National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR)

FY 2010 Superintendent's Annual Report
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ADA art student reads the Meeker Marker at South Pass.

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Executive Summary of FY10 Accomplishments

- Conducted internal preparations for feasibility study and environmental assessment (FS/EA) that will examine possible additions to the California, Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express National Historic Trails (NHT).
- Completed scoping for FS/EA for Chisholm and Great Western NHT (Cattle Trails).
- Prepared project agreement for research study and EA for Butterfield Overland Trail.
- Initiated public review of comprehensive management plan and environmental assessment for El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT.
- Completed a Multiple Property Documentation Form and 11 National Register nominations for El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT.
- Certified seven sites on Trail of Tears NHT, one on Oregon NHT, and reauthorized 17 lapsed certifications on Santa Fe NHT.
- Initiated 16 partner-sponsored projects through the trails Challenge Cost Share Program and five projects through the Route 66 Cost Share Grant program.
- Completed seven Challenge Cost Share Projects across three NHTs.
- Conducted three Tribal Listening Sessions for tribes associated with NTIR-administered trails.
- Celebrated the 2010 Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the Pony Express with events across eight states plus a trip to Washington D.C. to kick-off the event.
- Completed Long Range Interpretive Plan for Oregon, California, Pony Express, and Mormon Pioneer NHTs.
- Completed archaeological survey work to identify 17th- to early 19th-century Caddo sites along El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT in East Texas.
- Dedicated site development at Mantle Rock Preserve, Kentucky, on Trail of Tears NHT, including highway and site signing, construction of a retracement trail, and development of eight wayside exhibits at the trailhead and along the trail, September 20, 2010.
- Produced an interpretive film for Trail of Tears NHT entitled *Trail of Tears*.

Administration and Staffing

The National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) offices in FY10 administered nine national historic trails, a historic highway, and conducted four ongoing trail feasibility studies.

Organization and Purpose

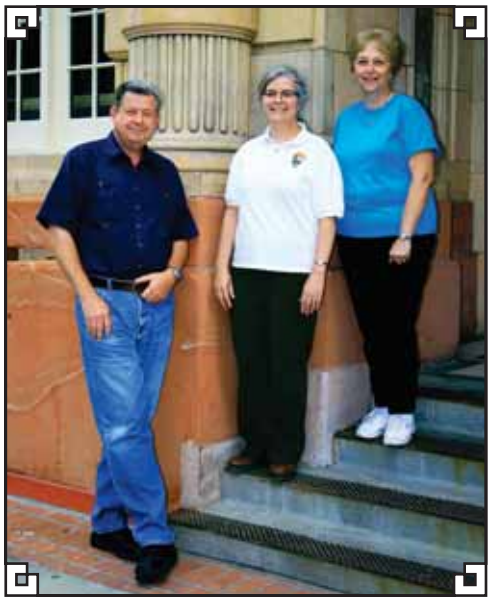
NTIR staff in Santa Fe and a branch office in Salt Lake City administer the California, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, El Camino Real de los Tejas, Mormon Pioneer, Old Spanish, Oregon, Pony Express, Santa Fe, and Trail of Tears National Historic Trails (NHT) and the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and Old Spanish NHTs are coadministered with Bureau of Land Management. As a result of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, NTIR worked on three new feasibility studies (FS): (1) the Chisholm and Great Western NHT (Cattle Trails), (2) the Butterfield Overland Stage (Ox Bow Route) Trail, and (3) the addition of up to 64 new route segments to the Oregon, California, Pony Express, and Mormon Pioneer NHTs. NTIR completed the Long Walk FS and continued work on Old Spanish and El Camino Real de los Tejas comprehensive management plans.

Budgets

In FY10, NTIR received a total of $3,570,500 in ONPS funding and $260,518 in trails-related Challenge Cost Share Program funding. In addition, NTIR received $205,500 for planning (three feasibility studies), and $40,000 for completion of National Register nominations for Santa Fe NHT properties. See Table 1 for a breakdown of funding by trail.

Staff

New staff: Interpretive Specialists Carol S. Clark and Ann Marie Ballou and GIS Technician Brian Deaton. GIS Database Manager Kay Threlkeld retired in February and Budget Analyst Teresa Bichard retired in June, 2010. One Star Award and Quality Step Increase were given.



Left: Chuck Milliken, Lee Kreutzer, Teresa Bichard. Right: Carol Ortega, Otis Halfmoon, Sharon Brown, Frank Norris, Susan Boyle, Aaron Mahr, Brooke Safford, Josina Martinez, Michael Taylor, Steve Burns, John Cannella. Missing: Kaisa Barthuli, Ann Marie Ballou, Carol S. Clark, Brian Deaton, Kay Threlkeld.

