas

This trail will get a lot of exposure in Lyon County and Chase County. Lyon County host the Glass Blown Disc Golf Open every year. This is the largest Disc Golf Tournament in the United States and brings in over two thousand people every year from across the nation and several foreign countries. A lot of golfers come early to practice then have idle time to explore.

Lyon County is also host to the Dirty Kansas Bike Race. This is a 200 mile bike race on gravel roads. This event brings hundreds of people to the area. A couple of years ago they added a 350 mile endurance race. This race is limited to 50 exceptional racers.

Lyon and Chase County co-host the Symphony of the Prairie along with several other Flint Hills counties. Some of the pastures, where this event has been held has been in the vicinity of the Pike trail. Attendance to this event has been limited to 5000 people and I have been told that the tickets are usually sold out in the first two hours after they go on sale.

When you leave Lyon County on the road to Matfield Green, you cross Camp Creek, head waters to the Verdigris River. This area is open range territory, which means there are no fences to keep the cattle off the road.

Each year the local John Deere dealership has what they call a Gator Run, which is mostly in the vicinity of Pikes Trail. People love to tour the Flint Hills. The money they earn goes to charities.

Olpe, Kansas has a legacy restaurant known as the Chicken House Café. On May 26, 2000 it was chosen as the best restaurant in Kansas by USA today. The article was titled "50 plates for 50 states" Several years later it was listed in the American Way magazine as one of the six best chicken restaurants in the United States.

Chase County draws a lot of tourist each year to see their historic courthouse. This is the oldest courthouse west of the Mississippi still functioning as a county courthouse. Several miles down the road is the Tallgrass National Preserve.

NPS Question #2 - Study route accuracy

I believe the National Park Service map that Have gave me is accurate.

NPS Question #3 - Affect on you

It will peak the locals and tourist's interest in, just who is Zebulon Pike. I knew very little about this man until I met [REDACTED] when he was in Olpe. He started sending me his news letter and my interest began to grow. In school we were taught about Lewis and Clark but nothing abought Zebulon Pike. After reading Pike's logs, I rate his expedition as an equal if not superior to Lewis and Clark.

NPS Question #4 Would you like Designation

I would like to see a Pike 1806 -1807 Expedition designated trail established for several reason. They include economic, recreational-health and education .

NPS #5 - Importance in American History

Zebulon Pike was an incredible man. A military explorer who gathered valuable information about the southwest for the government and a soldier laid down his life for his country. His story needs to be told and what better way to do it then to have a trail named after him to peak an interest in it.

By: [REDACTED]

APPENDIX D: WEBSITE COMMENTS

Pike National Historic Trail Study: Public Outreach and Engagement Questions

1. Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

¿Hay sitios o áreas en o adjuntos a la ruta que son, o podrían ser, visitados por el público para disfrutar de oportunidades recreativas o para la apreciación histórica (por ejemplo, senderismo o acceso al aire libre, museos, sitios históricos, exposiciones educativas)? Si es así, por favor cuéntenos sobre ellos.

2. Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

¿Opina usted que la ruta bajo estudio identifica con precisión la ruta de 1806–1807 de Pike? Si no es así, ¿dónde difiere? ¿Hay algo más que quiera que el Servicio de Parques Nacionales sepa sobre esta ruta y sus sitios asociados?

3. How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

¿Cómo podría afectarle a usted y a su comunidad la designación de esta ruta como un Sendero Histórico Nacional? ¿Tiene algunas dudas? ¿Qué beneficios ve?

4. Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

¿Le gustaría ver la expedición de 1806–1807 de Pike designada como un Sendero Histórico Nacional? ¿Por qué o por qué no?

5. Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

¿Cree usted que esta ruta es importante en la historia de los Estados Unidos? ¿Por qué o por qué no?

A total of 102 comments were submitted through the Pike Study webpage. These comments are reported below.

Corr ID	Correspondence	Receipt Date
1	<p>Topic Question 1: Yes. Canon City is a tourist destination by at least 300,000 people a year, plus the folks who come to raft, climb, hunt dinosaurs, etc. We are very oriented toward History and the fact that Pike was here, built a stockade for his men, and spent most of a winter here. He also spent a birthday in Howard, CO, 40 miles West, and my area of expertise.</p> <p>Comments: Topic Question 2: This has been studied extensively by Harv Hisgan, and others for years. I am ecstatic the NPS has decided to further the cause of the Pike National Historic Trail.</p> <p>Comments: Topic Question 3: This will only add to the excitement and information available to the thousands of people who come here every year to ride the Royal Gorge Route Railroad train to Parkdale, visit the Royal Gorge Bridge as well as the new Dinosaur Experience.</p> <p>Comments: Topic Question 4: Yes. We are at the beginning of his quest into the mountains. WE need to honor his heroic efforts at the age of 24 to document the entire trip, flora, fauna, and maps of the region.</p> <p>Comments: Topic Question 5: Absolutely. I do not think the schools are teaching history as a subject now, only in relation to politics and local media information.</p> <p>Comments: #1: I resent that we must have Spanish translation. America's language is ENGLISH! #2: Zebulon Montgomery Pike was an American, a gentleman and a military man. He is honored by having our most famous mountain in Colorado named for him near Colorado Springs, Pike's Peak. #3: There have been hours, money, sweat and tears on this project for at least 15 years that I have been involved with it through the Fremont County Historical Society and the Fremont County Heritage Commission. We urge you to continue to follow this trail and designate it as a National Historic Trail in honor of Zeb Pike.</p>	05/03/2021

2 Topic Question 1:

05/17/2021

Yes there are numerous interpreted sites along the proposed route, especially the lower Missouri River segment (Ft. Bellefontaine to the Osage River) where the Pike National Historic Trail (PNHT) parallels/overlays the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (LCNHT). The addition to interpretive material and Official PNHT signs along the same segment adds strength to both Trails. The "cross-over" by people following either Trail will recognize the importance of the other, adding to the appreciation of both explorations and the need to preserve both stories and Trails. This reasoning is true any place the PNHT crosses or touches other Historic Trails and Federal Lands or National Parks throughout the proposed designated route.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Yes, speaking from the view of "Corridor of Travel". It is not necessary to "stand in the footprints" of the members of the Pike Expedition to appreciate the values of their struggle to carry out orders while dealing with the elements of terrain, weather and communicating with the Native American Indians and Spanish people encountered along their route. The values of "self-sufficiency" and solving problem they encountered are still needed today and in every generation.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

While the PNHT will not have a direct impact on the address listed above (Lexington, KY), it will enrich the communities, state historic sites, and federal lands along the Ohio & Mississippi Rivers, where there is a connection to Pike's early life and the western route of the PNHT. Tourism is a form of education that in addition to the economic benefits for local businesses, teaches preservation of cultural and natural resources. As the communities recognize the financial benefits of greater tourism, there is a growth in "Community Pride" reflected through healthier communities and reinvestment in community assets that include parks and green spaces for outdoor recreation and improved health from exercise.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

YES!!!!!! The full story of exploration of the American West has not been told by NPS. The PNHT will be another efficient and effective tool in NPS assets to lead and support volunteers in education and preserving cultural and natural resources while the Volunteers, as defined in Section 2-c of the 1968 Trail Act, will support the NPS - PNHT administration. The PNHT is truly a "win-win" situation for all people, NPS, Pike National Historic Trail Association, communities along the route through greater tourism tax revenues, without an additional burden on the Federal Budget.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Yes, it helps complete the exploration story and the "opening" of the American West and the impact it had on the American Indian People and the relations with the Spanish and Indigenous People of present-day Mexico. Greater understanding of the People of all groups and their interest and concerns improves the lives of all people today. History is more than dates and place names- history is not "was", history "is" and is the base line for where we are today as people of the World.

Comments: Thank you for allowing the Lewis and Clark Trust, an Official Friends Group of the LCNHT, and me personally to comment on this very important issue that will benefit all people.

Respectfully,

James L. Mallory, Vice Chairman
Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc.

3 Topic Question 1:

05/17/2021

A I enjoy hiking and biking on Barr Trail to the top of Pikes Peak, it is remarkable to think Pike to climb this fourteener, being at the top of the Peak allows me to really appreciate that America the Beautiful was inspired here.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

From what I know of Pikes route this seems accurate.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

This could bring more tourists which in turn would economically benefit Colorado Springs. Private money from businesses, individuals and other sources likely could fund educational material.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

For sure, the State of Colorado needs to know more about its history and not lose it to developers.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

I think this route is just as important to preserve just like the Lewis and Clark route. It was a part of the western expansion history.

Comments: Thank you for looking into this historic route and considering it for conservation.

4 Topic Question 1:

05/21/2021

There are "Pike Sites" that are unmarked and significant to the public that may be enjoyable to visit. Some examples would include the "Big Bend" Christmas 1806 camp site, less than a quarter of a mile south of Squaw Creek, just a few miles north of Poncha Springs, Colorado. This site is also part of the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area. It is a truly historical site that has already been enlarged for river rafting.

Other unmarked "Pike Sites" would be the Trout Creek Spring (CR309) 150 yards from the bridge about 9 miles east of Buena Vista, Colorado, where Pike discovered the spring where Trout Creek begins. There is also an unmarked "Pike Site" very near a gazebo on the Old Stage Road in Salida, Colorado where the Arkansas River and the "Little River" meet. Pike camped here and made significant comments about the area and his trip, etc.

There are several other interesting "Pike Sites" that may interest the public.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

I am not as familiar with the proposed route as I should be, but recognize that considerations need to be made for auto route accessibility, etc.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

The designation of this route would affect our county (Chaffee) in a positive way. Historical tourism is important to our economy and helps to educate people from around the nation. The route sometime shares a pathway with Alan Robinson's (retired NFS Trail Planner) Stage and Rail Trail that goes from Salida to Leadville.

Pike also was the first American citizen to enter and explore Browns Canyon, which is now a National Monument. Pike's journey helped to add significance to the area. The County Commissioners are supportive of the effort to secure and develop historical trails in this county.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

I would like to see this trail designated as a National Historic Trail. This route would encourage people to learn about our history in a realistic and practical way. To be able to visit and view this route would illuminate the challenges and triumphs of the Pike Expedition.

From Eastern Kansas through Colorado, New Mexico, Mexico, and Texas this trail helped define the Louisiana Purchase. The effort to accomplish this feat is unreal. This designation is long, long overdue.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Pike was the "Godfather of the Santa Fe Trail".

This route is important in America's history because it highlights the contact of the many different cultures living in the Louisiana Purchase and beyond. English, American, Spanish, Ute, Osage, Pawnee, Tejano, French, and combinations of different ethnicities all lived along Pike's journey of well over 3,000 miles.

All too many mountain ranges, rivers, parks, geothermic wonders, and deserts, sand dune, and fantastic gorges were discovered, documented, and mapped.

With the signing of the Louisiana Purchase, America was established as a world power. This expedition also set into motion the Wilkinson-Burr Conspiracy, it highlighted the passion for Mexican Revolution. It showed a route by which the U.S. later invaded Mexico.

New fauna and flora were documented, and the very definition of desert was altered. From the Big Horn Sheep to the Black Tailed Prairie Dog, new animals were discovered and their environments were documented. A whole new climate was enshrined in mythology.

Most of all, new peoples, places, and opportunities were exposed. When Pike's Spanish hosts reviewed all of his papers, the one that they were most upset with was one of the simplest. It was a rudimentary map marked with a few x spots and dashed lines. It showed how to get to Santa Fe from La Charette Missouri. Pike had the first map of the Santa Fe Trail.

Comments: Since the time of the Aaron Burr Conspiracy Zebulon Montgomery Pike has had to withstand a smear campaign against his expedition. Now is a time to right that wrong.

"Zebulon Pike is an American hero, who lived and died for his country"

-Thomas Jefferson

5 Topic Question 5:

05/22/2021

Yes. For future generations to know the route and tremendous sacrifice the brave men made in exploration of our countries boundaries. The significance of Pike's southwest expedition is immense not only in establishing routes, but gathering valuable intel on the region and neighboring Spanish Army, forts and armament, in Mexico.

Comments: I believe the designation of the 'Pike Trail' will serve as a catalyst in educating many people now and future generations in the trials and tribulations of American Heroes in the early years of America. Thank you.

I Historic 1594 Las Animas, Colorado - Gary Ray Goodson Sr. February 1, 1941 birth town of Las Animas, Colorado and my first native Colorado home town.

Las Animas, Colorado History: Las Animas, Colorado is located in southeast Colorado and name of Las Animas is based on the Spanish name of "El Rio de Las Animas Perdidas en Purgatorio" - The River of Lost Souls in Purgatory.

Las Animas is older than Jamestown landing in Virginia and was established before the founding of the Santa Fe (San Fernandez) in 1594.

More than 100 years later the French traders found the Purgatorio River that flows from the Spanish Peaks near Trinidad into the Arkansas River was and re-titled it to a single word Purgatoire; later the Americans shortened the Spanish to Purgatoire or Las Animas River that flows into the Arkansas River at Las Animas.

II Visit the "Small Blue Cloud Memorial" Marker in Las Animas where at 2:00 p.m. in the afternoon and from a distance of some 170 miles that Colonel Zebulon Pike looking through his spyglass first spotted the mountain peak that looked as a "small blue cloud" that he named as "Grand Mountain; "that mountain peak that looked as a "Small Blue Cloud" that was to become known as "Pikes Peak."

III 1805-1806 - Lieut. Don Facondo Melgares; with rumors of Pikes Expedition, travels as far north as Canon City, Colorado looking for Colonel Zebulon Pike.

IV. December 17, 1806 Colonel Zebulon Pike, including Colorado's first doctor, John H. Robinson M.D. likely following the Middle Fork of the South Platte River into the "Bayou Salade/South Park" to areas near Fairplay' i.e. very near to Nationally Awarded Published Civil War Historian and Published Colorado Historian Gary R. Goodson's current home in Park County of the town of Shawnee, Colorado) Hartsel and exited south west through Trout Creek Pass, Colorado.

V. 1806 - Lieut. Don Facundo Melgares traveled north again; this time to meet and arrest Colonel Zebulon Pike and take him as a prisoner to Santa Fe; while in jail he hears meets with and fellow Bayou Salade/South Park, Colorado prisoner James "Pursley" Purcell of his gold discoveries there in Bayou Salade!

VI - 1821- Spain being overthrown by Mexican revolutionaries led by Augustin de Iturbide and New Spain in 1822 became the Republic of Mexico; the New Mexico Governor Facundo Melgares declared the province was now open to all traders!

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Yes! Excellent serious nonfiction (wanting no secondary or tertiary research) Colonel Zebulon Pike research and map research.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Yes! Very positive historic and possible financial benefits for the Las Animas, Fairplay, Hartsel and Alamosa, Colorado communities!

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes!

Comments: Topic Question 5:

“As I think how little we can hold in mind, how everything is constantly lapsing into oblivion with every extinguished life, how the world is, as it were, draining itself, in that history of countless places and objects which themselves have no power of memory is never heard, never described or passed on.”

by
W.G. Sebald

Comments:

- 7 Topic Question 1: 05/26/2021
Because of the rivers along Pike’s route, many areas of scenic beauty provide opportunities for hiking, fishing, rafting, and just pleasure driving.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

The study does identify Pike’s southwest exploration of five rivers and seven eventual states that are a part of America. This should be a part of what people from all over the world visit in America

Comments: Topic Question 3:

It seems tourism would generate many economic opportunities along the Pike National Historic Trail, with recreational activities along the rivers, museums, and historic sites drawing visitors into the areas.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

I would like to see The Pike National Historic Trail designated as a National Historic Trail because it tells an importance part of America History that has been omitted.

Comments: Pike’s exploration of the southwest is historically significant in that 5 major rivers are noted, including the Arkansas, and Rio Grande. The route also explores areas that eventually became the states of MO, KS, NE, CO, NM, TX, and LA.

- 8 Topic Question 1: 05/27/2021
The Osage Village State Historic Site in Vernon County, MO would be an excellent site to utilize for interpretation of the Pike Trail. In addition, the Vernon County Historical Society’s museum in nearby Nevada, MO tells a brief history of the Pike Expedition and the staff would be glad to include more information about the trail.

Comments: Comments: Topic Question 3:

I think most of those involved in the business/tourism/historical community would welcome this trail. My only concern is that one of the most obvious sites along the Osage River where Pike may have camped, Fort Carondelet, is on land owned by an insular church group that does not welcome outsiders and is frequently hostile to the Federal government.

Comments: Comments: Topic Question 5:

I do think this route is significant and worth developing as a Historic Trail.

