



Oregon and California National Historic Trails

Project Updates – Protection, Development, and Promotion

Four Trails Feasibility Study Update

The full feasibility study will be under internal NPS review later in 2014 after the study route descriptions have been assessed by both Federal agencies and State Historic Preservation Offices. Federal agency reviews of the route descriptions have been completed and a review of the route descriptions by the state historic preservation offices is about to begin.

For future updates about the study, please ask a planning team member or go to:

<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/FourtrailFS>

GIS Updates

NTIR has continued supporting mapping activities with the OCTA Northwest and California-Nevada chapters. NTIR has also made great progress on an interactive map project. Maps are being developed so they can be shared and incorporated into the websites of partners along the trails. NTIR will be sharing draft maps for review in August.

NTIR Website



The National Trails Intermountain Region website is live! Centralized information for all nine national

historic trails and the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program can be found here: <http://www.nps.gov/ntir/>



National Trails Intermountain Region Superintendent Aaron Mahr speaks at the New Fork River Crossing Historical Park dedication ceremony on June 21, 2014.

Exhibits and Design and Development

- NTIR staff hosted a development concept plan (DCP) charette for phase II of New Fork River Crossing Historical Park in Pinedale, Wyoming the week of June 22. A draft plan will be developed for review over the next year.
- Work continues on the Lander Trail Foundation interpretive kiosk at the Ft. Hall Museum on the Shoshone-Bannock Indian reservation.
- NTIR and the Salt Lake City BLM office are working together to create a plan for marketing, signing, and providing interpretation on the Silver Island Mountains Back Country Byway in Utah that includes the Donner Reed Pass on the California NHT.
- The City of Raytown, Missouri approved original route signs for four miles of the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California NHTs. Signs will be installed in the fall. California NHT signs have been installed along nearly 14 miles of the St. Joe Road in Doniphan County, Kansas, thanks to the OCTA Gateway Chapter.
- The Alcove Spring Historical Trust and NTIR were awarded an Active Trails Grant by the National Park Foundation, to support volunteer trail building and public events onsite in 2014. Volunteers have already recleared an existing trail, and additional work days, guided hikes, and a run/walk event are being scheduled for the summer and fall. The DCP document is in final review.
- NTIR and Nevada BLM are creating a sign plan for a 30-mile section of the California Trail Scenic Byway near Elko, Nevada. California NHT original route signs are being ordered for City of Rocks National Reserve.
- Site identification signs are being developed in four Oregon NHT sites in Malheur County, Oregon.

Trail Exhibit Highlights



New Fork River Crossing Historical Park Boulder, Wyoming

Phase I site development was completed in June 2014. Nine exhibits, site identification signs, an ADA path, trail construction, an entrance sign, and a parking lot were installed and constructed for the dedication ceremony on June 21, 2014. About 150 people attended the ceremony with guest speakers including the National Park Service, Oregon-California Trails Association, and the Bureau of Land Management who all remarked on the importance of partnership.

During the week of June 22, NTIR hosted a public meeting charette to discuss and draft a development concept plan for phase II in Pinedale, Wyoming.



Silver Island Mountains Back Country Byway

We are working on a site and interpretive plan to enhance the visitor experience on a scenic drive on the California NHT in western Utah just off I-80 near the Nevada border. Wayside exhibits will be developed for Donner Reed Pass (left) and two other locations on the driving tour.



Publications

Progress on the auto tour route guide for the Oregon NHT is on track. Driving directions for the primary route of the Oregon Trail, the Barlow Road around Mt. Hood, and the Applegate Trail are drafted and in review. Thanks go to the OCTA Northwest Chapter mapping teams for testing the driving directions along parts of the route. The next step is for the National Park Service to seek landowner permission to include privately owned property, and to give owners and managers opportunity to review the entries about their sites.



Columbia River Gorge, Oregon from Rowena Crest

Partner Certification & National Register

New Partner Certifications On the Oregon NHT

Oregon City, Oregon: End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
The Dalles, Oregon: Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Wasco County Historical Museum

On the California NHT

Roseburg, Oregon: Douglas County Museum of History and Natural History

National Register

Kansas State Historic Preservation Office has completed preparation of 14 nominations for the National Register of Historic Places. Final listings approved by the Keeper of the National Register are for Lone Elm Campground Swale in Johnson County; Upper Wakarusa Crossing in Douglas County; Scott Spring and related trail swales in Pottawatomie County; Pacha Ruts in Marshall County; and Alcove Spring Park boundary expansion in Marshall County.

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office reports that the multiple property documentation form and nominations for several Oregon NHT segments were well received by the state board of review. The nominations for Blue Mountain Crossing, Well Springs, and White Swan and Flagstaff Hill trail segments are now in review with the Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, and Department of Defense. NTIR funded these nominations through cooperative agreements.

Tribal Liaison

A tribal listening session & Pawnee blessing will be held for Alcove Spring Park, in Marysville, Kansas in late September, 2014.

National Trails Intermountain Region

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Comments? Contact:

National Trails Intermountain Region
Branch Office
324 South State Street, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
nts_interpretation@nps.gov



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