Table 1. NTIR Funding for FY10

Funding Source	*Trail or Program*	*Received*
ONPS	Santa Fe National Historic Trail	$730,700
	Trail of Tears National Historic Trail	$502,900
	Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program	$293,000
	Masau Trail	$ 33,700
	El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail	$288,100
	Old Spanish National Historic Trail	$244,500
	El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail	$199,000
	California National Historic Trail	$349,500
	Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail	$242,500
	Oregon National Historic Trail	$435,100
	Pony Express National Historic Trail	$251,500
	TOTAL ONPS	**$3,570,500**
Project Planning	Santa Fe Trail National Historic Register Nominations	**$40,000**
	Butterfield Overland Trail Special Resource Study	$62,000
	Chisholm and Great Western NHT (Cattle Trails) Study	$60,000
	Four Northern Trails Feasibility Study	$83,500
	TOTAL PLANNING	**$205,500**
Challenge Cost Share Program	All National Historic Trails	**$260,518**
TOTAL		**$3,826,000**

California NHT: third crossing of Humboldt River in Carlin Canyon, west of Elko, Nevada

Core Operations

NTIR remained well below the target fixed cost ratio of 93 percent due to budget increases in FY09 and FY10. The budget cost projection, using FY10 as a base model, was revised near the end of FY10 and provided management with a more accurate framework for budget planning for out years. Based on these revised numbers, NTIR prepared for a core operations workshop in early FY11.

Partnerships and Programs

Each of our national historic trails has a primary partner organization that supports trail-related research, interpretation, development, and promotes public interest and heritage tourism. NTIR provides some level of administrative support to each of these organizations so together we can fulfill our joint mission to develop the trails for public use. Table 2 below identifies the financial support (except Challenge Cost Share project funding) that NTIR provided each trail organization in FY10.

Table 2. NTIR Organizational Support for FY10

Partner Organization	*Funding Provided*
Santa Fe Trail Association	$147,100
Trail of Tears Association	$165,500
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Association	$ 61,230
Old Spanish Trail Association	$ 85,633
El Camino Real de los Tejas Trail Association	$ 75,630
Oregon/California Trails Association	$179,999
National Pony Express Association	$ 80,500
Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Council	$ 6,500
TOTAL ONPS	$802,092

Chisholm marker in ruts on Semrad Farm, south side of Enid, Oklahoma

Feasibility Studies

Four-Trails Feasibility Study

The 2009 Omnibus Public Land Management Act directed the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study for 64 additional trail segments on the Oregon, California, Pony Express, and Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trails. The legislation named 10 study routes on the Oregon NHT through Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, and 40 study routes on the California NHT through Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California. NTIR was assigned responsibility for the work.

Key Achievements:

- Completed project agreement covering process and schedule; approved by Intermountain Region.
- Entered into an agreement with Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) to map and collect historical, recreational, and other information relating to 28 of study routes.
- Issued a Request for Proposals to contract preparation of key components of feasibility study and environmental assessment (FS/EA).
- Began planning, i.e. task assignments, scoping meeting schedule, etc.
- Initiated attempts to map several Mormon handcart routes to be evaluated.
- Identified tribes associated with trail.

Other Feasibility Studies Key Achievements:

Butterfield Overland (Ox-Bow Route) Trail

- Prepared a project agreement for special resource study and EA.
- Prepared project to ascertain station and route information. Partnered with Fayetteville, Arkansas historian Kirby Sanders. Contract awarded: September 2010.
- Identified tribes associated with trail.

Chisholm and Great Western National Historic Trails (Cattle Trails)

- Prepared a project agreement for FS/EA.
- Ascertained route of Chisholm Trail in Texas and determined which routes in southern part of Texas qualified as nationally significant trail segments. Partnered with Texas A&M history professor Dr. Armando Alonzo.
- Organized a mailing list; prepared a planning newsletter: Trail Study News; arranged venues for public scoping meetings; prepared presentation materials.
- Conducted 12 public scoping meetings at sites in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska in June 2010. Assembled public comments.
- Prepared scoping report for FS/EA; placed on PEPC website in mid-September 2010.
- Identified tribes; wrote letters to inform them of scoping meetings.

Long Walk Trail

- Completed abbreviated final EIS.

California and Oregon National Historic Trails

The Oregon National Historic Trail (OREG) and the California National Historic Trail (CALI) follow the same corridor from the Missouri River to southwestern Wyoming. They share many of the same partner organizations, resources, and stories.