Comments:

9 Topic Question 1:

05/27/2021

There is opportunity to connect existing trail systems to the Pike National Trail.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

I am not an expert in this area.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

This project represents an important role in our Flint Hills history and is significant in our American history. The route under study also affects areas and interests in present-day Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana, as well as Mexico. As you know, the Flint Hills is traversed by multiple historic routes created as western lands were explored. The Santa Fe, Oregon and the proposed Pike Trail are located within our Flint Hills region and are of keen interest to our Board.

The Flint Hills Regional Council (FHRC) is a non-profit, voluntary service association of local Kansas governments that provides services of mutual benefit to the region that are best gained from cooperation and partnership. Our mission is to enhance economic vitality and improve quality of life throughout the Flint Hills. The proposed feasibility study falls within our mission. The Flint Hills Regional Council consists of twenty-five member jurisdictions representing cities and counties within Chase, Clay, Dickinson, Geary, Lyon, Morris, Pottawatomie, Riley, and Wabaunsee Counties. A map of our region and member jurisdictions may be viewed on our website at www.flinthillsregion.org

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes. The Flint Hills Regional Council (FHRC) is fully supportive of the National Park Service conducting a feasibility study to determine if the Pike Trail route can be designated as the Pike National Historic Trail. At the May 21, 2021 Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Director's meeting, the Board voted unanimously to support the effort with the understanding that no rights of ownership would be transferred, participation is entirely voluntary, and non-federal land owners are under no obligation to participate or to allow the public on their land under the National Trails System Act of 1968.

This project represents an important role in our Flint Hills history and is significant in our American history. The route under study also affects areas and interests in present-day Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana, as well as Mexico. As you know, the Flint Hills is traversed by multiple historic routes created as western lands were explored. The Santa Fe, Oregon and the proposed Pike Trail are located within our Flint Hills region and are of keen interest to our Board, as it could attract tourism to the State of Kansas and spur economic activity.

The Flint Hills Regional Council (FHRC) is a non-profit, voluntary service association of local Kansas governments that provides services of mutual benefit to the region that are best gained from cooperation and partnership. Our mission is to enhance economic vitality and improve quality of life throughout the Flint Hills. The proposed feasibility study falls within our mission. The Flint Hills Regional Council consists of twenty-five member jurisdictions representing cities and counties within Chase, Clay, Dickinson, Geary, Lyon, Morris, Pottawatomie, Riley, and Wabaunsee Counties. A map of our region and member jurisdictions may be viewed on our website at www.flinthillsregion.org

Thank you for providing the Flint Hills Regional Council an opportunity to provide official comment regarding this proposed project. We look forward to learning more, participating in the study process and reviewing study results. These historical sites in Kansas are of great importance to our region and members, which have an appreciation and interest in this study.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Yes, personally I am from Texas, grew up going to Pike's Peak in Colorado every summer, and have lived in Kansas on two separate occasions. It is abundantly clear that this trail is important to American history, and it seems very logical that it would be recognized.

Comments: May 25, 2021

Lillis Urban,
National Trails, National Park Service
1100 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: Pike National Historic Trail Feasibility Study Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

The Flint Hills Regional Council (FHRC) is fully supportive of the National Park Service conducting a feasibility study to determine if the Pike Trail route can be designated as the Pike National Historic Trail. At the May 21, 2021 Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Director's meeting, the Board voted unanimously to support the effort with the understanding that no rights of ownership would be transferred, participation is entirely voluntary, and non-federal land owners are under no obligation to participate or to allow the public on their land under the National Trails System Act of 1968.

This project represents an important role in our Flint Hills history and is significant in our American history. The route under study also affects areas and interests in present-day Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana, as well as Mexico. As you know, the Flint Hills is traversed by multiple historic routes created as western lands were explored. The Santa Fe, Oregon and the proposed Pike Trail are located with our Flint Hills region and are of keen interest to our Board.

The Flint Hills Regional Council (FHRC) is a non-profit, voluntary service association of local Kansas governments that provides services of mutual benefit to the region that are best gained from cooperation and partnership. Our mission is to enhance economic vitality and improve quality of life throughout the Flint Hills. The proposed feasibility study falls within our mission. The Flint Hills Regional Council consists of twenty-five member jurisdictions representing cities and counties within Chase, Clay, Dickinson, Geary, Lyon, Morris, Pottawatomie, Riley, and Wabaunsee Counties. A map of our region and member jurisdictions may be viewed on our website at www.flinthillsregion.org

Thank you for providing the Flint Hills Regional Council an opportunity to provide official comment regarding this proposed project. We look forward to learning more, participating in the study process and reviewing study results. These historical sites in Kansas are of great importance to our region and members, which have an appreciation and interest in this study.

Sincerely,

Christy Rodriguez
Executive Director
Flint Hills Regional Council

10 Topic Question 1:

06/01/2021

Yes, in Jewell County, KS, the Pawnee Indian Village. This is a KSHS site. Lots of earthrings on the property and great interpretation inside museum on site. There is a monument to Pike, which likely should belong just across the border into Nebraska, however, the story of the Pawnee is significant and told well at this site. The site was originally believed to be where Pike lowered the Spanish Flag and had the US Flag raised for the first time in 1806.

Comments: Comments: Topic Question 3:

National Historic Trails are critically significant both from an educational and recreational standpoint. Never too many miles of trail (in my opinion)!

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes!

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Pike's expedition is one of exploration. I feel his expedition bridged Lewis and Clark and was a precursor to the Santa Fe Trail. I believe all trails originated with ancient animals who followed a course of least resistance. Native Americans would follow those ancient animal trails, then came explorers who reported discoveries. Commerce would follow, and lastly emigration and settlement. The Pike Trail would classify as a trail of exploration, which is significant to the later development of international trade with the Southwest.

Comments:

11 Topic Question 1:

06/01/2021

First two sites that come to my mind would be Hartsel on Hwy-24 and the fort where Pike was captured by the Spanish. Others could be the Arkansas River when he approached the Arkansas headwaters, his approach to what was later called Fairplay, his trail up the Arkansas River west of Colorado Springs and possibly on a public road near Mount Rosa, which he tried to ascend in the winter.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

The maps created include many sites by GPS coordinates to help accurately locate where Pike was on a particular day. Pike's records via his journal help locations, dates and events.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

The residents of Hartsel would be well-served to have an educational plaque not only at the Santa Maria Ranch (which is private and open for approved history tours) but also on Hwy-24 at Hartsel where visitors and local residents could learn about this history in South Park. Local Schools, Boys & Girls Clubs, 4H and Boy Scout troops could include Field Trips to locations along Pike's route to bring history to life for them.

The replica of the Fort he had built and later was taken prisoner by the Spanish is an excellent educational tool for that area too. Including the journal entry where Pike immediately lowered the US flag when informed he was in Spanish Territory again brings history to life to students today.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

The Journal of Zebulon Montgomery Pike gives us a detailed view of the hardships that the expedition experienced and how determined Pike was to fulfill his mission. The journal notes that Pike approached the mountain (that later was named after him) for several weeks. The elevation of the mountain gave them the impression they were closer than they actually were. It records how they tried to climb Pikes Peak in winter (actually Mount Rosa) unsuccessfully and continued as Pike notes how he lost horses and rifles regularly due to the cold. This history should be shared with people living near his trail route and with visitors to the area.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

It educates us on his mission to find the headwaters of the Red River and the Arkansas River and while he did not name Pikes Peak, those who followed his trail and journal started calling it by his name. It helps us realize that this young Captain followed his given orders in unknown and difficult territory to map a large part of the western United States.

Comments:

12 Topic Question 1: 06/03/2021

I think there are numerous things to see and do along the route and I assume a lot of these options are either undeveloped or underdeveloped at this point in time. The length of the trail makes this kind of difficult to respond. To me, seeing the desirability of developing this as the important aspect, carving out options that do not yet exist. There is so much potential sitting here waiting to be developed.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

I do not have anything to offer here. I just want to get out and see this beautiful part of the world.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I think designation would make this have official significance and would bolster the Pike Trail as an important part of understanding this history.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes, I think designation would make this history and the route meaningful to all the nations involved. Developing links and partnerships across the country is a really good idea and I see every good reason to move ahead.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Yes, I think this route is a very important part of world history that I am very sure most people do not know much about. This history is sitting and waiting to be discovered and it is our responsibility to get things moving. I read the journals a few years ago and I was struck by Pike's impressions of the Spanish colonial society and what those impression reveal about the time period.

Comments:

13 Topic Question 3: 06/08/2021

I'm all for it.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes, to preserve our historic places.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Pikes Peak is an American treasure, and being named after Zebulon Pike will easily jog people's memory for his discovery of the Peak, which will pose the questions of how and when it was discovered. It's a great piece of history.

Comments: I'm all for this project, it will definitely add value here in Colorado.

- 14 Topic Question 1: 06/10/2021
yes. I have visited numerous places that were once involved with the Spanish Frontier that relate to the story. Some of the most obvious ones are Santa Fe, Chihuahua City, and the Presidio of San Elizario. There are hundreds of other less well known locations.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
Many details on the specific route need to be analyzed in connection with broader issues of how already existing trails worked. Colonial era roadways mostly represent transportation corridors, rather than very specific pathways. a few specific locations can be identified, but many are inevitably approximations.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
I am a retired archaeologist and historian. My area of specialty is Spanish colonial military history and archaeology. I see the benefits of the proposed trail as mostly educational. The Pike expedition provides a useful opportunity to highlight both US expansion and the late Spanish colonial period.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes. The trail is a wonderful opportunity to educate the public and provide recreational opportunities on both sides of the border. It has the potential to increase heritage tourism in a dramatic way in the region.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
The route was very important for a number of reasons. It provided important military data to the US and Spain. It also traversed roads and trails that had been developed by both the Iberians and Native peoples. in that sense, it highlights the complex relations between the diverse groups that confronted each other during the expedition.
- Comments: This is a splendid project, well worth funding. I wish you well in your efforts. A very nice complement to the Anza Trail.
- 15 Topic Question 1: 06/12/2021
Of course Pikes Peak
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
We think it does.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
The impact in Longmont would be minimal. We used to live in Leadville, CO and it surely would help them.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Very much so. My school kids/students should learn about that part of Colorado history. This would enable being in the curriculum.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
I guess my thinking is that I need to learn more of this part of America's history.
- Comments: Your map shows two sections that are not connected in Mexico. We think a connection should be made and realize that section is not part of the US.

16 Topic Question 2: 06/12/2021
The National Park Service map sent to us by the Pike National Historic Association seems accurate. We have not checked the Pike journals but most of it is along sources of water including the Missouri River, Arkansas River and Rio Grande. This makes sense to us.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
We live in Door County, Wisconsin. It has little affect on us except to say that we look forward to tracing the Pike National Historic Trail when it gets designated.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Designation is important. We were surprised that the Pike Trail was not already designated.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
America's history should include this explorer Zebulon Pike because he explored both sides of Louisiana Purchase. His explorations should be included side by side with those of Lewis and Clark, his contemporaries.

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this.

17 Topic Question 1: 06/12/2021
Recreational opportunities abound in Colorado along the Arkansas River. We have found many sites for historic appreciation and have been amazed learning about Colorado's early history. Now perhaps we can learn more about why Pikes Peak is named for Zebulon Pike.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
Pike's route along the Arkansas surely is accurate as well as the Missouri, and Osage in Missouri, His route near the Cottonwood in Kansas and the Rio Grande in New Mexico would be accurate also.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
We would like to follow the Pike National Historic Trail.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
We think that Pike's 1806-1807 expedition should be designated as a National Historic Trail. He and his men earned the designation.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
It was and is important historically because Pike explored land for future states and gathered information used in 1821 and 1846.

Comments:

18 Topic Question 1: 06/13/2021
The Wet Mountain Valley is beautiful with the Sangre de Cristo Mountains on the west side and the Wet Mountains on the east.
Nearby are several fourteeners (14,000 foot peaks) including Mt. Blanca and Crestone Peak and Needle for mountain climbers.
Hikers and RVers can enjoy the Great Sand Dunes NP on the other side of the Sangre. The Sangre de Cristo Wilderness is imbedded in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. We have many festivals and bike rides including a bluegrass fest in July. There are a number of Amish people with their buggies in the Valley.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
YES In the Wet Mountain Valley.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
A National Historic Trail would bring in more tourist trade to Westcliffe. The Pike history would be better known with the number of roadside panels already here and more interpretive pamphlets.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes!, the history of the Wet Mountain Valley and the early years of Colorado would follow designation.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
I believe it is.

Comments:

19 Topic Question 1: 06/13/2021
I live fairly close to Fort Bella Fontaine and close to where Pike's route started. Actually, his first and second expedition started here and the first one up the Mississippi ended here.
I can tell you about the St. Louis and St. Charles area. The Katy Trail is a good example for recreational purposes. Wood River and Camp Dubois where Lewis and Clark begin their journey is interesting as well as Gateway Arch and Cahokia Mounds. St. Charles as well as St. Louis are loaded with historical items to appreciate.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
In Missouri the route is accurate.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
I would enjoy learning about Pike in Missouri.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
If others can have a national historic trail named for them, surely Pike should.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Important- yes Kids need to know more about Pike and his historic expeditions- both of them.

Comments:

20 Topic Question 1: 06/13/2021
The list all along the 2600 (or 3600) miles is indeed long.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
It is difficult to study for accuracy but it is reasonable.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
Very little except designation may trigger greater teaching about Pike in the schools.
Pikes Peak and the Pike National Forest (in our backyard) was named for who? Why?
Who was Zebulon Pike

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Absolutely

Comments: Topic Question 5:
We feel that designation would enhance economic and recreational opportunities
along the route. Tourism is a form of education and preservation of our National
history. Pike's journey was certainly historical.

Comments:

21 Topic Question 1: 06/13/2021
We can easily walk from our home to the Pike National Forest and use trails in that
forest to get to Guanella Pass, Mts. Bierstadt and Evans, both fourteeners.
We're sure the list is long especially along the Arkansas River. Just Google it.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
As sure as I could be. What is your definition of 'accurate'? Within a mile or 10? OK 5
mile accuracy.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
Very little in Evergreen but the affect in towns all along the route is great. Think of
preservation, recreation, economics, and education. People come from Europe, the
Orient, etc. to visit areas in the US they've heard about including the Grand Canyon
and Lewis and Clark Trail. Now 'Pike's Peak or bust' will have greater meaning for
everyone.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Surely designation is something I would like to see.

Comments: Comments:

- 22 Topic Question 1: 06/13/2021
All along US 50 beside the Arkansas R from Great Bend, Kansas to Salida, Colorado and then on US 285-24 from Leadville, Colorado to Santa Fe are sites adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation.
America's mountain can be easily appreciated.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
I don't know for sure.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
The affect would not affect Conifer directly but it would bring the communities on the route tourist dollars, educational opportunities. Chances for historic preservation would likely increase.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
YES!!! It is likely that General Zebulon Pike did more for America than others. In his life the discovered the headwaters of the Mississippi, Osage, Cottonwood, Arkansas and South Platte. He recorded attitudes and military information in Mexico and Texas. See Jorge and Mario's comments below.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Exploration of the Louisiana Purchase was the first thing that Thomas Jefferson sent military observers to explore and document. The people of the world were anxious for Pike's reports as well as those of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The route of Zebulon Pike is very important for America's history.
- Comments: When we were in the Grand Canyon we followed two girls from Australia up the burro path. We met others from Europe. The same thing happened when we visited sections of the Lewis and Clark Trail.
I would think that the Pike National Historic Trail would attract people curious about the south west as well as the Mississippi.
- I attended the Spanish Speaking Public Meeting with my husband and as was commented that
Jorge Carrera "Considero que no fue un prisionero común. En ... él gozó de relativa libertad." English- I consider that he was not an ordinary prisoner. ... he enjoyed relative freedom.
Mario Dominguez- "Considero que si, está travesía pudo informar a los estadounidenses de las condiciones del territorio mexicano para ser usado posteriormente en la guerra México y los Estados Unidos." English- I believe that yes, this journey was able to inform the Americans of the conditions of the Mexican territory to be used later in the war between Mexico and the United States.
- 23 As a member of the Pike family I would like to see the trail become a historic trail. 06/13/2021
It would provide more hiking trails in Colorado with a history. This will also provide more opportunity for the younger generations to learn about Zebulon and what he discovered.

