
# Hillside Singletrack Mountain Bike Trails

## Anchorage, AK

**Project Description:** In 2009, a trail ribbon cutting was celebrated for Anchorage's first system of soft-surface, narrow trails sustainably-built for mountain bikes and foot traffic. Seven and a half miles of singletrack trails were planned, designed, and constructed in the city's Far North Bicentennial Park (FNBP), thanks to the outstanding efforts of Singletrack Advocates and Alaska Trails, the lead proponents for the project. These two organizations worked together to secure all funding, manage all phases, hire professional contractors, and supervise every aspect of trail planning, design and construction. In addition to improving multi-use, city recreational opportunities, the trail project met another goal: improving local and statewide singletrack trail building capacity by training in-state, mini-mechanized equipment operators and volunteers skilled in finish work. By increasing the number of local trail experts, Alaskans can now enjoy the long term benefits of trails designed for sustainability: lasting for decades, minimizing ongoing maintenance, enhancing the user experience.

*"The project never would have gotten 'on the ground' were it not for the assistance of the NPS-RTCA. RTCA technical support was invaluable for navigating the complex permitting process, identifying and securing funding, facilitating public/private partnerships and ushering the project through the public process."Janice Tower, Singletrack Advocates.*

**RTCA Role:** RTCA helped partners learn sustainable trail design, connect with private trail-builders, work through agency permitting processes, and find financial grants, trail crews, and other resources.

**RTCA Contact:** Lisa Holzapfel

**Partners:** Singletrack Advocates, Alaska Trails, Municipality of Anchorage Parks and Recreation, NC Machinery, Slana Surveyors, Alyeska Ski Club, Arctic Bicycle Club, Mighty Bikes, REI Inc.

**Award Notation:** Recipient of a Coalition for Recreational Trails 2011 National Achievement Award