Key Partners/Cooperators: Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) and its state chapters; Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Council; Caribou Historical Society; University of Utah DIGIT (GIS) Lab; and other federal and state land management agencies, including CalTrans and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Key Achievements:

- Started planning process for development of new Auto Tour Route\Local Tour Route (ATR/LTR) highway signs throughout SE Idaho.
  - ✔Initiated discussions for development of a Cooperative Agreement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Idaho Transportation Department.
  - ✔Launched discussions with local contacts from the Caribou Historical Society to identify highways for ATR/LTR highway signs throughout SE Idaho.
- Completed Long Range Interpretive Plan for Oregon, California, Pony Express, and Mormon Pioneer (MOPI) National Historic Trails. Printed August 2010. Distributed to Oregon-California Trails Association and National Pony Express Association. Placed online. August 2010.
- Entered into one certified partnership:
  - ✔Tamástalikt Cultural Institute, Pendleton, Oregon (3/20/2010)
- Completed first phase and initiated second phase of a Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) project through the Organization of American Historians to research Black pioneers on the Oregon, California, and Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trails.
- Initiated three Challenge Cost Share Project (CCSP) agreements: (1) escorted 18 students with visual impairments along the Oregon Trail (test audible GPS units). Partnered with Accessible Arts, Inc., (2) held an educators' retreat to develop lesson plans and curriculum relating to Oregon-California Trails Association's *Pursuit of a Dream* film, and (3) presented a series of musical workshops across several states on the California Trail. Workshops focused on the song "Sweet Betsy from Pike." Partnered with Educational Encounters, Inc.
- Funded (ONPS) and participated in the second season of Central Wyoming College's archeological field school on the Middle Sweetwater River, see page 8.

- Developed six wayside exhibits for Hastings Cutoff. Partners included Salt Lake Field Office of BLM, Utah State Historic Society, and Crossroads Chapter of OCTA. Installation: fall of 2011.
- Developed four wayside exhibits at Donner Springs on Hastings Cutoff. Partners included Utah State Historical Society and Crossroads Chapter of OCTA. Installation: fall of 2011.
- Completed six waysides exhibits (covering OREG, CALI, MOPI NHTs) in coordination with a series of trail vignettes along the "Cultural Learning Trail" outdoor exhibit area at the Great Platte River Road Archway Monument in Kearney, Nebraska. Installation: summer of 2011.
- Launched work on five wayside exhibits at McCoy Park in Independence, Missouri.
- Pursued development of educational and interpretive media, wayside exhibits, and museum exhibits with Lander Foundation for portion of Lander Trail between Big Piney, Wyoming and eastern Idaho.
- Updated and reprinted Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guides for Northwestern Missouri\Northeastern Kansas and Nebraska\Colorado. Print date: September 2010.
- Wrote, printed, distributed new Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide: Utah—Crossroads of the West. Print date: September 2010.

2009 Plum Creek geophysical survey results . . .

. . . on 15 acres of private farmland along Plum Creek in central Nebraska, where local tradition holds that Cheyenne warriors attacked a train of freight wagons in 1864. The survey identified: (1) subsurface anomalies associated with use of the Oregon Trail, (2) signatures (distinctive characteristics) linked to the destruction of wagons in the Morton freight train, and (3) the mass grave of the 11 slain teamsters. Surveyors used four geophysical techniques, supplemented by metal detecting. The survey work identified linear anomalies (wagon ruts) that likely resulted from heavy wagon traffic along the trail. Other incongruities are thought to be (later) ditches and farm tracks; old fence alignments; four locations consistent with wagon burn sites; and several rectangular features, including a large one that may be the mass grave. In addition, the metal detection crew recovered numerous pieces of wagon and harness hardware, fragments of cast iron cookware, and several 19th-century cartridge cases—mostly post-dating 1864. The artifacts appear to be related to trail use but could not definitively be linked to the attack.

-supported by NTIR base funding and conducted by the Midwest Archeological Center with the help of volunteers

Ten archeology students from Central Wyoming College mapped 19th-century wagon trail swales, river fords, and possible emigrant graves associated with the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express National Historic Trails in west-central Wyoming.

Middle Sweetwater Valley

Field school students and staff documented and updated existing documentation of 58 sites and trail segments in the Middle Sweetwater Valley and at Fort Laramie in May/June 2010. Some of these are undatable stone features along the trail (vision quest sites, hearths, cairns, and stone circles) of likely American Indian origin; others were created by later Euro-American activities (military, ranching, and mining) that used the old trails for access. Important trail-related finds include emigrant campsites, graves, and inscriptions; possible remains of an 1860 stage station; and ruts and/or artifact scatters at St. Mary's Station, 3rd Crossing, 7th Crossing, and 8th Crossing of the Sweetwater.

In addition to documenting sites, this cooperative project of the NPS, BLM, and Central Wyoming College has introduced college students to the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express NHTs; fostered in them an interest in history and archeology; resulted in important life-lessons and work experiences; and provided professional training that has led to employment in subsequent years.