24 Topic Question 1:
Interested in Missouri-
There are many sites and areas to visit in Missouri on the Pike route.

06/14/2021

Historic St. Louis
Gateway Arch
Fort Belle Fontaine Staircase
Fishing on the Missouri River and Osage River as well as the Ozarks
Other recreational opportunities abound.
The Lewis and Clark National Historical Trail.
Katy Trail (for hiking and biking)
St. Charles history areas and museums
Jefferson City state capital & museums
Appreciation of the Ozarks.
Truman and Bagnell Dams
There are State Parks near the Pike route like Lake of Ozark State Park with RV Parks
& hiking/fishing opportunities
Osage villages state site.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
The study route accurately identifies Pike's 1806-1807 river route in Missouri.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
While we no longer live in Missouri, friends and family do. They see advantages and benefits: 1 Economically 2 Educationally - The public, families and children can learn about history up close and recall is benefitted.
Pike after all explored as much or more than his contemporaries. Missouri as well as other states became a state after his expeditions.
We would like our daughter and son to be able to learn more with a designated route.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
YES. I have no concerns about designation. The Pike National Historic Trail would help communities economically with the tourist dollar. From an economic and educational standpoint the National Historic Trail would bring benefits and advantages to several states including Missouri.
Talking with friends and family back in MO, they would like to see Pike's 1806-1807 expedition designated as a national historic trail.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Importance in America's history. The French settled in many of these areas along the Missouri and Osage Rivers. Pike explored and visited many of them.

Comments:

25 Topic Question 1:
See comments below.

06/14/2021

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Yes, the NPS corridor of the trail is correct. Since public roads are used and not exact "foot prints," I'd be interested in what NPS will plan.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I deal in financial aspects daily and realize that this trail will bring economic advantages to many communities on the route. Communities like Lamar, Las Alamos, La Junta, Cañon City, Westcliffe, Alamosa, etc. will benefit with the increased tourist trade.

Our children should learn more about the early history of Colorado by going to places the Pike explored.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes!, the Pike story can attract people from all over the world and is part of the 1803 Louisiana Purchase Story. His exploration and journals opened up the American southwest to the world.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

The Pike story is part of the 1803 Louisiana Purchase Story which doubled the size of America.

Comments: Recreational and Historic Sites and areas that could be visited by the public in Colorado

Interested in Colorado- I went online

Federal

Bents Fort (La Junta),

Browns Canyon National Monument (Buena Vista / Salida)

Great Sand Dunes NP (Alamosa)

Pike National Forest

South Park National Heritage Area (Fairplay)

State

Cheyenne Mountain State Park (CO Springs)

Elevenmile State Park (Lake George)

John Martin Reservoir State Park (Hasty)

Lake Pueblo State Park (Pueblo)

Pike Stockade (replica) (Alamosa)

Royal Gorge Mountain Park (Canon City)

Local

Garden of the Gods (Colorado Springs)

Gateway Park at The River Walk (Pueblo)

Pikes Tower (Lamar)

Royal Gorge Bridge and Park (Canon City)

'Small Blue Cloud' marker (Las Animas)

Tunnel Drive Trail and Pike Marker (Canon City)

Recreational

Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area

Arkansas Riverwalk Trail (Canon City)

Camping at the Sand Dunes National Park, John Martin, 11 mile or other state parks

Fishing on the Arkansas River

Fishing on South Platte-Tomahawk State Wildlife & Antero Reservoir Areas (South Park)

Hiking around the Royal Gorge

Hiking-Backpacking on the Fourteeners

Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo
Pueblo River Trail (Pueblo),
Rafting on the Arkansas River
Historical appreciation
Pikes Peak America's Mountain (Colorado Springs)
Pikes Peak Highway (Cascade)
Pikes Peak "America the Beautiful" - Katharine Lee Bates plaque
Pikes Peak- Zebulon Pike Summit Plaque
South Park City Museum (Fairplay)
Christmas site sign (Salida)
Silver Cliff Museum (Silver Cliff/Westcliffe)

26 Topic Question 1:

06/14/2021

I have noticed that there are many national parks, forests and state parks on the proposed Pike National Historic Trail. While I am not close to most of them they are sites for recreation and travel.
Historic sites, educational exhibits, and museums also abound on the route according to Google maps.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

I have no way of knowing how accurate the Park Service has drawn the Pike route except in Missouri being on the Missouri River and the Osage River is a cinch. I would guess that where the trail overlays other national historic trails (like the Santa Fe Trail) that this is fairly accurate because these are passenger routes near water.
It's too bad that the international El Camino Real Tierra Adentro in Mexico is not included since it is not in the United States.
Yes, it is accurate in total.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I am still able to travel at 96 and plan to travel to several of the Pikes sites especially the ones I haven't seen yet. You can't keep an old girl down.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

By all means. People win, children win learning history, and communities win through the greater tourism tax revenues.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

The route is important to remember historically since people traveled and settled on and near the Pike route.

Comments:

27 Topic Question 2: 06/14/2021
It seems to be accurate. Perhaps some day the Pike National Historic Trail will pass this way as does the L&C National Historic Trail.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
Pike piloted Ohio River boats at a young age to supply America's frontier from Pittsburgh. This is right next to my home. I sit on the Ohio imagining him passing.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
The Pike National Historic Trail should join the other National Trail of that same time. Yes I am for designation.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
General Pike was a very important part of early American history. He was the son of a Revolutionary War commander- Zebulon Pike fighting with George Washington. Gen. Zebulon Montgomery Pike lost his life for his country in Toronto in 1813. A true hero.

Comments:

28 Topic Question 1: 06/14/2021
From our Arizona address there are no sites but we live in Houston, Texas part of the year where we are familiar with the El Camino Real de los Tejas. There are several sites North of us on the trail that are interesting. One would be the Caddo State site near Alto, Texas

Comments: Topic Question 2:
It is accurate in Texas. It is difficult to tell which one of the Spanish roads were used.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
For us the educational value is very important. The Spanish took Pike and his men all the way across Texas. Pike was the first official American military person to observe and record what Southern Texas look like. There were American traders in Texas and Pike met some of them.
Pike likely met the Caddo people because he met Dr. Sibley in Natchitoches, Louisiana who was working with the Caddo people. Lake Sibley in Natchitoches is named for Dr. Sibley.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Americans should know about Zebulon Montgomery Pike. It's not just a mountain called Pike's Peak. Most definitely a trail should be designated for him.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
General Zebulon Montgomery Pike is an important person in American history. He died a hero for his country in 1813 in Toronto. If he had not died it may have been that he would be one of our presidents, he was that popular and well thought of.

Comments:

29 Topic Question 1: 06/14/2021

When I was younger I worked in the Wet Mountain Valley under Horn Peak (Sangre de Cristo mountains) at a camp. I learned later that Pike spent four days there with 10 men having frostbite. Three had to be left behind unable to walk. It's good to know they were rescued.

We went hiking in the Sangre de Cristo mountains above the camp. We didn't have snow and cold (-10° F for them) as bad as they did. I never knew this until later.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

in the Wet Mountain Valley yes, from Grape Creek (where you first see the Sangres), up the ridge between Fourmile and Johnson gulches, around Bull Domino and Round Mts, back to Grape Creek "crossed the creek, which now bore east. Here we all got our feet wet." to a five day camp on Horn Creek, south along the Sangre and over Medano Pass to the Great Sand Dunes.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I'll go back and hike the route avoiding the fences.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes, We think this is worthy of designation.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Yes

Comments:

30 Topic Question 1: 06/14/2021

Living somewhat near the Arkansas River, I have seen the beauty of the trail as it enters the mountains at the Royal Gorge. I would like to share the view & experience with other people. The views in that portion of the Rockies as Pike saw it is impressive. The Sangre de Christos are impressive with the national park. Skiing is a big attraction in Colorado as well as fishing and rafting.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Yes, the corridor of the trail is correct.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I have no concerns, in fact a Pike National Historic Trail will bring more tourists to our state and smaller towns (who could gain the economic and educational/recreational advantages) from all across the Nation and other countries.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes!, The Pike National Historic Trail will let people of the world know that Pike should be remembered.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Yes!, The Pike National Historic Trail is important. As important as other national historic trails.

Comments:

- 31 Topic Question 1: 06/14/2021
Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Cañon City have many historic sites, educational exhibits, and museums as well as hiking and biking opportunities. When we first saw the Collegiate Range in the upper Arkansas we were amazed. Imagine what Pike and his men thought. The Royal Gorge in Cañon City is an amazing place.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
The study route in Colorado is amazingly accurate.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
My students should learn about Pike, other than the Pike National Forest (3 mi from us) and Pikes Peak. It is more likely that I will be allowed to teach a unit on Pike. - Rose
We love camping. Perhaps more camping areas will be developed. - Bob
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
We would love it.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
The route is important in America's history because it was part of Jefferson's Manifest Destiny.
- Comments:
- 32 Topic Question 2: 06/14/2021
I have no way of knowing. I have seen your maps.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
Designation would affect me and my community in the Chicago area very little but for those communities along the Pike route they would benefit greatly from designation because of the economic advantages of having tourists use their restaurants, motels and other services.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
I would very much like to see the bike trail designated. We need to preserve our history.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Lieut. Pike explored areas which would eventually become states, recording important information for the Government which was used later. Much of early history depends on men like this man.
- Comments:
- 33 In working with at the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area and closely with NPS, 06/15/2021
what history will be interpreted? Will interpretation include all parties (histories) involved? More of a neutral history? Or will the history be heavy on a particular party/history?

34 Topic Question 1:

06/15/2021

Yes, the City of Alamosa has over 24 miles of trail and over 20 recreational facilities which of many would be accessible to the route. The City is actively pursuing intra and inter-regional trail connections and greatly values historical and cultural preservation and tourism. The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage also would be bisected by the trail and on paper would be a tremendous resource and partner for this effort.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

I don't know the route well enough to answer fairly but I thought Mr. Pike did meander up the Rio Grande into what is now the City of Alamosa from Pike's Stockade at least for day trips or hunting purposes etc...

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Could bring more visitors. I am not speaking for our City Council but in general they are supportive of efforts like this. Benefits - historical preservation, economic development, increased tourism, historical education, awareness, pride, etc. We also believe activating a space (trails for example) brings better stewardship to the space; i.e. there might be benefit to the City trail system and connected open spaces. Generally speaking the San Luis Valley is an economically repressed area, cultural tourism and outdoor recreation are already growing; this could supercharge those efforts.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes personally, and again I am not speaking for the Alamosa City Council.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

I think so just like Lewis and Clark's and other similar expeditions. I don't feel qualified to speak on this enough to comment but even the story of perseverance is awesome. I do hope whether Mr. Pike generally treated all races, genders, and ethnicities with respect in his travels would be part of the criteria considered in creating this National Trail.

Comments: During our annual Rio Frio Ice Festival, we used to (2015-18 or so) have "coffin races" to mimic Pike's struggles up the Rio Grande! We hold an annual 5k on the frozen Rio Grande during the Festival which is a pretty unique race. We struggled with participation in the coffin races (complete with period costumes) but it shows the seeds of this effort are already here. Many people are already educating and celebrating Pike's incredible journey in the San Luis Valley. :-)

Thanks,
Andy Rice
Parks, Recreation & Library Director
City of Alamosa

35 Topic Question 1:

06/15/2021

I have gone about investigating many sites on the Pike route. I determined with college boys that Pike and three men in his party made it to Mount Rosa. He took the high mountain path up to Mt. Rosa, he and the other three, returning down Little Fountain Creek when they attempted to climb his Grand Mountain now named for him.

I am determined with relative surety his path out of the Canyon of Grape Creek when 10 of them fell into the creek. They got frostbite that night because the temperature was -4 degrees Fahrenheit.

I've investigated many other Pike sites.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

It's accurate for his attempt to climb Pikes Peak (I have climbed it) as well as the rest of the study route.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I would be very happy. This is a long time coming.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Absolutely.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

I consider the route to be important in America's history. Pike did so much in his 33 years for America.

Comments:

36 Topic Question 1:

06/15/2021

To illustrate the sites and areas for recreation and history, let me take Pikes Peak. There are at least 4 ways to summit Pikes Peak- the Pikes Peak highway out of Cascade, taking the Pikes Peak Cog Railway or hiking on Barr Trail out of Manitou, or hiking from Mt. Rosa, being reminded that Zebulon Pike attempted to climb this fourteener.

When on top enjoy the magnificent scenery.

Historic sites- America the Beautiful was inspired at the summit.

Hiking and backpacking in Colorado- you can actually hike up the fourteeners (14,000 foot) mountains Pike saw on marked hiking trails because of the Fourteener's initiative: Mount Elbert, Mount Massive, Mount Harvard, Blanca Peak, etc.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

The study route looks accurate. A larger scale map would be helpful.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

The benefits are considerable, from an economic and educational standpoint. The National Historic Trail would not only bring advantages and benefits to Colorado but also to the states like Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, New Mexico and Texas. We would stop along the Pike trail if it was designated because designation locations would be marked for the public to see parts of the Pike route.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes, Pike's exploration of the southwest must be remembered with the designation of a national historic trail.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

We think this route is important in America's history.

Comments:

37 Topic Question 1:

06/16/2021

Colorado is beautiful and has many sites as do the other six states. Where do I start a list?

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Yes, it seems accurate.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Not very much in Pennsylvania. Adding the Pike National Historic Trail would give Pike his just reward. Designation would recognize him and finally place him with others who have a trail named for them.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes General Pike deserves to be recognized in this way. He is a true American hero. He died on Lake Ontario north of here after winning the Battle of York in Toronto in the War of 1812.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Yes. America is replete with men like Zebulon Pike. He explored parts of the Louisiana Purchase making him important to America's history. On top of that he died for his country also important.

Comments: In America's history we find many men like this. Zebulon Pike was an extraordinary man. He explored two sides of the Purchase, made notes about the military outposts, giving our country and the world an extraordinary picture of the Mississippi headquarters and America's SW. He deserves a National Trail designated for him.

38 Topic Question 1: 06/18/2021
We have met people from all over the Europe and Canada when visiting Great Sand Dunes NP, South Park National Heritage Area, Browns Canyon National Monument, the Royal Gorge, Pikes Peak crest, and the museums in the San Luis Valley with the replica of Pikes stockade. There could be more historic interpretation provided later but there is a great deal of it already in these locations.
To the east on the Arkansas River we have seen Pueblo, Pikes 'sighting of the small blue cloud' in Las Animas, Bents Old Fort near la Junta and Pikes Tower in Lamar.
A trip to the Air Force Academy north of Colorado Springs is worth it.
Bike riding and hiking along the front range gives ample recreation. opportunities as well as fishing and rafting in the mountains.
It was interesting that a Pike quote is etched on the Visitor Center window at the Sand Dunes.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
I like what the Park Service has done providing accurate maps.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
We have no concerns. There is little for us when we winter in Arizona but back in Colorado benefits for communities educationally, recreationally and economically are many. This affects us (the Mertens) as Americans.
Pike National Historic Trail benefits and advantages imminent greatly like financial advantages for small communities in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and New Mexico when individuals and families visit the National Historic Trail spending money in motels, restaurants, gas stations, stores, etc.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Very much so. This trail would add to those national historic trails already in place,

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Yes. We feel that the Pike Exploration is as important to American history as others like Lewis and Clark in the same time.

Comments:

39 Topic Question 1: 06/18/2021
We are not far from the route. We are aware of many sites along the Arkansas River including rafting, fishing, and sightseeing.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
Yes.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
We would go again to visit the sites including the Royal Gorge, Sand Dunes, Pikes Peak, Brown's Canyon, etc.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes we need to have a National Trail like this in Colorado.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Route is part of America's history.

Comments:

40 Topic Question 1:

06/18/2021

I am most interested in the Pike expedition of the Mississippi River. I hope someday that will be studied and be attached to the Pike National Historic NHT. I provided for the Pike association photos and coordinates for Pike related signs in St. Cloud. I recently was able to step on the land where Pike's Winter camp was located in 1805 near Little Falls, MN and took new pictures of the monument. You see people still want to remember Pike!

I have seen many sites in areas along the study route that could be mentioned. Others probably have mentioned them.

I understand why there is a big gap between the two El Camino Reals since the National Park Service does not study Mexico. I believe that section is important. If the Mexican government can designate that portion so much the better. Much of it is on the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail in Mexico.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

The route on the Pike study maps are accurate for the southwest expedition.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I live in St. Cloud, Minnesota on the Mississippi River. The effect on my wife and I right now is minimal. But we are interested in the economic advantages the Pike Trail would bring.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes because it's part of American history. We are 100% behind designation and will work in Wisconsin for our congressmen to support the bill in December 2022. Our friends in the Pike association are keeping us up-to-date regarding the timetable. We in Central Minnesota believe that Pikes southwest expedition should be included with the explorations 1805 - 1807 of the Livingston and Monroe's Louisiana Purchase for Pres. Jefferson.

Also- See my comments above about Pikes first expedition.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Pike's Southwest expedition has as much importance in American history as his contemporaries who explored the Northwest. Perhaps more.

Comments:

41 Topic Question 1:

06/18/2021

Oh you know there are a lot of sites along the route being studied. The Ozarks, Pikes Peak, San Luis Valley with the National Park, Santa Fe and Albuquerque, San Antonio and Crockett, TX come to mind.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

The route certainly looks accurate, Even in Mexico it's logical. I do wish the Mexican government would consider making their part International and connect the trail making it whole.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I am a financial advisor. National trails provide economic advantages for smaller communities. I looked this up just to make sure and there are advantages national historic trails bring because the public spends their money in many of the communities along the routes. I'd like to tell my clients more about the Pike National Historic Trail because I know I'm helping those towns.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

It is important to designate the trail. Yes by all means.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

The route is important in American history because much of it ended up to be commercially important. Even today US 50, Interstate 25, and other highways on the route are used.

Comments: Thank you for collecting public comments.

42 Topic Question 1:

06/18/2021

We are familiar with Colorado. There are many sites along the Arkansas River actually from Great Bend to Leadville for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation. Being from Colorado Springs the Pioneer museum and Pikes Peak are favorites. For historic appreciation Bates and Pike plaques are on the top of America's mountain. And there is a brand new visitor center there. Even Santa's Village is on the way to the PP summit.

The Flying W Wranglers is a fun venue in the Springs. Other Fourteeners, the Royal Gorge, fishing and rafting recreational opportunities.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Accurate as accurate can be. We know that Pike and three others made it to Mt. Rosa on Little Fountain Creek. Back then Fort Carson was not there. His path would have been through there.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Now that we live in Mesa, AZ this is difficult to answer. We'll have to wait and see.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes, Yea, Yes. It's important to designate because Pike and his men endured a great deal for America. Their explorations were concurrent with Lewis and Clark who have a trail named for them.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

America's history includes exploration of the Louisiana Purchase. Our understanding is that two sides of the Purchase were explored by basically the same men. Hard to believe the Spanish took him on a tour of New Spain.

Comments:

43 Topic Question 1: 06/18/2021
We own a ranch north of Hartsel in South Park, CO, We believe that Pike was on our property December 15 & 16, 1806 after discovering the headwaters of the South Platte River. In Tomahawk Wildlife (Hartsel) there is fishing and one of Pike's camping sites. Fairplay, CO also has a museum where old homes and stores were moved in for display.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
Yes, as far as we can tell. The Park Service Study maps seem very well done.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
I have told others that I would like to show others the route through our property. - George

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Actually he not only discovered the headwaters of the Mississippi River, he should be known for discovering the headwaters of the South Platte, Osage, Cottonwood and Arkansas (Arkansaw as he spelled it.)
This is important in America's history as well as discovering and recording new territory.

Comments:

44 Topic Question 1: 06/18/2021
I enjoy sites like the Great Sand Dunes National Park, Pike's Peak summit overlooking Colorado Springs, etc.. Even though I live in the Phoenix area I have visited many of the sites that can be found on the National Park Service's feasibility study map. There are many areas that could be visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historical appreciation. There are too many to list.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
I believe that the study map is correct.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
The affect on me is minimal. When this trail is designated I plan on visiting the route with my family.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
This trail should be designated by Congress because it has national significance.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Early American history especially the expiration of the Louisiana purchase should be fully available to the public because of its importance to American history.

Comments:

- 45 Topic Question 1: 06/19/2021
There're so many sites from here in Bailey to Leadville, CO and down the Arkansas River all the way to Pueblo or Great Bend, KS like Dodge City which Pike explored. In Fairplay Colorado there's an excellent outdoor museum and also a bike path heading north out of Fairplay to Alma. People can see what Pike and his men saw when they went down trout Creek and saw the collegiate range. Those Fourteener's can be hiked. There's rafting in the Arkansas and fishing and so on.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
It certainly is accurate in South Park Colorado and up and down the Arkansas River.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
I believe we would start to see families and individuals visit Bailey, Fairplay, Hartsel, Buena Vista. We would profit economically from designation. The Park County Historical Society would get more play.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
We would be joyed over designation and the Park County Historical Society could help with historical interpretation.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
We believe that the trail route is important to America's history.
- Comments:

- 46 Topic Question 1: 06/19/2021
Meaningful sites for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation are plentiful all the way from Missouri to Louisiana. In Colorado the Arkansas River has many sites, up and into South Park and down to the New Mexican border we have National Heritage area's, historic areas like Bent's Old Fort and the Riverwalk in Pueblo. They dot the landscape.
In Bailey and South Park we do our best to preserve historic areas.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
Yes it is accurate. Pike discovered the South Platte River in South Park after coming up 4 mile Creek out of Canon City. They probably camped on the middle island of Elevenmile Reservoir. There seems to be a lot of accuracy.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
We will begin to see more visitors and the economic advantages which come with national historic trails. We will do our best educationally for the travelers to our area.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
I would like to see the trail designated because of the advantages and benefits given to the public.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Pike was a national hero and his Southwest Expedition was historically significant and important.
- Comments:

47 Topic Question 1:

06/20/2021

I enjoy helping preserving historical objects. There are museums and historical/ heritage groups doing this in our area. South Park City Museum.
I also enjoy hiking in Colorado. Above the Pike route are fourteeners (14,000 ') with hiking trails. Mount Lincoln, Democrat and Bross near Bailey; Mount Elbert, and Mount Massive in the Collegiate Range;
Fishing is good at Tomahawk, Jefferson Lakes, and Antero.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Yes but it's hard to tell on the Park service maps. I think the route should come South of Fairplay because he found the headquarters of the South Platte and South of Leadville because he found the headwaters of the Arkansas.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

We would like to tell our children about Pike and where he was by bringing them there.

The Park County Historical Society will help the public with information.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Certainly. Designation is well deserved.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Very much so.

Comments: I would like to thank those who allowed me to give my comments for this very worthwhile project.

- 48 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
There're many venues for enjoying Pike period music. My friends and I enjoy presenting at this music often times near the Pike Route like the Royal Gorge, Staunton State Park, and in Bailey this weekend.
Other places used for a concert / musical performance:
Sidney Gold Rush Days Sidney, NE,
Conifer Christmas. Conifer, CO,
Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, La Junta, CO,
Santa Fe Opera Company Santa Fe, NM.
New Mexico History Museum Santa Fe
We give many performances and we can be found on our websites: <http://timetravelmusic.com> and <http://www.songofthewest.com>
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
My friends from the Pike association assure me that the route is accurate. We just talked at Bailey Days.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
We would like to have visitors hear our music and become acquainted with the music Pike heard during his lifetime.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes. I said onstage this weekend that if Lewis and Clark can have a trail then most assuredly Pike should also.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
I have read the Pike journals and consider Pike's two journeys historically important. He died for his country.
- Comments:
- 49 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
Colorado historic sites are varied and diverse along the Pike route. They are enlightening. South Park City Museum [Fairplay, CO], Silver Cliff Museum [near Westcliffe, CO] Royal Gorge Regional Museum & History Center, & Museum of Colorado Prisons in Cañon City.
Colorado recreational segments/ sites are also varied and diverse along the Pike route.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
I don't know. The map I was given here at Bailey Days is too small to tell.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
I will continue to work to preserve our history.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes. Designation
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
What he did was important.
- Comments:

50 Topic Question 2:

06/20/2021

We believe so. I live very close to the South Platte River and five or six Pike camping sites near Hartsel. The accuracy here is very good.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

We in the Park County Historical Society are very much for designation. South Park will look forward to having the advantages of a national historic trail enter our area.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes- - the Pike National Historic Trail will compliment recent additions of the South Park National Heritage Area and Brown's Canyon. Since Pike camped in both areas in December 1806, the trail will give meaning to these two areas.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

The Park County Historical Society believes the Pike route is important in American history.

Comments: It was very good to have a representative from the Pike National Historic Trail Association with this today at Bailey Days so that we could express to the Park Service our wishes for designation of the Pike Trail. He and his wife were very helpful and many people commented. We understand that the Park Service needs to have these comments for the report to Congress. Let me assure you that there is a lot of support in the mountains North of the Arkansas River.

51 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
Since I am a railroad buff I should mention the Railroad Museum in Golden Colorado. There are efforts to restore narrow gauge railroad tracks, stations and operating locomotives at Boreas Pass, and Como Depot in South Park near the Pike route. Narrow gauge RRs were all over the mountains to haul gold and silver. Georgetown, CO has an operating steam narrow gauge railroad. Royal Gorge Route Railroad (standard gauge) Canon City into the Gorge - Pike climbed out of. Pikes Peak has a cog rail from Manitou Springs/Colorado Springs to the summit- The Broadmoor Manitou and Pikes Peak Cog Railway. The Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad (narrow gauge) 5234 US Hwy 285, Antonito, CO 81120 right on the Pike route with the wildest house you'll ever see in Antonito-Cano's Castle.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
It seems very accurate.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
We will get economic and educational benefits.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Very much so.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
History is important to me and this is definitely an important part of American history.

Comments: The person from the Pike National Historical Trail Association set up his booth here at Bailey Days next to the caboose I am restoring. We got to know one another and reminisce about how attempts to restore railroads in the upper Arkansas Valley were progressing. There is an operating railroad out of Leadville restored up to the mines at the headwaters of the Arkansas River which Pike discovered as part of his assignment. History has to be preserved or we lose it.

52 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
South Park National Heritage Area, Bents Fort, Browns Canyon National Monument, and Great Sand Dunes NP come to mind. Sites in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico and Texas also come to mind. The Alamo for one thing. The Pueblo markets in Santa Fe and Albuquerque are places that should be visited for their historic value and wonderful crafts sold in the squares.

Comments: Comments: Topic Question 3:
We have no concerns just looking forward to the benefits.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
You bet.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
It is important to America's history.

Comments:

53 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
The Pike National Forest right next to my home and Pike's Peak should be visited by the public.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
The maps we have printed here at Staples for the Pike National Historic Trail Association seem very detailed and accurate.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
We will enjoy customers coming into our store who are touring the Pike National Historic Trail.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes I would

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Pike AND the Trail are very important part of America's history.

Comments:

54 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
Go to the Great Sand Dunes. The Pike quote etched on the Visitor Center window says, "Their appearance was exactly that of the sea in a storm, (except as to color) not the least sign of vegetation existing thereon." after he climbed High Dune and saw the Rio Grande entering the San Luis Valley from the west mountains. He is even popular today with the Park Service.
We have the museum here in Fairplay and the valley it is beautiful.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
I believe so.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
The effect on me is minimal. But for recreation, education, historical preservation and economic benefits of Pike's 1806-1807 expedition route, seems to me, is large.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Pike's 1806-1807 expedition should be designated by Congress.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
I believe so.

Comments:

The route seems to have run through the canyon that is now Eleven Mile Reservoir and Spinney reservoir. and Eleven Mile State Park. This facility is one of the favorite areas in the state for gold medal fishing, hiking and other recreational activities, and can boast over 350 campsites.

One of the most authentic outdoor museums representing the 1880s is located only 10 miles from the northernmost point Pike's route travelled in Park County, Colorado. The South Park City Museum in Fairplay sits in the general area described by trapper Pursley (Pike Journal Appendix III, pg 17) as where, at the headwaters of the 'La Platte' river he found gold. The museum represents the life in a mining town that sprang from the re-discovery of that gold in 1859.

A monument posted near Como also commemorates the first gold workings in the area at mining camps Hamilton and Tarryall along the Tarryall Creek before the prospectors moved on to the confluence of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River and Beaver Creek, where they set up their new mining camp, Fair Play in 1861.

The route in Park County travels through the middle of the South Park National Heritage Area. It also passes through or by at least 3 historic ranches now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

One of those ranches, the Buffalo Peaks Ranch, while still a working ranch, is home to the mountain location of the Rocky Mountain Land Library, which is being developed into a residential library of more than 50,000 volumes of books that relate to the Rocky Mountains - geology, history, water resources, minerals, lifestyles, fiction. etc. In this setting, researchers and visitors can not only read about the Rockies, but also experience being immersed in the nature, culture and lifestyle of the very place they are studying. This library offers the opportunity for endless types of nature, artistic and other cultural lectures, demonstrations and festivals.

Following along the county roads that either trace the Pike Route or are very adjacent to it, travelers can see open spaces still home to buffalo, antelope, deer, elk, coyotes, bear, and other smaller animals as well as open range areas of cattle ranching. Visitors can see land that has changed very little from the time Pike would have seen it, and also see the way the land is still being preserved through conservation and occupation of modern ranchland and communities.

Not more than 15 miles from the northernmost point of the Pike Route in Park County, the town of Como is reviving the history of not only mining, but also the railroad in Park County. This town of about 35 people can boast no fewer than six sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places with a roundhouse, a railroad hotel, a depot, two school houses and a cemetery. Volunteers have re-laid narrow gauge tracks to accommodate the period -appropriate steam engine and train cars that ply its restored rail line for passengers several times during the summer months. Again, all this activity triggered by the news Pursley told Pike of gold being found at the headwaters of the South Platte River and being retold during the Pikes' Peak or Bust Gold Rush in 1859.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

The route shown does seem to accurately follow the route of the Pike Expedition through Colorado as can best be determined by his journal.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Designation of the Pike National Historic Trail would have a great impact on the economic health of the very rural areas of Colorado that most need the recognition that the Trail would bring. Most communities along the way are very small, very rural and very historic. With the exception of Colorado Springs and perhaps Pueblo, the communities are very small, but truly engaging places that would welcome heritage and recreational visitors who can appreciate the charm and beauty of these largely undiscovered assets for the state. Even school children can benefit, by being able to visit places near their own homes where it is possible that Pike or his men actually walked, slept and admired the same scenery they do from their schoolhouse windows.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes!! While much attention has been given to the Lewis and Clark Expeditions, Pike's work in exploring and reporting on the south western portion of the Louisiana Purchase is at least as important to the actual expansion of the US into the new territories. This would open up the long-awaited recognition of this historic trek into then unknown and now so important part of the United States.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

This is a point in history that changed the mindset of the American people about just how significant their settlement in this country could be to the history of the world. With the addition of the Louisiana Purchase and the explorations of that land by Pike and Lewis and Clark, the people began to feel there was no end to the opportunities they could offer for the families. With this expansion, it seemed there was room for not only the people already populating the area east of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, but for thousands of immigrants who could help develop this land into one of the most important in the world.

Comments: Thanks to the staff at the National Park Service for conducting this feasibility study and to the members of Congress who authorized the study. May your work result in the very appropriate designation of the Pike National Historic Trail.

56 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
There are many - KATY in MO, the Flint Hills in KS, Dodge City in KS, Pikes Peak, and so on - that should be, "visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. historic sites, educational exhibits, museums, hiking or outdoor access)."

Comments: Topic Question 2:
I have not studied this aspect.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
Northglenn is a bit of a distance from the Arkansas River and the 1806 Pike route. So there is little effect on me, but for all of those small towns in MO, NE, KS, CO, NM, Mexico LA and TX who are struggling economically it would be a blessing.

I would go back to those places mentioned in my first comment for another visit.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Kansas and Colorado should have a National Historic Trail traveling horizontally across the two states.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
I believe so.

Comments:

57 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
Not that I can mention anything important because I am from Idaho Springs which is quite a ways from the route.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
I was just told that the route is accurate and it seems to me that it followed rivers which makes a lot of sense. So for the most part it is.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
I would go and follow the Pike National Historic trail.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Designation is something that is not only desirable but appropriate.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
The trails that have been designated already are historically important. Let the Pike Trail which is as important be designated.

Comments:

58 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
Along the Pike route, I enjoy bike and hiking trails along the Arkansas and Rio Grande rivers.

Where Pike was there's river rafting, fishing, and scenic driving.
There are some locations which have been Historically interpreted and others are very much in need.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
As far as I can tell yes, especially along rivers.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
Little effect in Arvada but I'm sure many communities could use it tourist dollar.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
It would be appropriate because he was a good explorer and recorder of information.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
As important as many others.

Comments:

59 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
There are many- historic sites, educational exhibits, museums, hiking or outdoor access for recreation. Even though we/I live in Arvada, we try to see what is in the state on the Pike route especially in Colorado.

We/I have seen sites like Bandelier in New Mexico, went to the balloon festival in Albuquerque and stayed in Santa Fe.

We need to go to Texas and the Pike Trail would be an encouragement.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
I have looked at the Feasibility Study map. It's hard to tell about accuracy. The Pike Association site has much better maps. I would say they match in accuracy.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
A revisit is called for.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes very much so. Pike was an American hero and should have a trail named for him.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Important?- His exploration of the southwest and Mexico had his part in opening up the west.