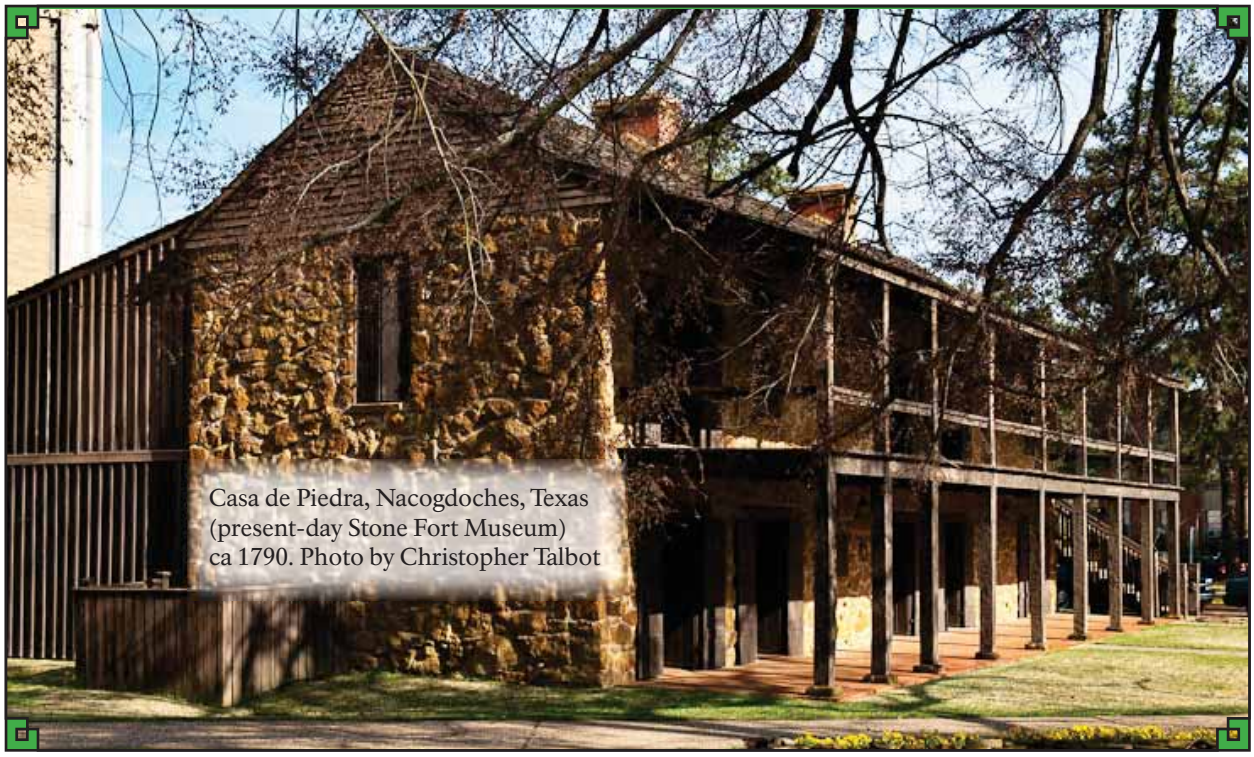
El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail

During the Spanish Colonial Period, El Camino Real de los Tejas was a "royal road" that provided an overland route from Mexico and across the Río Grande to Los Adaes in what now is Western Louisiana. Planning for administration of the trail, authorized in 2004, continues.

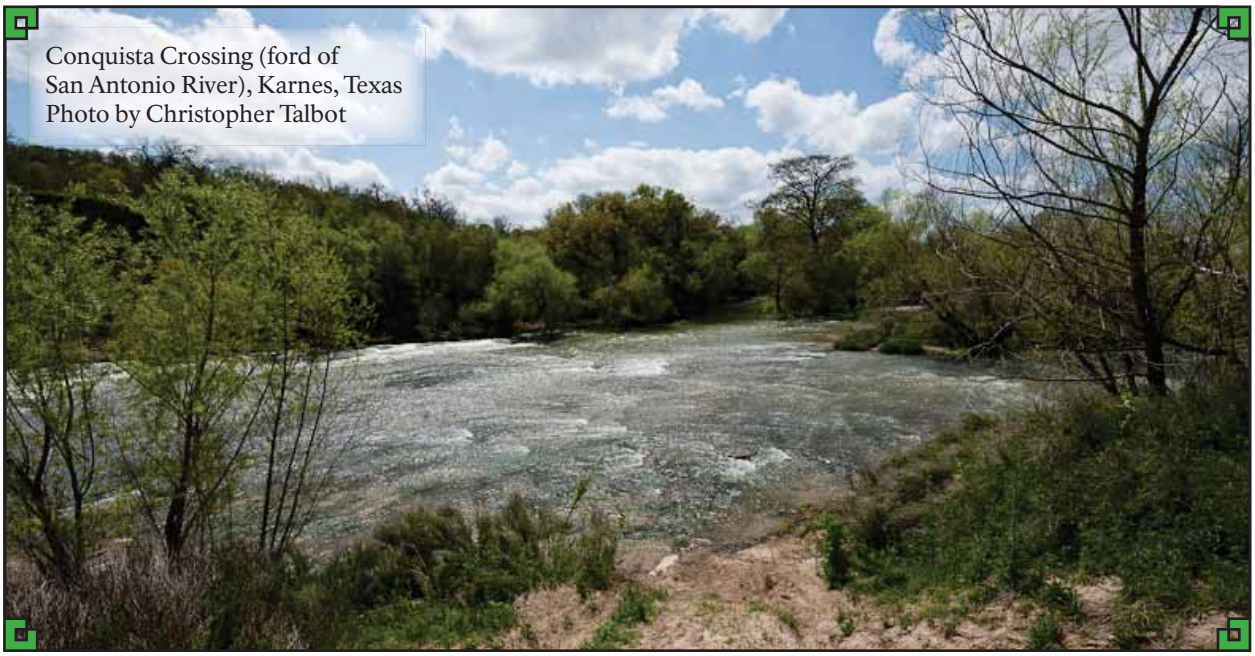
Key Partners/Cooperators: Texas Historical Commission, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association, Stephen F. Austin State University.

Key Achievements:

- Incorporated comments from internal review into a comprehensive management plan and environmental assessment (CMP/EA) that went out for public review in September 2010. To finalize the document the following tasks were completed:
  - ✔Worked with designer to prepare draft for public review; included images and labels to be used in back and front cover and for section dividers.
  - ✔Routed document through Intermountain Region and WASO office to obtain print approval.
  - ✔Produced hard copies of document and downloaded it to PEPC website.
- Coordinated development and assisted with implementation of three Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) agreements with Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas. Tasks included:
  - ✔Phase III of trail oral history project from Sabine River to Angelina River, Texas.
  - ✔Heritage education workshops to be held in Texas and Louisiana.
  - ✔Garden Demonstration Project at Stone Fort Museum, Nacogdoches, Texas.



Casa de Piedra, Nacogdoches, Texas (present-day Stone Fort Museum) ca 1790. Photo by Christopher Talbot



Conquista Crossing (ford of San Antonio River), Karnes, Texas
Photo by Christopher Talbot

- Assisted in developing a strategy and identifying properties suitable for a Multiple Property Documentation Form and National Register nominations, through a cooperative agreement with Texas Historical Commission.
- Reviewed historic research project (Phase I) of task agreement that focused on three historic sites owned by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: McKinney Falls, Mission Tejas, and Fort Boggy state parks. Phase II, the archeological component, completion FY12.
- Collaborated with San Antonio Missions National Historical Park on a Connect Trails to Parks project to finalize three wayside exhibit designs. Placed at various locations within the park, waysides will draw attention to El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT and its connection and importance to the park.
- Completed archaeological survey field work to identify 17th - early 19th century Caddo sites along the trail in East Texas, through a contract with Timothy Perttula, Archaeological and Environmental Consultant, Inc.
- Initiated archaeological research at an 18th-century Caddo site in Nacogoches County, Texas, through a contract with Chester Walker, Archeo-Geophysical Associates, LLC.
- Initiated work on the report "Trade and Cultural Interactions along the El Camino Real de los Tejas during the Late Colonial Period in Nacogdoches County, Texas" through a cooperative agreement with Nine Flags Museum. Work entails archaeological reconnaissance and test excavations at various locations in Nacogdoches County.
- Inventoried and collected all research materials from CCSP agreements and other contracts. Nonsensitive projects in paper form will be scanned and placed online.
- Published *A Photographic Journey along El Camino Real de los Tejas* brochure.
- Produced an official trail logo in collaboration with trail partners.

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro is one of the oldest roads in the U.S., and was the 13th historic trail to be added to the National Trails System. It is a timeless route of trade and cultural exchange and interaction among Spaniards and other Europeans, American Indians, Mexicans, and Americans. This internationally significant trail is coadministered by the NPS and the BLM.

Key Partners/Cooperators: El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association (CARTA), New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office.

Key Achievements:

- Completed preparation of a Multiple Property Documentation Form and of 11 National Register nominations of significant trail segments, through a cooperative agreement with New Mexico Preservation Division.
- Implemented a pilot study on the efficacy and utility of low-altitude aerial photography using model airplanes to document sections of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT, through a cooperative agreement with El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association.
- Initiated test excavations and an archaeological site management plan at El Rancho de las Golondrinas of an 18th defensive tower (torreon) on the living museum grounds, through a cooperative agreement with El Rancho de las Golondrinas.
- Entered into CESU agreement with University of New Mexico for an Archaeological Survey on La Bajada Escarpment.
- Designed the first official map and guide brochure for El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT. Technical assistance included research and historical review, layout and image assistance, correlation between themes and sites, and editorial/design review. Partners included BLM and a contractor. Printed September 2010.