Comments:

- 60 Topic Question 1: 06/20/2021
More trails less roads. Needless to say I love trails.
Hiking in the wilderness areas brings peace of mind.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
I can't tell. I think so.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
More hiking in the Mosquito and Collegiates for me.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Bring the Pike Trail on.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Yes because this expedition opened up travel to the curious about the southwest.
- Comments:
- 61 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
In our area recreational: Arkansas Riverwalk Trail [Cañon City], Pike National Forest, South Park National Heritage Area [Fairplay], fishing- Tomahawk State Wildlife, & Antero Reservoir Areas (Hartsel/South Park)
In our area Historic: Historic Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo,, Pikes Peak "America the Beautiful"- Katharine Lee Bates plaque, Royal Gorge Mountain Park [Cañon City]
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
I was handed the National Park Service Study route map. I needed a better, larger scale map. The fellow showed me on his laptop maps at a larger scale. I would say affirmative, it is accurate.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
Our community will be positively affected from an economic standpoint and an educational standpoint.
The person at the Pike booth suggested that the organizations in the area work (historic and service) with the Pike association to place more roadside panels with historical information about Pike and the mining in our area on 285. This would tell the history a little bit better.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Very much so, it would tie things together like the South Park Heritage area, Brown's Canyon and the upper Arkansas.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Exploration of the south west is an important part of American history.
- Comments:

62 Topic Question 1:

06/21/2021

There is fishing near me at Jefferson Lakes as well as a campground, trail and boat ramp. The Como Depot and round table is a place where the mining trains from down the hill were turned around. South Park National Heritage Area has several driving and walking tours. Fairplay has gathered stores, homes and mining buildings at the South Park City Museum to explain the gold mining era up to the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

The whole study route is accurate.

We believe that Pike camped just north of the Santa Maria Ranch (north of Hartsel) when he was coming up from Elevenmile Res., crossed over Tomahawk ridge where the Middle Fork crosses CO9, then down toward Antero and Trout Creek along 285 to the Arkansas.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

We will be affected economically with more tourists.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes because Pike is historically important. Gold mining developed in this area after he was here.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

The whole route is important because America found out about this south west because of him.

Comments:

63 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
We enjoy many of the areas that we are seeing on the feasibility study route map on the Pike route. The Ozarks are a place for recreation as well as areas around Bailey and most of Colorado.
We could list many more.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
It looks accurate but we really don't know where he traveled exactly.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
We would go back and visit areas we have not seen along the Pike route. Actually drive the National Park Service Route as others do the Lewis and Clark trail. Pike is important to us in Colorado because of Pike's Peak.
We would be affected positively as would the rest of the Pike national historic trail because it would bring in economic advantages.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
We would like to see the Pike expedition corridor designated.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
He was the first to explore two sides of the Louisiana Purchase and more in Mexico. The route is historically important.

Comments:

64 Topic Question 2: 06/21/2021
yes

Comments: Topic Question 3:
There are very positive historic and possible financial benefits for the towns on the Arkansas River like Great Bend, KS, Larned, Garden City, in Colorado like Las Animas, La Junta, Canon City and Leadville.
Many other Colorado communities would benefit like Fairplay, Hartsel and Alamosa.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes this is an important part of Jefferson's plan for expansion of the United States. He sent his personal secretary Lewis and Clark to explore part of the purchase. As far as I am concerned Pike did the rest exploring the Mississippi and the south west.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Designation is important so that we don't forget this important part of America's history.

Comments: Why wasn't this done earlier?

- 65 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
Looking at the map of Pike’s route, I would say that many recreational or historic opportunities could be listed like Pikes Peak, the Sand Dunes, the Ozarks, St. Louis, St. Charles, Pueblo, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, El Paso, San Antonio, Austin, and Natchitoches.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
I like to do maps and I have done some investigation along the proposed Pike Route. I have not found many mistakes so I say it’s accurate.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
My buddies and I may do some mountain bike riding in areas along the route.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
There should be a designated trail in that section of the United States. Exploration was done and it should be remembered.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Part of America’s history will be lost if I say something other than it is important to America’s history. Come on.
- Comments: Why wasn’t this done earlier? I think the Park Service may have screwed up.
- 66 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
We vacation in Colorado and besides the ski slopes there are many sites and segments to make you aware of. There are many recreational opportunities all along route as well as areas for historical appreciation which the public can visit and learn. I am sure that you were aware of most.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
Others of told me that it is accurate. Even our son Connor did a presentation when he was in high school explaining the route as well as who Pike was. He says it’s accurate.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
I would like to teach a unit on Pike to my students.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Please designate, Congress.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
This route is as important to American history as the 19 other national historic trails.
- Comments:

67 Topic Question 4: 06/21/2021
July 1, 1807 "Language cannot express the gaiety of my heart, when I once more beheld the standard of my country waved aloft!-'All hail cried I, the ever sacred name of country, in which is embraced that of kindred friends and every other tie which is dear to the soul of man!" Zebulon Montgomery Pike- - Zebulon Pike devoted his entire life in and to the service of this country: enlisting in the Army at age 15, then dying in battle in April 1813. His expedition to explore the southwest portion of the Louisiana Purchase is courageous and contributed to the America's central promise: the promise of independence. The 1806-1807 expedition designation would be the "bookend" and complement to the extraordinary achievements of the expedition of Lewis and Clark. It would be a fitting tribute to all members of Pike's expedition and would be an excellent reminder of the magnificent accomplishments of a true patriot whose life was dedicated to the principles and aspirations of those who founded this most precious and unique experiment in human history.

Comments: Comments:

68 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
To mention one area in Buena Vista, CO where Pike and Robinson went through on two days in pursuit of the headwaters of the Arkansas, almost on the Continental Divide- Cottonwood Hot Springs Spa as well and an Inn. In Buena there are two eating places we recommend K's and Eddyline.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
Sí por lo que he visto.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
Afecto / Beneficios - Económicamente y Educativamente.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Si, We attended the Spanish speaking meeting and agree.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Si, es importante.

Comments: We attended the Spanish speaking meeting and found it very informative.
It was interesting that the Mexican section came up. I hope that section can connect both parts of the Pike route.
Gracias

69 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
In Bayou Salade/South Park they do their best to preserve history. There is a City Museum in Fairplay and fishing, hiking and biking opportunities. All up and down the Arkansas these historic and recreational opportunities are offered.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
In December, 1806 Colonel Zebulon Pike, including Colorado's first doctor, John H. Robinson M.D. likely following the Middle Fork of the South Platte River.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
Living in Denver, not a great deal.
Trapping, gold mining in the Middle Fork, and history of the Ute hunting in Bayou are things children and families will be told about. Bayou Salade/South Park would be benefitted.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Yes, Pike did so much toward opening up the west.

Comments:

70 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
I'm just discovering some of those areas.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
I suppose it does because the Park Service are not a bunch of slouches.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
The effect would be little since I'm from Oak Lawn Illinois, but I do know that national trails affect communities educationally and economically.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
I just learned about this effort and from what I've learned I say yes. Pike was quite a fellow.

Comments: Comments: Yes

- 71 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
We have used many of the sites along the route for recreational purposes. In some places historical information is available but not a lot. We are hoping that there will be more. I know it's a long distance and I hope the effort to explain things better will be made.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
As far as I can tell.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
Educationally - Families, individuals and children can travel with more purpose. We will be able to learn about history of lieut. Zebulon Pike.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Pike's exploration of America's south west must be remembered with the designation of national historic trail.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Pike's route is historically significant especially along the Missouri, Osage, Cottonwood, Arkansas, South Platte and Rio Grande rivers. They were followed for many years.
The route had a far reaching effect on broad patterns of American culture. Migration and settlement followed Pike, trade and commerce, and further exploration was carried out on these rivers.
- Comments:

- 72 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
Living in Florida we are familiar with some Pike sites in the seven states, but we're not able to tell you more.
A Pike National Historic Trail will connect other National Historic Trails and the National Parks in the West.
- Comments: Comments: Topic Question 3:
I/we have no concerns, in fact a Pike National Historic Trail will bring more tourists to towns from all across the Nation and other countries. Motels, gas stations and restaurants, etc. will benefit from additional tourists.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes. We have noticed that American History is not being fully taught in schools today. The emptiness will be partially filled with the Trail because people can more easily follow Pike's route.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
We believe so.
- Comments:

73 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
We came to Bailey Days to start exploring Colorado. I am just learning.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
From what the fellow from the Pike Association showed us and from the NPS map he gave us it seems to match.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
I would like to learn more.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
In the short time I've learned more about Lt. Pike I am convinced - yes.
He really did explore both sides of the Louisiana Purchase, found 5 rivers, etc.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
We were shown information about Pike because I've wondered who Pikes Peak was named for. Oh my gosh it's as important as Lewis and Clark.

Comments:

74 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
This is difficult for me because I'm not from the seven states.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
From what the fellow from the Pike Association showed us and from the map he gave us it seems to match.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
I'm going to learn more.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes it looks from the Park Service map of long distance trails it would be appropriate and fill in gaps.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
I know something of Zebulon Pike. Know that he was significant in early American history. His route would also be important.

Comments:

75 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
Being from Broomfield I'm not that familiar with the Arkansas River Valley.
Pikes Peak of course.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
From what the fellow from the Pike Association showed us and from the map he
gave us it seems to match.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
I don't know.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes it would be asset for the Park Service trails

Comments: Topic Question 5:
I believe so.

Comments:

76 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
In Mexico as well as Santa Fe and Albuquerque there are many old churches and
plazas that Pike likely saw or was in.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
I do know that Lieut. Pike became friends with Spanish Lieut Facondo Melgares
even though Pike was his prisoner. {They didn't know that Pike had been promoted
to Colonel Zebulon Pike.} Earlier Melgares was commander of the Spanish troops
looking for Pike at the Pawnee village.
So I know that the Pawnee part and the New Spain part of the route is accurate.
They even attended fandango's together.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
I suppose I'm going to learn more and not just the part of our friendship.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes it should be designated because Pike was a great man as we're others in that
time period and an effective leader.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
The route was important because I believe Pike got information used in the Mexican
Revolution. Cinco de Mayo!

Comments:

- 77 Topic Question 1: 06/21/2021
I'm from Broomfield. I would like to know about sites other than the Royal Gorge and Pikes Peak that could be visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation.
The Air Force Academy is another- good place.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
I'm told the route is accurate.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
I'd like to go to the many sites and segments I will find out about.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes he explored the southwest early and should be given more credit.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Yes it is important to history in the 1800's.
- Comments:
- 78 Topic Question 1: 06/22/2021
Being from Portland I'm starting to learn. I know of places in Missouri, Colorado and New Mexico.
- Comments: Comments: Topic Question 3:
I am starting my bucket list.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes definitely.
- Comments: Comments: The Oregon Trail ends in Portland. We meet people exploring that national trail. I think the Pike Trail would likely be visited and have the same benefits we enjoy.
Visitors along the popular Lewis and Clark trail also spend money in that route and so it will be with the Pike trail.
There are recreational, educational and economic advantages.

- 79 Topic Question 1: 06/22/2021
I know of places in Missouri, Colorado and New Mexico.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
Yes
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
Portland- not at all but it would affect many on the route.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes Pike had a lot to do with recording important facts about the west.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
As important as others.
- Comments: The Oregon Trail ends in Portland. People explore that national trail. We think the Pike Trail would likely be visited and have the same benefits we in Portland enjoy.
Visitors along the popular Lewis and Clark trail also spend money in that route it will be with the Pike trail.
There are/would be recreational, educational and economic advantages for everyone.
- 80 Topic Question 1: 06/22/2021
Near Pine is Mt. Evans and Mt Bierstadt, both 14,000 ft mountains as well as Mt. Bross, Lincoln Democrat near Alma, CO and those in the Collegiate Range for climbing and hiking.
There are many museums on the route where history is told.
- Comments: Comments: Topic Question 3:
I will keep informed and continue to bring friends here for the Pike National Historic Trail.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes. I fully support trail expansion/ development. The public should like this trail.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Zebulon Pike is important historically.
- Comments:

- 81 Topic Question 1: 06/22/2021
I love being in the mountains. The Rockies in Colorado where Pike explored could be visited. Sandia Peak and the Cibola NF in Albuquerque with the tram and balloon festival are special.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
Close enough.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
I have some touring to do.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Certainly.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Definitely.
- Comments: I hope this will help.
- 82 Topic Question 1: 06/22/2021
The states on the route have many sites to visit. I visited Bailey, CO today because of Bailey Days and was able to get out into the mountains.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
Looks good.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
The benefits for smaller communities can be appreciable. For me and Denver or other states tax dollars can be used for recreational purposes as well as historic preservation. People visit the towns along the National trails. National Parks are an attraction to people from around the world. They/I spend money.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes- It has its place with other national trails.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
YES
- Comments: Thanks for the effort.

- 83 Topic Question 1: 06/22/2021
A few for the public:
- South Park National Heritage Area in Fairplay, Browns Canyon National Monument between Buena Vista & Salida, Pikes Peak, Great Sand Dunes National Park have recreational opportunities or historic information. Colorado
- Ozarks- Missouri; Great Plains and Cheyenne Bottoms - Kansas; Pawnee Village - Nebraska; Santa Fe, Taos and Albuquerque plazas and museums.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
Basically unknown The whole of the route as shown us on the NPS Study maps appears accurate.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
There are very positive historic and financial benefits for the whole of the route.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes, Let us not forget this part of history.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
I know so. Early America was growing and lands had to be explored and the growing population needed information about the southwest.
- Comments:
- 84 Topic Question 1: 06/22/2021
Perfect as a National Historic Trail for a great outdoor experience. Many diversions along the way to enhance the experience.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
It appears to follow Pike's route and that adds to a perfect outdoor experience.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
I think the designation as a National Historic Trail will keep the route preserved from encroachment and allow for people to assist in making a better place, either by donations of money or work to enhance the route.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
I would like that, since designations like this will keep the route sacred and free from other interests;
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Pike's exploration enhances the overall history of the region and is vital to understand how it relates to that period of time.
- Comments: No additional comments at this time

- 85 Topic Question 1: 06/23/2021
 In Salida there is fishing in the Arkansas River- the same one Pike fished.
 White water rafting and mountain climbing is popular. The scenery is wonderful.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
 Little in Arizona, but in Colorado greatly.
- Comments: Comments: Topic Question 4:
 Yes his route deserves designation. Look what he did for America.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
 Yes
- Comments:
- 86 Topic Question 1: 06/23/2021
 Silver Cliff has a museum. Pike was in Silver Cliff/Westcliffe and the Wet Mountain Valley January 15-26, 1806. They spent their hardest days here with 3 men left in the Valley because of frostbite. They were rescued.)
 Beside the Museum is a plaque listing the men in the Pike party.
 In Westcliffe there is a Pike Roadside panel as well as 8 others in the Valley.
 There are 4 Pike roadside panels in the San Luis Valley and 5 in the Upper Ark River Valley.
 This area is known for its mining.
 We have covered a lot of history here.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
 In the Wet Mountain Valley yes. Many experts have correctly plotted Pike's footsteps including a Custer County Commissioner and professional surveyor.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
 A National Historic Trail would bring in more tourists to spend money in our restaurants, motel and several RV parks. Lord knows we need the tourist trade.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
 Yes!, the Pike story needs to be told especially the 11 days they endured for America in the Wet Mountain Valley of Colorado.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
 I believe so. The information he recorded and shared with the world was important. Yes Manifest Destiny was inevitable and Pike was one of the first to fix Jefferson's plan.
- Comments: Custer County Historical Society published a calendar in 2007 that have two references to Pike's presence in Custer County and the documentary film "The Blue Mountain" by John Henry Johnson shows Pike during a blizzard at Grape Creek and there have been Horseback rides along parts of the route he was believed to have taken

87 Topic Question 1: 06/23/2021
There are sites in Kansas which I have documented with narrative and photos. They can be found on the Pike Association website: zebulonpike.org . In 2006 I was a member of a team with Dr. Clive Siegle and Hal Jackson for the Santa Fe Association's celebration of the Pike Bicentennial. We documented the Pike Southwest Expedition with commentary and photos. They also can be found posted on the Pike website: zebulonpike.org .

Comments: Topic Question 2:
The Santa Fe Association's Pike Bicentennial team (mentioned in comment for Q1) was very meticulous in our plotting of Pike's route consulting Elliot Coues and Don Jackson's editions of Pike's journals. The maps on the Pike association website are very accurate.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
It would be a pleasure for me.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Very much so. When the Pike National Historic Trail Association was founded in 2007 in Trinidad Colorado, I was one of the founding members along with Dr. Clive Siegel, John Murphy and Harvey Hisgen. For 14 years we say yes.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Like the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, the Pike Trail is important to American history.