- Continued developmental concept plan (DCP) for Jornada del Muerto. Site development included interstate and county road signing, two loop hiking trails, and installation of wayside exhibits at each trailhead and along the trails. Partnered with BLM and New Mexico DOT.
  - ✔Developed 12 wayside exhibits at two retracement trail sites on Jornada del Muerto: Point of Rocks and Yost Escarpment. Exhibits are bilingual (English and Spanish). Installation June 2010. Dedication scheduled for October 2010.
  - ✔Technical assistance included research and historical review, layout and image assistance, correlation between themes and sites, editorial/design review, and event planning for unveiling of exhibits and signage.
- Initiated two CCSP agreements for (1) three waysides and website consultation with Pojoaque Pueblo and (2) a film workshop with that will result in a documentary film. Partners included El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association and Las Vegas, Nevada filmmaker Jason VanCamp.
- A third CCSP project addressed drainage issues and associated archaeology at San Miguel Chapel in Santa Fe, New Mexico, through a cooperative agreement with Cornerstones Community Partnerships. The 17th-century chapel is a National Historic Landmark and is a prominent landmark within the historic district of Santa Fe.
- Coordinated fabrication and placement of road signs at trail sites and segments in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, and El Paso; in consultation with trail partners.
- Transcribed Diary of Rowland Willard. Partnered with CARTA. To be placed online.

Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail

The Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail commemorates those Latter-day Saints who left Illinois in 1846 and continued on to the Great Salt Lake the following year. The designated trail consists only of the original 1846-47 route from Nauvoo, Illinois, to Salt Lake City, Utah.

Key Partners/Cooperators: Various state chapters of Mormon Trail Association and Mormon Trail Heritage Foundation.

Key Achievements:

- Updated and reprinted Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide: The Mormon Pioneer Trail Across Iowa in 1846. Print date: September 2010.
- Wrote, printed, distributed new Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide: Utah—Crossroads of the West, which focuses on final leg of Mormon Pioneer Trail into Salt Lake City. Print date: September 2010.

Old Spanish National Historic Trail

The Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service jointly administer this historic trade route between Santa Fe and Los Angeles. The two agencies are developing the trail's comprehensive management plan and environmental impact statement (CMP/EA).

Key Partners/Cooperators: Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA), Southern Ute Tribe.

Key Achievements:

- Initiated a Multiple Property Documentation form and National Register nominations, through a task agreement with New Mexico Historic Preservation Division and in collaboration with BLM.
- Produced an interpretive poster and map of the trail for Aztec Ruins National Monument. Portions of Old Spanish Trail pass through Aztec Ruins NM. The poster is hanging in main visitor center.
- Produced an official trail logo in collaboration with trail partners.
- Participated in American Indian Slavery research project (CCSP) with Southern Ute Tribe of Colorado.
- The following tasks were completed as part of development of trail's CMP/EA:
  - ✔Oversaw completion of draft environmental impact statement by private contractor.
  - ✔Researched National Register nominations for information on possible high potential sites and segments associated with trail's period of significance.
  - ✔Created database on high potential sites/segments for insertion in final document.
  - ✔Completed draft of Chapter 1.
  - ✔Began to gather materials to prepare Chapter 3, principally ethnographic resources and historic background.
  - ✔Identified needs for project to proceed (i.e. information on BLM's approach to cultural landscapes, etc.)
  - ✔Identified mapping needs and arranged for Digitization Lab in Salt Lake City to begin work on this task.

Church Rock along Old Spanish NHT in Arizona.

Pony Express National Historic Trail

The crouching Pony Express rider and his galloping horse have become one of the mythic icons of the American West. Many Pony Express enthusiasts enjoy re-creating the thrill of this cross country ride by participating in the annual re-ride along the route.

Key Partners/Cooperators: National Pony Express Association (NPEA); Pony Express Trail Association; smaller partners and visitor centers; BLM; and other state and federal agencies.

Key Achievements:

2010 Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the Pony Express

- Provided NPEA with Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) and technical support for several years of planning, which culminated in events in each of eight states along the trail during summer of 2010.
- Conducted a modified re-ride from west to east (conducted only during daylight hours, instead of usual 24-hour relay) to allow for special events.
- Sponsored NPEA horse-and-rider awareness and educational activities in Washington, D.C.; published a schedule of anniversary events; production of commemorative booklet in progress.
- Staff traveled to Washington, D.C. in April to assist with kick-off events at Smithsonian National Postal Museum; conducted a demonstration of mail exchange by pony riders adjacent to U.S. Capitol; and hand delivered letters to congressional representatives from each of the districts in eight states that the trail passes through.
- Developed and produced a large format commemorative map of Pony Express trail route depicting a listing of nearly 200 Pony Express stations and images of several stations along route.
- Documented special events throughout the year with digital images, including WASO kick-off events and re-ride through Utah.