Comments:

88 Topic Question 4: 06/24/2021
Yes. Zebulon Pike, one of my ancestors, gave his name to the most prominent land feature in Colorado, that of Pikes Peak near Colorado Springs. It is wholly appropriate for a national historic trail to be established that follows the route of his historic exploration of the southwest.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Yes, it is. Other than the Lewis & Clark expedition, Pike's journey was the most important up to that time and allowed the United States to map that portion of the Louisiana Purchase. His efforts were invaluable to the understanding of the vast reaches of what became the southwestern U.S.

Comments:

- 89 Topic Question 1: 06/25/2021
The Upper Arkansas has many sites for the public to visit for recreation and historic appreciation.
The Royal Gorge features both history and recreation with America's highest suspension bridge, Zip Line, and Skycoaster, nearby white water rafting, hotels and RV camping.
The Valley has historic roadside panels placed by the Pike NHT Association.
A trip to Salida, Buena Vista and Leadville has mountain vistas, museums, hiking up the Fourteeners, and train rides to the mines at the headwaters.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
Pike followed the Arkansas River from Great Bend, KS to Leadville, CO. Much of the Pike route was beside US 50, US 285 and 24. That section is accurate.
Sections in Missouri and most of Kansas are accurate as well as I-25 and US 285 in New Mexico. Yes very accurate.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
Small towns (like Cañon City) will certainly benefit tourist dollars. The public will be able to learn about Pike and historic preservation will likely be encouraged.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Pike should be recognized for his exploration. The Pike route should be designated.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
He was in the forefront of exploring America's new south and southwest.

- Comments:
- 90 Topic Question 1: 06/25/2021
I know that there is an historical marker on US 285 just north of Salida where Pike and his crew spent some time snowed in during the winter, I believe 1806-1807, I am sure there must be portions of the trail that are on NFS or BLM land for lots of hiking opportunities, but I do not know where those are since I do not know the exact route.
- Comments: Topic Question 2:
I do not know the exact route so I have nothing to add here.
- Comments: Topic Question 3:
I do not see any effect on my community, neither pro nor con, since I do not believe we are on the exact route (I believe it is south of me). But I think the designation would be important for its historical significance, and with so much of the area being publicly owned, it should provide lots of access to portions of the trail.
- Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes, yes, yes! I think it was a very important part of the history of exploring and mapping the west, as important in this part of the country as the Lewis & Clark trail which is mostly north of here. I have also spent time, including recently, at the Buffalo Peaks Ranch portion of the route because of some locals that educated me on that. I really wish I knew more of what the route encompassed.
- Comments: Topic Question 5:
Yes, yes, and yes!
- Comments:

91 Topic Question 1:

06/25/2021

Along the route in Southeast Colorado (east of Pueblo): Big Timbers Museum, Lamar, CO - historic collections related to the area; Pike First View Marker, located south of John Martin Reservoir, east of the town of Las Animas on Army Corps of Engineer property (where he first sited Pikes Peak); Otero Museum, La Junta, CO - historic collections related to the area. Other historic/recreational properties: Amache Relocation Center (just west of Granada, CO) Japanese Internment Camp; John Martin Reservoir State Park, Hasty, CO; Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, La Junta, CO; Santa Fe National Historic Trail, Bent's New Fort, west of Lamar, CO; historic Fort Lyon, just east of Las Animas, CO; Boggsville Historic Site, just south of Las Animas, CO; Koshare Indian Museum, La Junta, CO (world-class collection of Native American and Southwestern Art).

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Through this area (southeast Colorado) the study route does accurately identify Pike's route. Through our region of Colorado, part of the Pike route parallels the route of the Santa Fe NHT. Beyond La Junta, the SFT route turns southwest while the Pike route continues to follow the Arkansas River to Pueblo. Thus beyond La Junta, the Pike NHT would designate a totally new area as a NHT.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Designation of a Pike NHT would bring more attention to the historic role played by this part of Colorado in our nation's history. This is a good thing! Current historic attractions in the area include Bent's Old Fort NHS, Sand Creek Massacre NHS and the Santa Fe NHT. There is also potential for a new unit, Amache NHS, in the near future. The addition of a Pike NHT would just add to the incredible historic milieu we have here in Southeast Colorado and serve to attract more visitors to our region. This is an economically distressed area and we are trying to build a tourism economy to help support our cities and towns. I would see the establishment of the Pike NHT as a boon to that effort. There is some anti-government feeling present in the area that might be a minor obstacle (a National Heritage Area effort about 10 years ago met much local backlash) but as long as there is no government taking of land or regulation, this should be able to be overcome. The benefits far outweigh any costs.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Yes, Canyons & Plains Regional Heritage Taskforce is supportive of the designation of the Pike National Historic Trail to commemorate the historic 1806-07 expedition to the southwest. Such designation would bring recreational, educational, and economic benefits to our region of the state. People all over Colorado know Pikes Peak, but few know much of anything about Zebulon Pike, his expedition or the historic ramifications of his trek. This would be a chance to educate the public, provide additional recreational experiences, and bring visitors to our region providing positive economic impacts.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Pike's exploration of this area is important in American history for three reasons. First, he provided the first officially documented American experiences in the region of the Southern Rocky Mountains and the headwaters area of the Arkansas River. This provided the growing country with a host of information on land that would eventually become part of the United States. Second, Pike's expedition provided some of the earliest contact between official emissaries of the United States with tribes of the Southern Plains, the people of Nuevo Mexico and Spanish authorities in the New World. These diplomatic contacts impacted the history of the continent. Finally, Pike's trip laid the groundwork for future paths to the Southwest, most notably the Santa Fe Trail, an international trail of commerce, that from 1821-1880 joined middle America with the Southwest. That trail, already recognized as a National Historic Trail, had massive impacts on the history of both the United States and Mexico.

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on behalf of the Canyons & Plains Regional Heritage Taskforce. Our organization is fully supportive of the efforts to create the Pike National Historic Trail.

92 Topic Question 3:

06/26/2021

As a board member of Friends of the Dunes, I see the Pike route a real important part of the history of the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve. Pike climbed the Dunes in 1807 during his southwest expedition and mentioned them in his book in 1810. The lure for and development of the great southwest was triggered by Pike. Not only does the Great Sand Dunes host about 500,000 visitors per year for its natural features, it is an ideal setting to teach the children about our history in forming the USA boundaries as they are today.

Comments: Comments: Comments:

93 Topic Question 1:

06/26/2021

There are 101 things to do in the San Luis Valley. Pike entered the valley over Medano Pass, climbed the Great Sand Dunes that overlook the valley floor, and probably saw the giant cloud of fog rising from McIntyre Springs in the southern part of the valley and decided to go there to winter and recoup his left-behind men before traveling down the Red River in the spring. What he thought was the Red River was actually the Rio Grande. On or nearby this route in the SLV there are scenic byways, historic railroads, a national park, hiking, biking trails, museums, national wildlife refuges, hunting & fishing areas, skiing, rodeos, car shows, alligators, hot spring swimming pools. The Pike Trail is much more relevant to North American history than the Lewis & Clark Trail which hosts over 30 million visitors a year. The Pike Trail should be designated as a national Trail.

Comments:

94 Topic Question 2:

06/26/2021

Pike's Trail route is overall very accurate due to his detailed description of the places he went and the sights that he described. In the San Luis Valley (from the top of the Dunes) he saw a river (The Rio Grande) and headed toward it. He did not mention it but I think he saw the fog rising from McIntyre Springs on a cold January day and headed there on the Conejos River. This area had been a well traveled area by the Spanish and native Americans for centuries. The replica of Pike Stockade is a mile or 2 away and made of pine logs but I think Ed French's painting of the stockade more accurately portrays the location (directly across the Conejos River from the Springs) and the type of material for the stockade (cottonwood trees). I think he traveled in a general direction from the Dunes to the Springs along the east side of an extinct river running from the north that the closed basin canal now follows. Stopping overnight at the Zapata Ranch headquarters and then the second night at Washing Springs stagecoach stop where County Road 116 crosses the railroad east of Alamosa. A copy of Ed French's painting is on display at the SLV Museum in Alamosa as well as one of Pike's original books.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

The Lewis & Clark Trail hosts 30 million visitors per year. The gain of visitors would revitalize some of the most impoverished parts of rural America that lie within the Pike Route. The economic boost of an official Pike Trail would be tremendous. The San Luis Valley is one of the most economically depressed areas in the US but ironically it is the epicenter of the Pike Southwest expedition. After Pike left 2 groups of his men behind, he crossed into the SLV through the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve and traveled across the valley floor to the Conejos River and built a stockade and waited to be rescued along with the men he had left behind. We have several museums in the SLV with the Ft Garland Museum in charge of the Pike stockade replica. The SLV Museum has a Pike exhibit as well as an original printing of the book written by Pike concerning the southwest expedition and an 1844 map of the country of Texas showing the Pike route. The Sanford Museum has a Pike exhibit. There is an education exhibit in the visitors center of The Great Sand Dunes about Pike and about 500,000 visitors a year visit the Park.

Comments: Comments: Topic Question 5:

The Pike Trail Route is one of the world's most important parts of modern North American history. The Pike Trail was so important that it was placed on the official map of the country of Texas in 1844. Pike's book of the southwest expedition whet the appetite of millions all over the world to be lured to the American Southwest. Pike's volatile but courteous and respectful encounter with Fecundo Melgares of New Spain began negotiations and plans to open up trade between New Spain and the United States via the Santa Fe Trail. The present US boundary countries of Mexico, US and Canada that makeup North America today started being mapped and formulated with Pike's scouting of the boundaries of the Louisiana Purchase and climaxed with the Mexican War of 1846-1848.

Comments:

95 Topic Question 1: 06/28/2021
Yes, Pike's Peak is a valuable land location to our American History.

Comments: Comments: Topic Question 3:
I do not have concerns I think it would be good for the community to have this route.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes, being that Zebulon Pike was my 5th great uncle would mean so much to me to see this route.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Yes, this route is very important to American History. Zebulon Pike helped lay a foundation for many to follow after his return. Since he was captured by the Spanish and all of his information was taken but what could fit in a gun barrel Zebulon was not recognized for all he did discover. This information should be discussed in our history.

Comments: Good morning,
I am Zebulon Montgomery Pike III, General Pike was my 5th great uncle. I absolutely believe that this research is not only necessary but vital to our heritage and history as a country. Zebulon Pike did so much discovering for our country that needs to be discussed. After doing our own family research we have lots of questions about how much Zebulon Pike actually did discover and who did this help out in the future? Where are his documents that were taken by the Spanish when he was captured? This is all vital information to our American History.

96 Topic Question 1: 06/28/2021
Yes General Pike did a lot of traveling up the Louisiana Purchase and as a family member I would love to be able to travel this route.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
This route is very important to American History.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
I see people traveling this route and creating a flow of money for the small towns involved in this route.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Absolutely, it is very important to American History

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Absolutely, after doing my own research I have lots of questions about who the original discover of so much along the Louisiana Purchase was.

Comments: Since so much has changed in American History I feel it is important General Pike's route be followed and certain events researched more so General Pike gets the credit he deserves.

97 Topic Question 1:
Yes

06/28/2021

Comments: Topic Question 2:
yes

Comments: Comments: Topic Question 4:
yes

Comments: Topic Question 5:
yes

Comments: General Pike is my 6th great uncle and I want to see his achievements recognized. After being released from the Spanish government General Pike and his men did not get recognized for the discoveries made on their journey. It is important for people to know the truth about who discovered what.

98 Topic Question 1:

06/28/2021

The Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is only a few miles north of Pike's route.

Comments: Topic Question 2:
Yes, to my limited knowledge.

Comments: Topic Question 3:
It would help bring Pike's historical journey to the modern consciousness. I have no concerns, and the benefits would be good.

Comments: Topic Question 4:
Yes. See Comments below.

Comments: Topic Question 5:
Yes. Pike's was the second official expedition to the Louisiana Purchase sanctioned by the U.S. government, a couple of years after that of Lewis and Clark. As such, and for the information he brought back, it deserves this designation.

Comments: As one of the first two authorized expeditions across the Great Plains, this one across the southern plains whereas Lewis and Clark traversed the northern plains, Pike's journey should be memorialized. Because of my interest in the Great Plains (I am the Director Emeritus of the Center for Great Plains Studies at Emporia State University), I am keen to direct interest to this region, and Pike's was the second official American expedition into the Great Plains. His contact with Native Americans, particularly the Pawnee, had positive consequences, as in the later opening of the Santa Fe Trail.

I am a native of the Flint Hills of Kansas, an area that has been the focus of much of my scholarship, resulting in two books ("Flint Hills Cowboys" and "My Flint Hills," both issued by the University Press of Kansas) and numerous articles. From what I have been able to determine, Zebulon Pike should be credited as being the first person on record to have given the area its title. In his journal for 12 September 1806, Pike recorded the following observation: "Crossed very ruff flint hills. My feet blistered and very sore. I stood on a hill and in one view below me saw buffalo, elk, deer, cabrie [pronghorn antelope] and panthers."

As nearly as I can tell, Pike was somewhere between Bazaar and Cedar Point, both small towns in Chase County, on that day. My son and his family (wife Gwen and daughter Josie) own and operate the Flying W Ranch, which lies between those two towns and south of the Cottonwood River. Josh (without any exact proof, of course) thinks that Pike's party may well have crossed the Flying W, and he has (again with no solid evidence) decided that Pike was standing on a hill on their ranch when he made that observation. He has thus taken it on himself to name that hill the Original Pike's Peak (with tongue only slightly in cheek).

To summarize, I firmly believe that the path of Pike's expedition deserves to be named a National History Trail. I hope that those with the charge of making this determination will agree.

99 Topic Question 1:

06/28/2021

Yes- from Cantonment/Fort Bella Fontaine to Louisiana there are a profusion of interpreted sites on the proposed route.

The proposed Pike Trail is contiguous with or crosses 5 other national historic trails for 1496 mi (53.3%) of the 2807 miles Pike traveled in today's US.

Well marked and interpreted sites are on the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (LCNHT) contiguous for 119.41 mi, Santa Fe National Historic Trail (SFNHT) contiguous for 319.09 mi, Old Spanish National Historic Trail (OSNHT) contiguous for 87.66 mi, El Camino de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail contiguous for 384.56 mi, or El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail contiguous for 586.1 mi.

The visitor will recognize how important it is to preserve the stories of both expeditions/trails. With new interpretive material and official PNHT signs the importance will be reinforced.

Pike traveled 967 miles in today's Mexico much of which is contiguous with the International El Camino de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail.

I have shared with the Study Team my list of sites, segments, or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

Route accurate?

Yes, and certainly the Corridor is accurate.

Because national historic trails use roads close to the route instead of "following in the footprints," the public will become aware of difficulties of the Pike party's struggle with weather, terrain, and perhaps lack of food. They may gain an appreciation of Pike's ability to communicate with Spanish people and Native American Indians on their expedition.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Effect on me

The Pike NHT will have an impact on me in that I will continue to write interpretive material for the Pike NHT.

Effect on communities

Communities, federal and state historic sites, will benefit when the financial benefits of greater tourism is realized. They will reinvest in greater amenities. Preservation will be encouraged.

The public will learn of their cultural and natural resources from the educational experience.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

Would you like to see designation of the Pike National Historic Trail (PNHT)?

Yes, certainly.

Volunteers (see in section 2-c of the 1968 Trails Act), will support the PNHT-NPS administration. The Pike National Historic Trail Association will do it's best to develop the full story of exploration of the American West.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Yes, the route is important to American history. The exploration story opened the American South and West. It had an impact on native American people. I would claim Pike had an impact on Mexican independence because of his recording and publishing of facts collected during the expedition.

Greater understanding of other people, their concerns and interests, ameliorates the life of all people today.

Comments: Pike was tenacious, firm, determined, and pertinacious.

The Colorado Legislature has repeatedly supported efforts leading ultimately toward designation of the Pike National Historic Trail in Colorado by:
Unanimously passing a resolution of support for the congressional feasibility study bill in 2011.

Passing into law the Pioneer Trail bill enabling County Commissions to pass resolutions for the Pike Trail in Colorado in 2016.

15 county commissions passed resolutions designating the Pike Trail in Colorado in their county as part of the Pioneer Trail bill in 2016-17. These resolutions included auto, hiking and bike routes across their county.

Support for feasibility study legislation from Colorado US senators:

On February 3, 2011, U.S. Senator Michael Bennet introduced the "Pike National Historic Trail Study Act of 2011", S.276, with Senator Mark Udall as a cosponsor. Similar bills were where introduced to Congress prior to and since 2011.

U.S. Senator Michael Bennet repeatedly introduced similar bills since with Senator Mark Udall or Senator Hickenlooper as cosponsors.

100 Topic Question 1:

06/29/2021

Brown's Canyon National Monument: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) jointly manage the monument. BCNM was established under Presidential Proclamation 9232 (February 19, 2015) as an area of 21,604 acres. The BCNM occurs in its entirety in Chaffee County, Colorado. Established under the Antiquities Act (1906) afforded federal protections of resources, objects, and values, including resource uses to protect and preserve the area's unusual and scientifically significant geology and roughly 3,000-foot elevation range that supports a diversity of plants and wildlife. Proclamation 9232 specifically identifies the wealth of scientifically significant geological, ecological, riparian, cultural, and historic resources, and is an important area for studies of paleoecology, mineralogy, archaeology, and climate change. The Proclamation celebrates outdoor recreation settings and opportunities in the BCNM, including world-class river rafting, hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, mountain biking, and horseback riding, and implicitly recognizes the role of recreation and public lands grazing to the monument region and economy.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

A precise map would be greatly appreciated to enable a review of the location of the trail and Forest Service lands and resources. The scale of the map shown and the routes are difficult to provide accurate comments/feedback to this question. Small variances in location could have implications for resources we provide stewardship for. Implications of increased visitation may have a negative or beneficial impact or influence of areas with high public visitation.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Concerns are related to increased public visitation to locations or sites that are not currently in a sustainable state due to the increased visitation we are realizing on public lands.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

This is a complex question as there are other nationally recognized trails co-aligned with the Pike trail, or in use by others prior to Pike's excursion. While this is a significant milestone for the exploration of the west, how would this designation complement the other national trails?

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Segments of this route are historically significant for their creation and use prior to the Pike expedition and are recognized for their use, is Pike's use part of their history / story and therefore providing the national significance of that trail?

Comments: Continued engagement with the Forest Service on this feasibility study would be greatly appreciated.

101 Topic Question 1:

06/30/2021

There are sites in Texas which I have documented with narrative. They can be found on the Pike Association website: zebulonpike.org . I was a member of a number of civic and historical organizations who participated in the celebration of the Pike Bicentennial, and some of whom also documented the Pike Southwest Expedition with commentary and photos. They also can be found posted on the Pike website: zebulonpike.org .

There is a myriad of sites in Texas along the corridor adjacent to the proposed Pike NHT that offer a wide variety of opportunities for historic, hiking/nature, and cultural experiences, including a chance to also experience portions of the El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT, and a Texas segment of the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT that would neatly coincide with the Pike trail segment in New Mexico/West Texas. Traveling the proposed Pike Trail would offer opportunities to explore sites from Paleo-Indian cultures to the 21st century.

Pike on the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT:

El Paso, TX- Keystone Heritage Park; El Paso Museum of History; Chamizal National Memorial Cultural Center; Ysleta Mission Church; La Purisima Socorro Mission; Los Portales (Casa Garcia); San Elizario Historic District

Pike's Exit Route Rio Grande-Louisiana:

San Antonio- San Pedro Springs; San Antonio Missions National Historical Park; La Villita Historic District; Spanish Governor's Palace; Casa Navarro State Historic Site; Paso de los Tejas; Mission San Antonio de Valero

Austin- McKinney Falls State Park; Bastrop State Park; Bullock Texas State History Museum

Fort Boggy State Park; Mission Tejas State Park; Caddo Mounds State Historic Site; The Stone Fort Museum; Durst-Taylor House; El Camino Real de los Tejas Travel Information Center; Mission Dolores State Historic Site; Lobanillo Swales

Comments: Topic Question 2:

I believe that through the joint efforts of a number of contributors to this project, there has been considerable progress made to assure the historical accuracy of the route. I am also aware that there is some "fine-tuning" to be done. Pike himself has been a no-show to ask on these issues, but I believe that this will be adequately addressed to the best that it can be achieved by the current batch of contributors as this endeavor draws to completion.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

I am a teacher at a Texas community college, and my student demographics consist of traditional college students and those who are attending under the Early College High School program. I have been constantly dismayed by their previous lack of knowledge with regard to the role of 19th century exploration as a historical process in not only the expansion of the nation's frontiers, but equally important, in the advancement of scientific and sociological knowledge of its newly acquired regional resources, terrain, and cultures. While Lewis and Clark earn at least a mention in most U.S. history textbooks, Pike's contributions are often less represented, despite their equally significant achievements. In the case of community relevance to my particular region, Pike's trans-Texas route places him in familiar territory to even my large percentage-per-class of foreign-born students, and his exploits in Texas serve to frame details and motives of his larger mission in a more effective manner. It goes without saying that having access to a reasonably nearby historic trail with a compelling narrative has a much better chance of tempting the historical novice to make a trip and walk in Pike's footsteps. The fact that Pike's trail and its compelling saga marches through or reasonably near a large number of the state's major population centers increases the possibility of public engagement, opportunities for educational field trips, and overall increased historical awareness-but only if it can come to actual realization as a tangible historical entity.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

I would be thrilled and gratified to see Pike's 1806-1807 expedition receive National Trail designation. First of all, the period surrounding the initial establishment of the trail once it is designated will provide an unparalleled PR opportunity to introduce Pike to the American public in general, and students of all levels of schooling in particular. While I am addressing the issue of Pike in Texas because of my residence, the fact is that I also have extensive experience during the Pike Bicentennial in public education programs in Kansas and Colorado, which will also be part of the Pike Historic Trail. I have worked in both a traditional lecture venue, as well as living-history historical programs, and I have seen for myself the hold on the imagination that Pike's compelling narrative can have if it is given a platform, and a National Historic Trail designation will immediately "prime the pump" for a broad-based introductory campaign to give not only the expedition, but the policies and philosophies of Jeffersonian-era U.S. expansion (and beyond!) a boost. Once the trail is formally established, it will act like a metaphorical clothesline, upon which can be hung numerous projects like purpose-built K-12 lesson plans, travelling trail trunk programs, living history events (now keyed to actual trail sites) and civic possibilities like annual "Pike Days," lectures to community organizations and adult education venues, and involvement of local museums and historic societies.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Like Lewis and Clark, Pike is a key figure in the nineteenth-century history of American expansion. Pike's subsequent report, both of his endeavors before and after his capture by the Spanish, revealed vital information derived from his contacts with Native American tribes of the region he explored and, like Lewis and Clark, he was charged with and executed important diplomatic missions to various tribes, as well as detailing his observations of their customs and lifestyle, including ones he incidentally met along his route. He provided crucial information on geography and ecology of the regions he explored, much of which, like L&C's route, were virtually unknown to the American public or its policymakers. While Pike's abilities to perform scientific and ethnographic missions were not nearly as detailed and sophisticated as those of Lewis and Clark—largely due to his expedition being less extensively trained in such disciplines—his attention to mapping and his documentation of details of his trip provided a significant in-depth glimpse of the southern portion of the Louisiana Purchase.

While Pike's capture by the Spanish largely cut short his government-mandated exploration mission, it also opened up significant opportunities for "exploration" to which Pike was to have equal if not more significant contributions to U.S. policy and subsequent strategies. One of Pike's strengths was his ability as a keen observer of the human condition, and his interpersonal skills vis-à-vis his predicament as a Spanish prisoner. Although technically a captive of the Spanish, Pike showed a remarkable ability to easily make the best of his situation, and through the foibles of his captors, was literally given a grand tour of a great chunk of northern New Spain. Although in many ways a product of his time with regard to social mores and the political exceptionalism of American society, Pike's interpersonal skills, as well as his relatively open mind, made him a keen and relatively non-biased observer of both the geographical layout of his captors' territory, as well as the social and political mindset of its inhabitants, who were more than willing to share their views and customs with him. When finally escorted out of Spanish territory, his expedition report, which soon circulated among the American public, painted what became one of the most comprehensive and influential pictures of its time of the resources, geography, and mindset of America's Spanish neighbors. It painted a picture of the vast prairies of a Texas teeming with wild horses, of political dissent simmering below the surface among some segments of the Spanish population, of Spanish citizens, good and bad, but not so unlike their American neighbors, of opportunity to those Americans who saw Spanish territory as a future target for expansion, a harbinger of Manifest Destiny.

The Pike Trail would also serve as an important reminder to the public of the crucial role of the American military in the 19th century exploration of the United States. Lewis and Clark are probably the most well-known of these, but it is often overlooked that they were a military mission sent to explore, not fight, and that Pike's likewise was a military mission, as were a number of expeditions after them. It would reinforce the fact that these missions often resulted in significant scientific, geographic, and ethnographic contributions to society, that discipline and dedication to "Duty, Honor, Country" held them in good stead, and reveal that they accomplished their missions often under great hardships, all of which would be showcased in the establishment of a trail that informed the American public of one such mission by Pike and his men.

Comments: Please withhold my email address from public review if possible; if not, I understand

102 Topic Question 1:

06/30/2021

I am not familiar with the exact route location, however, in Santa Fe and the surrounding area, there are many areas where trails are sought out for the enjoyment of recreational activities, as well as, historic interest. I think designating the trail only has positive benefits for both of these reasons and to preserve our nation's history.

Comments: Topic Question 2:

I am not familiar with designated route.

Comments: Topic Question 3:

Attracting interest and tourists to any area is always a benefit.

Comments: Topic Question 4:

As stated previously, I only see the benefits to this designation and no downside.

Comments: Topic Question 5:

Absolutely! The future generations do not seem to hold history and tradition in the same regards as previous; however, I believe years to come it will come back and we should preserve American History any chance we can.

Comments: Best of luck and I look forward to seeing a trail designation in the near future in my NM area.

APPENDIX E: ONLINE PUBLIC MEETING COMMENTS

Comments received from each of the 14 meetings are reported below. Except for the Spanish-language meeting, comments have been edited slightly to correct typos and punctuation.

Colorado – May 24, 2021 – 12:00-2:00pm – 18 attendees

Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

No responses.

Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

The proposed Pike Trail seems like a very valuable addition to the National Trail System, touching on the Louisiana Purchase days, Native tribes, and the Spanish empire to the south. What are the stumbling blocks to getting it approved?

As the great-great-great-grand nephew of Zebulon Pike, I believe it would an extraordinary and fitting tribute to the visionaries of the Louisiana Purchase and its importance to the history of this country — to acknowledge the contributions of Pike along with the Lewis and Clark would seem to me to “complete” full circle this amazing part of our American History.

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

It’s hard to think of any concerns. Part of any trail is connecting people to the wider world, and to history. All good!

Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

YES needs designation. Economic benefits to communities - tourism, historian, etc.

Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

Aaron’s historical background he provided gave SO many reasons why Pike’s route was very significant.

Extremely important - history are facts about the establishment of the country.

I love the idea. I grew up hearing my mom speak about buffalo wallows which I could not see as they have disappeared over time.

Additional comments

The Journal of Zebulon Montgomery Pike give us a detailed view of the hardships that the expedition experienced and how determined Pike was to fulfill his mission. The journal notes that Pike approached the mountain, that later was named after him, for weeks. It shows how they tried to climb Pikes Peak in winter (actually Mount Rosa) and continued as Pike notes he has lost horses and rifles due to the cold.

How can we best help the effort?

Colorado – May 24, 2021 – 6:00-8:00pm – 7 attendees

Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

I hiked Barr Trail with 80+ year olds practicing their running up Pikes Peak.

Yes -- John Martin Reservoir provides recreational opportunity; The SFTA Bent’s Fort Chapter marked the spot where Pike first saw the Rocky Mountains; Las Animas has a monument for Pike’s group. More in Kansas, including the Pike Monument at Delphos, KS and the Pike Plaza in Larned, KS -- just to name a few.

Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

A great deal of the Pike route has been studied by knowledgeable people for accuracy and matches the NPS route.

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

The advantages include education, recreation as well as economic.

Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

Absolutely.

Of course.

The Pike National Historic Trail would be a welcomed addition to the National Trails System and would enable travelers/users of the Trail to gain a better understanding of the exploration of this portion of the Louisiana Purchase; Pike’s contact with the American Indian tribes of the region; and the interaction with the Spanish authorities.

The Public should see the nine 14,000 ft mountains Pike and his men saw in the Collegiate Range.

Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

Extremely important. This is the beginning of the expansion into the West and a compliment to the Lewis and Clark expedition.

The exploration eventually led to statehood for many states.

Since Pike’s Peak is one of the most famous mountain peaks in North America it would be only appropriate to also have a national trail in his name.

Additional comments

I live in Alamosa, CO, very near Pikes Stockade, and am an adopter of a section on the Continental Divide Trail. How do people experience a Nationally Historic Trail and ‘follow’ it since it isn’t a continuous trail? Are actual trails created along the trail that are promoted for use? I imagine we would want to try to build such a trail through as much of the San Luis Valley as possible.

I believe the Pike Trail is important for American history. Pike history can be experienced by the public by following the NPS Auto route.

I can see the Pike Trail as being particularly important to the economic health of parts of the state that are in need of greater recognition. This is pretty handy since some of the most interesting of the history of the trail, so attracting both heritage and recreational oriented public.

Pikes Peak-America’s Mountain should be visited by the public by hiking Barr Trail, using the Cog Railway, or the toll road.

I am excited to know the Pike Trail is a definite possibility for walking possibly and education.

Kansas-Nebraska – May 25, 2021 – 12:00-2:00pm – 14 attendees

Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

The Pawnee Museum near where Pike established American sovereignty.

There is a Pike display / interpretive panels at a rest area in northern KS. Can’t remember if this was on Hwy 75 or one of the parallel roads in that area. Contact KS DOT maybe for more info.

Many historical museums in north central Kansas in the general area of the Pike Trail could benefit from additional historical and cultural tourism the trail could offer. Those museums would offer public places to visit along the trail. Also, it seems Pike’s path comes through the Post Rock Limestone area of the state that already holds much historical and cultural significance. There are petroglyphs in Lincoln, Ellsworth and Russell counties that may also intersect somewhat near Pike’s path.

One of our Board members may very well know the location of the rest stop. We can certainly ask.

Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

No responses.

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

No responses.

Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

No responses.

Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

Pike’s exploration of the southwest, I feel, is as important to American history as Lewis and Clark’s expedition of the northwest. By establishing a historical trail it would add much to the history of the southwest and the rich history of the area.

Additional comments

(Christy Rodriguez) The Flint Hills Regional Council (FHRC) is fully supportive of the National Park Service conducting a feasibility study to determine if the Pike Trail route can be designated as the Pike National Historic Trail. At the May 21, 2021 Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Director’s meeting, the Board voted unanimously to support the effort with the understanding that no rights of ownership would be transferred, participation is entirely voluntary, and non-federal landowners are under no obligation to participate or to allow the public on their land under the National Trails System Act of 1968. This project represents an important role in our Flint Hills history and is significant in our American history. The route under study also affects areas and interests in present-day Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana, as well as Mexico. We are interested in participating, learning more and reviewing study results.

I am supportive of the Pike National Historic Trail. I grew up in Republic County, Kansas, where the Pawnee Indian Village State Park is located along with a monument to Pike. Growing up there was a general awareness of Pike’s presence and significance and as a kid I thought it was ‘cool’ that our little part of the world had a famous explorer go through it. I now live in Lincoln County, Kansas, and only recently did I become aware that Pike traveled through the county on the Pawnee Trail. I think this trail could provide many opportunities for this area relating to economic development and heritage and cultural tourism.

Pike was guided by Osage and Pawnee over Kansas’ Flint Hills.

Kansas State University may be a solid resource that may be helpful in gathering additional information.

Kansas-Nebraska – May 25, 2021 – 6:00-8:00pm – 5 attendees

Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

Pawnee Village in Republic County in northern Kansas is a Kansas state park and is a reconstruction of an excavated Pawnee Lodge. It lies close to the route.

How literal is the term “adjacent” in terms of recreational and educational/cultural sites? Is there a max distance?

Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

Cheyenne Bottoms north of Great Bend is a wonderful wildlife area which Pike traversed to get to the Arkansas River.

Are you sure the route went as far as lola? On some maps I’ve seen, it appears he turned to the NW closer to LaHarpe, which is east of lola?

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

No responses.

Would you like to see Pike's 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

No responses.

Do you think this route is important in America's history? Why or why not?