More Key Achievements:

- Researched and planned for development and production of over 190 new Auto Tour Route\Local Tour Route (ATR/LTR) highway signs across state of Nevada.
  - ✔Worked with Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) officials to develop a cooperative agreement for installation of ATR/LTR highway signs.
  - ✔Developed and prepared production-ready art for each type of sign.
  - ✔Developed Scope of Work for contracting to issue a Request for Quotes.
  - ✔Administered contract to review proofs and manufacture signs and ship them to destinations designated by NDOT.

- Continued work with City of Eagle Mountain, Utah and Utah State Institutional Trust Lands Administration to develop pedestrian and equestrian trails at Eagle Mountain. Worked with partners to develop wayside exhibits and road signs.
- Developed three wayside exhibits for Schell Creek Station in eastern Nevada. Partnered with NPEA. Installed a Pony Express rider silhouette, constructed a wooden walkway and path, and updated interpretive kiosk.
- Continued collaboration with White Buffalo Nation and BLM's Battle Mountain District Office to develop an interpretive kiosk in Garden Pass area north of Eureka, Nevada, and to conduct a weekend of celebration events at Eureka. Kiosk has been installed and three wayside exhibits are in development.
- Completed four wayside exhibits for Utah west desert area at Faust, Simpson Spring, and Boyd stations.
- Established CCSP agreement for one wayside exhibit at Guittard Station in Nebraska. Partnered with NPEA.
- Wrote, printed, distributed new Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide: Utah—Crossroads of the West.

National Pony Express Association riders deliver mail at the U.S. Capitol during the 2010 Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the Pony Express.