Yes. I believe that any information that exposes more people to our history is important. I grew up 50 miles from Larned and didn't really think much of Zebulon Pike until I attend Dr. Hoy's class and he mentioned him. You never know when some historical tidbit will spike interest.

As a geographer, it's frustrating that American know so little of our own geography. A NHT would be a great tool to educate people about our flora and fauna, our topography, our history, and especially the history of indigenous tribes.

Pike is the first person we know of who used the term Flint Hills.

Additional comments

Pike found where the Spanish camped near Larned two months prior- some 400 soldiers.

The Spanish and Pike camped beside Waconda Spring, south of the Pawnee village. It was a sacred area for the Pawnee and is now covered by Waconda Lake. The Public can view this in a State Park on a hill above the lake.

I (Pam Bales) represent the city of Alma, Kansas. I volunteered to attend this meeting. Our small city in the heart of the Flint Hills appreciate trails the include the Flint Hills. Pike's route is south of our town, but we are all part of the Flint Hills. We are planning on writing a letter of support when such is required. We don't have any questions at this time. I see that Dr. Jim Hoy is on this meeting as well. I was his student many years ago and am glad to see him attending the meeting.

Thank you! I have your info. I (Pam Bales) am also part of the Flint Hills Regional Council which represents seven counties here in the Flint Hills and we recommended sending a letter of support for the project as well at our last meeting, last Friday.

Louisiana – May 26, 2021 – 12:00-2:00pm – 2 attendees

Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

Several State Historic Sites, such as Fort Jesup, Los Adaes, and Fort St. Jean Baptiste as well as recreational parks, such as North Toledo Bend, are all either near or on the proposed route.

Does the study route accurately identify Pike's 1806–07 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

To my knowledge, the route is accurate.

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

Benefits are many. Any additional attention focused on the area increases interest, visitation, and revenue, not only for individual parks and historic sites but for local communities as well.

Is it known how long Pike stayed in Louisiana after the expedition and how he got back to Ft. Belle Fontaine?

Returning to St. Louis would complete a circle.

(Raymond Berthelot) State Parks would be happy to host recon tour.

Yes. Certainly he wanted to get back to Clara.

Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1897 expedition designated as a National historic Trail? Why or why not?

Is the grass green.

Yes, absolutely.

Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

Yes. The exploration of the recently acquired Louisiana Purchase kicks into high gear the westward expansion movement in US history, which is very significant for understanding the US of today.

Additional comments

Pike upon arriving in Louisiana on 7/1/1807 was overjoyed-“Language cannot express the gaiety of my heart, when I once more beheld the standard of my country waved aloft!”

Pike was a boat pilot on the Ohio overlaying the L&C.

He supplied his father at Ft Massac.

Louisiana – May 26, 2021 – 6:00-8:00pm – 1 attendee

Pike ended at then Ft. Claiborne (no longer in existence). I would like to find drawings of that fort.

Then Claiborne a former governor of La.

We got the name of the fort from US army sources.

Missouri – May 27, 2021 – 12:00-2:00pm – 5 attendees

Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

The Osage Village State Historic Site in Vernon County is a possible visit site.

There are a number of CLGs (Certified Local Governments) along the proposed trail route. Some of them would probably be very amenable to this trail, including conducting interpretation, recreational opportunities, or other activities.

Thanks for an excellent presentation. The benefits of tourism truly is an educational way to preserve both natural and cultural resources. Learning takes place in many ways and places, tourism is a way to learn

Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

No responses.

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

No responses.

Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

Is a 5 pound robin FAT?

Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

On the one hand, I think it clearly meets the significance criteria. On the other hand, I feel that we as a country would be better served by looking at histories other than the normative white, male, settler colonialist narrative. So, speaking for myself, I wish we were talking about something else.

Yes, trails are the most efficient & efficient service provided to the American People and International Visitor. Trails go to the people, especially the underserved rural and inner-city citizens. Also, please make a special effort to reach out to AIANTA for comments.

Additional comments

In Missouri- the Katy trail on the north side of the Missouri River compliments the Lewis & Clark NHT. It is a wonderful hiking-biking trail starting east of St. Charles and moves into the state capital Jefferson City. This gives a person the ability for the public to experience what Pike's men experienced.

I'm (Kelsey Matson) representing the MO SHPO, but I'm no NHT expert, so this presentation was very helpful for me to better understand the polices regulating NHTs in general. I'm curious, in what ways, if at all, does NHT designation affect Section 106 review?

Missouri – May 27, 2021 – 6:00-8:00pm – 3 attendees

Additional comments

My typing with these arthritic fingers is not successful. I would be happy to talk to any of the study team at any time via phone. I urge the Team to think education, preservation, tourism with all of these available to all people, especially the Tribal People of the Pike Trail region. I urge all of you to join me at 50,000 feet to see how this trail benefits all people.

A.A. Busch Jr. memorial Wetlands at Four Rivers Conservation Area includes the then Grand and Little Osage villages where Pike encamped naming his camp "Camp Independence"- appropriate to returning the Osage to their joyous relatives.

In 2019 I requested that the Bourbon County Commission declare Sept 4th "Zebulon Pike Day" in Bourbon County KS, and they agreed. I picked 9/4 because Pike spent that day here.

Lt. James Wilkinson was responsible for conducting the Osage probably on the north side of the Missouri

There used to be an amateur basketball league in Jewell, Mitchell, Ottawa, Cloud and Republic Counties in Kansas that played games after WWII, called the Pike Trail League.

Are there two possible locations for one of the Osage villages in Vernon Co, and if so, what's being done to determine which location is most likely the correct one?

Elliott Coues did an excellent job going location corrected by Don Jackson.

I'm still fixated on Sept 6th and lola. :-)

The lay of the land gives clues.

lola is a heck of a detour.

At some point in the process, will there be a local point person in each county or region?

This seems like a big challenge to do long-distance.

New Mexico – June 1, 2021 – 12:00-2:00pm – 7 attendees

Additional comments

Would the co-alignment of the Pike Trail and Camino Real de Terra Adentro, diminish the significance of the Camino Real?

Have artifacts associated with Pike expedition been found along the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro?

Crossing location in El Paso and Piedras?

Aaron, if I do find out any info on the crossing locations and artifacts, I will notify you.

What are the educational opportunities that usually fall in line with these types of trails to help educate the public and make awareness of the trail and its significance?

Are there any of those areas in NM since he was considered a prisoner?

There are artifacts like his sword and scabbed stored in Denver @ History Colorado and items stored in the San Luis Valley Museum in Alamosa, CO

Adding historical significance to an already historical route would show the importance of the trail. For example in Bernalillo Camino, old Rt 66 and Pike.

I see this as a benefit for the Camino thru El Paso and the area of the "original" Socorro Mission location. THC owns the first / Original Socorro Mission location.

There are areas in NM not directly related to Pike which could be visited like the astronomical array, Petroglyphs, White Sands.

Yes, in conjunction with both Caminos for signage along the border and roads for economic tourism.

Yes, any history that can be highlighted would be beneficial to communities to help build an economic stimulus opportunity.

Yes, it is the one overlooked compared to Lewis and Clark as many don't know it exists!

I don't remember reading or learning about the Pike trail specifically in school, but if we can expand on the importance, especially if it fills any gaps in our history, it should be looked at deeper.

Have the opinion of looking at the problem of assimilation to the Latin and native cultures or the area? For example, the plantations in the south are facing historical backlash currently and the Afro-American culture?

New Mexico – June 1, 2021 – 6:00-8:00pm – 3 attendees

Does the study route accurately identify Pike's 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

In past studies the NPS has done extensive on the ground study of proposed national historic trail routes. This has been done by qualified and experienced archeologists and historians who have pored over available historic documents and who have visited the route and historic sites on the ground. What level of study has been done to determine the accuracy of the proposed Pike route?

Much of the exact route was done by the editors of Pike's Journals Coues and Don Jackson. In 2006 Hal Jackson, Dr. Leo Oliva and Dr. Clive Segal documented and Hal did great cartography work which can be found on our website.

Pike interacted with a Kentucky Trapper named Pursley who provided the info that Pursley had found gold near the headwaters of the South Platte in what is now Park County Colorado.

Would you like to see Pike's 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

The Pope is Roman Catholic.

Additional comments

Pike found not only the headwaters of the Arkansas, he also found the headwaters of the Osage, Cottonwood and South Platte.

Texas – June 2, 2021 – 12:00-2:00pm – 6 attendees

Does the study route accurately identify Pike's 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

In southeast Colorado - here's a few: Big Timbers Museum, Lamar, CO; Otero Museum, La Junta, CO; Pike First View Marker (where he first saw the peak that bears his name) on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land south of John Martin Reservoir in Bent County, CO.

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

Our area is trying to develop tourism opportunities. The designation of the trail will help that effort. Besides providing recreational and educational opportunities, it may also bring more visitors providing positive economic impacts.

Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

YEP

Yes, support designation. For reasons just stated in my last message. People in Colorado know Pike’s Peak - but few know much of anything about Pike. Let’s educate them! And give them a chance to follow his route.

Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

Definitely important. Aaron laid out some of the reasons. Pike’s exploration of the plains, the Rockies, the Arkansas Headwaters. The diplomacy with the tribes and the Spanish. And his trip laid the groundwork for the Santa Fe Trail - which definitely changed the history of the Southwest.

Additional comments

Rick Wallner here. President of the Canyons & Plains of Southeast Colorado Regional Heritage Taskforce based in La Junta, Colorado. Unable to attend any of the Colorado meetings due to previous commitments. So thanks for letting me join in today. My organization is very supportive of the designation of the Pike National Historic Trail. We will provide more extensive comments at the parkplanning.nps.gov/pike site.

Texas – June 2, 2021 – 6:00-8:00pm – 2 attendees

Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

Of course the Spanish governor’s palace is in San Antonio. I thought that I remembered that he was invited to go to either a palace or a home that he referred to as very elegant, I’m not positive that it was San Antonio. I recall him saying that governor in San Antonio entertained the Pike party.

Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

American traders poured over the LA-Tx border.

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

No responses.

Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

No responses.

Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

No responses.

Additional comments

Let us note that Pike w(a)s the first official American in Spanish Tejas.

East of Crockett, TX is the Caddo historic Site. There is a YouTube video of the Caddo building a hive type house. Very interesting. Pike likely interacted with them according to Ray (LASP). Dr. Sibley in nat.. LA was working with the Caddo in 1806.

I felt very sad at Donner Pass.

Spanish-speaking – June 3, 2021 – 6:00-8:00pm – 8 attendees

Gracias por toda la información sobre el sendero. Me gustaría saber qué puedo hacer para que el estudio tiene resultados positivos. Quiero tener la oportunidad caminar por el sendero.

Thank you for all the information about the trail. I'd like to know what I can do so that the study has positive results. I would like the opportunity to walk along the trail.

Están invitados a estas reuniones las personas que son los dueños de la ruta? para que saben lo bueno sería tener acceso al sendero?

Are the people that own the route invited to these meetings? So that they can know the benefits of having access to the trail?

Los historiadores mexicanos interesados en participar y documentar el viaje cómo lo pueden hacer? Qué entienden los organizadores por "comentarios"?

How can Mexican historians interested in participating and documenting the route do so? What do the organizers mean by "comments"?

Siiii, quiero tener la oportunidad caminar por la ruta para enseñar a mis hijos parte de la historia de la exploración de EEUU y Mexico

Yes, I want the opportunity to walk along the trail to teach my children part of the history of the exploration of the United States and Mexico.

Nos pueden compartir los datos biográficos mínimos, de Pike, sobre todo, al momento su apprehension

Can we share with them brief biographical facts about Pike, especially during the time of his arrest[?]

Sí, el Pike National Historic Trail designado por razones económicas, recreativas, educativas y de preservación.

Yes, the Pike National Historic Trail designated for economic, recreational, educational, and preservation reasons

Considero que Pike no fue un prisionero común. En comparación a Miguel Hidalgo o los Insurgentes de la Nueva España de 1810-1811 que estuvieron en Chihuahua, él gozó de relativa libertad. ¿Qué opinión tienen al respecto?

I don't think that Pike was a common prisoner. In comparison to Miguel Hidalgo or the insurgents of New Spain in 1810-1811 who were in Chihuahua, he enjoyed relative liberty. What is your opinion on that matter?

Es posible encontrar documentos históricos al respecto. Se podría trazar de manera muy exacta la ruta a través De Fuentes presidiales y de archivos municipales.

It is possible to locate historic documents about this. It is possible to trace the route pretty accurately using presidial sources and municipal archives.

Pike and Fagando Malgras became good friends

What impact did Pike's recording of military locations in his journal, size of force influence the Mexican-American War 1846?

Para la historia de México no es relevante, nos ayuda a comprender algunos hechos locales, sobre todo en el Septentrión desértico novohispano. Pero el alcance y trascendencia del personaje y su trabajo descriptivo realmente no alcanza un rango nacional.

In Mexico's history, it is not relevant; it helps us understand some local events, especially in New Spain's desert-like northern region. But the reach and significance of this individual and his descriptive work in reality does not reach a national level.

Considero que sí, está travesía pudo informar a los estadounidenses de las condiciones del territorio mexicano para ser usado posteriormente en la guerra de México y los Estados Unidos.

I think that yes, this journey could have provided information to the United States about Mexican territory conditions to be used later in the Mexican-American War.

Or for that matter Mexican Independence 1821

Existen muchos extranjeros con mayor influencia y aportación a la cultura e historia de México. Pike es un personaje desconocido en la historia regional, no se diga nacional.

There are many foreigners that had greater influence and made greater contributions to Mexico's culture and history. Pike is an unknown individual in regional history, let alone national.

La llegada de Pike a Chihuahua nos ayuda a entender de forma más clara que la Comandancia General de las Provincia Internas era en ese momento totalmente independientes del virreinato de la Nueva España. Chihuahua era una capital virtual del septentrión, lo cual es muy importante para la historia del norte.

Pike's arrival in Chihuahua helps us understand in a clearer manner that the General Commandancy of the Internal Provinces was in that moment completely independent from the Viceroyalty of New Spain. Chihuahua was a virtual capital of the northern region, which is very important for the history of the north.

Llega a Chihuahua porque allí está la máxima autoridad de las Provincias Internas el comandante general que tiene un estatus de virrey.

He arrives in Chihuahua because that is where the maximum authority of the Internal Provinces was, the general commander who has the same status as a viceroy.

Delicias se fundó en 1933, le sugiero borrarlo del mapa

Delicias was founded in 1933; I suggest you remove it from the map.

Muchas gracias por la invitación a esta reunión. Ha sido muy interesante conocer la perspectiva histórica que se tiene de Pike, así como la metodología de gestión como sendero. Considero que en el marco de colaboración de estudio, conservación y difusión de los caminos históricos que hemos compartido México y Estados Unidos, podemos ubicar un hecho particular como lo es esta travesía, y colaborar en una investigación histórica sobre el periodo específico. Gracias.

Thank you very much for the invitation to this meeting. It has been very interesting to learn about the historic perspective regarding Pike, as well as the methodology and process of [designating] trails [original not clear]. I believe that within the framework of collaboration on the study, preservation, and dissemination of the historic routes that Mexico and the United States have shared, we can identify a specific event, such as this journey, and collaborate on historical research on this specific period. Thank you.

En Chihuahua prácticamente es el Camino Real, por lo que sí existen muchos sitios de interés, ya documentados

In Chihuahua it is in reality the Camino Real; thus, there are many sites, already documented, that would be of interest

Colorado – June 12, 2021 – 10:00am-12:00pm – 5 attendees

Are there sites or areas on or adjacent to the route that are, or could be, visited by the public for recreational opportunities or historic appreciation (e.g. hiking or outdoor access, museums, historic sites, educational exhibits)? If so, please tell us about them.

As a BLM representative (Linda Skinner), the Arkansas River corridor is on BLM public lands but the river itself is managed through Colorado State Parks. It is open to the public in various places along the river on BLM.

Does the study route accurately identify Pike’s 1806–1807 route? If not, where does it differ? Is there anything else you want the National Park Service to know about this route and its associated sites?

No responses.

How might designation of this route as a National Historic Trail affect you and your community? Do you have concerns? What benefits do you see?

No responses.

Would you like to see Pike’s 1806–1807 expedition designated as a National Historic Trail? Why or why not?

No responses.

Do you think this route is important in America’s history? Why or why not?

No responses.

Additional comments

Some of your questions are difficult to answer for people outside the study route, how can they best respond like Q1?

When he travelled the Arkansas River was it by land or water? Would the trail include the river corridor?

I think it would align with activities already occurring along the (Arkansas) river and could be incorporated into river trip stories and interpretive information already there. It would be slightly complicated with 3 agencies partnering on the route management but consultation has worked well.