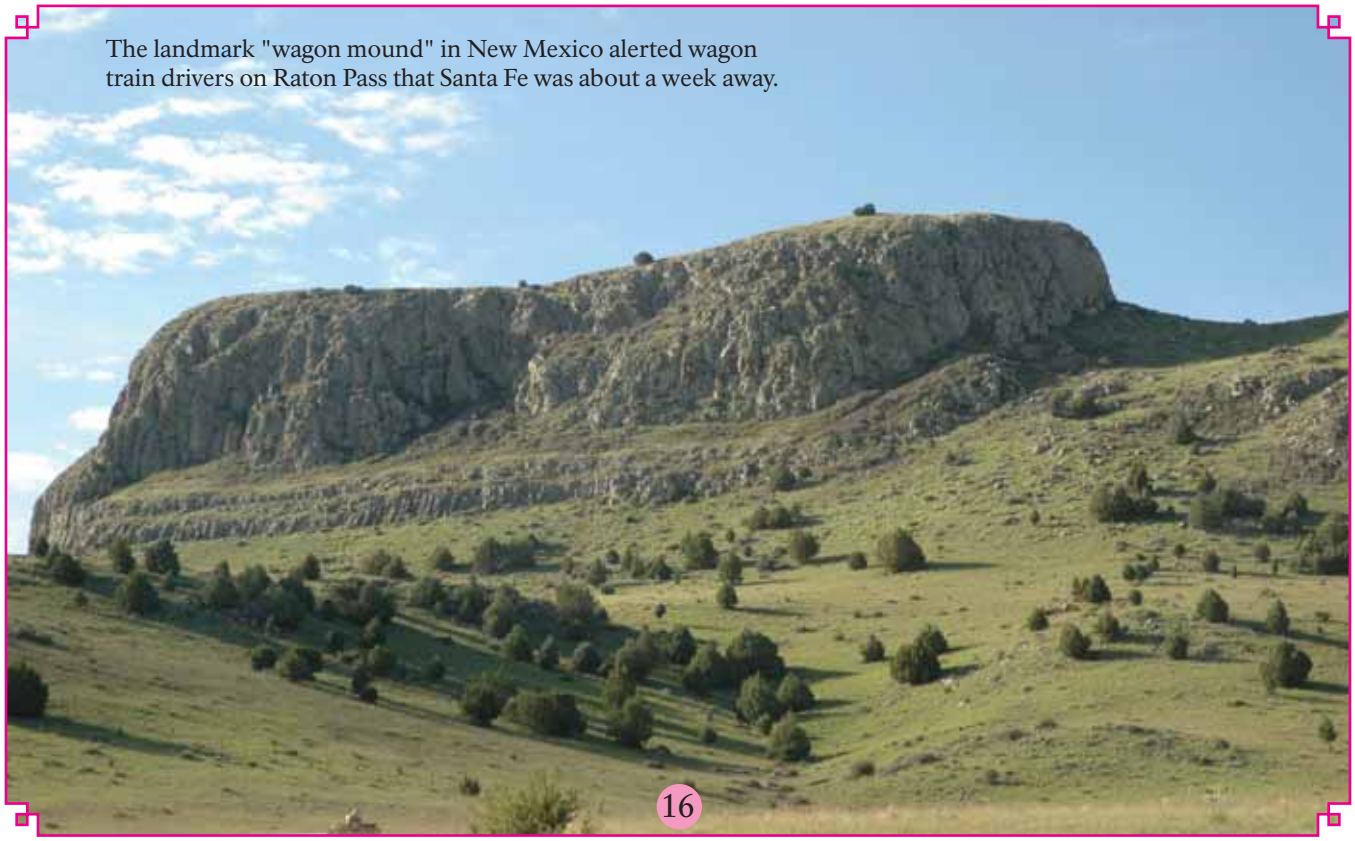
Santa Fe National Historic Trail

Between 1821 and 1880, the Santa Fe Trail was primarily a commercial highway linking Missouri and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Today, this well-known trail attracts many visitors and partners and enjoys the support of a very active trail association.

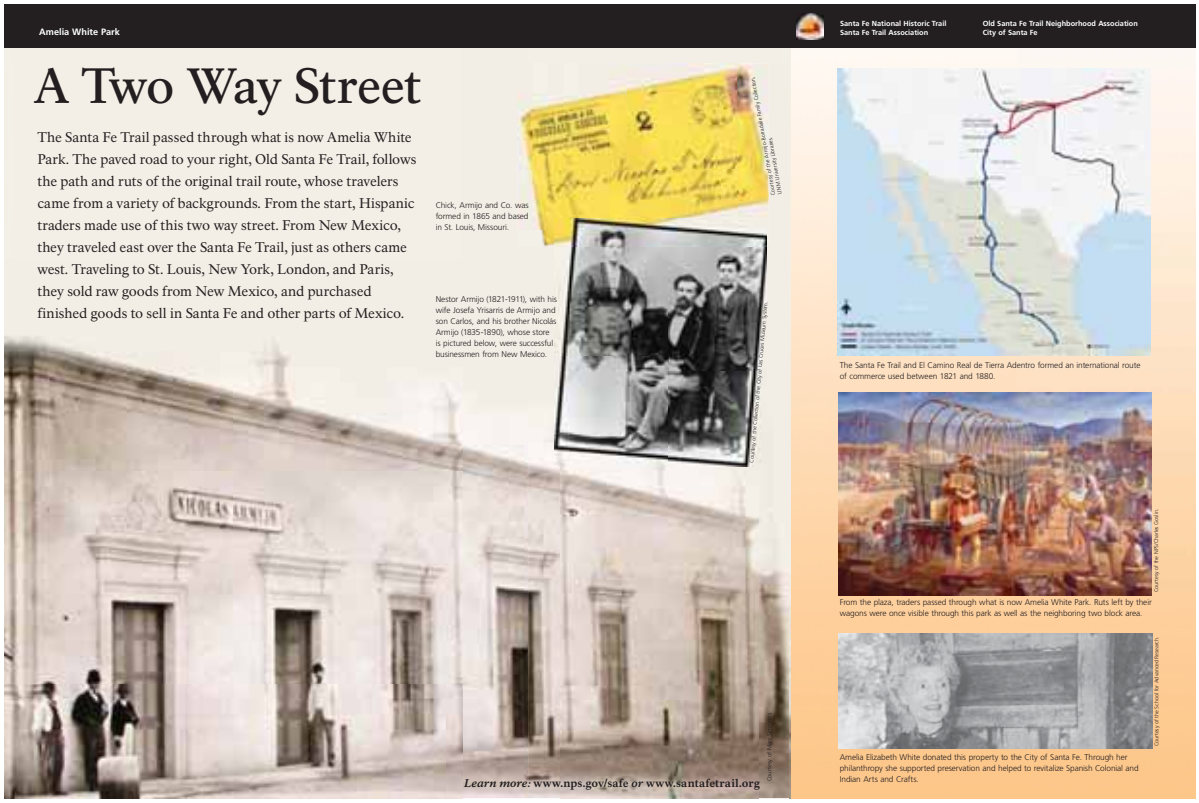
Key Partners/Cooperators: Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA), Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association, and 3-Trails West, Inc.

Key Achievements:

- Worked to amend existing Multiple Property Documentation Form for the trail and draft National Register nominations for Santa Fe Trail properties in Kansas, through a cooperative agreement with Kansas State Historical Society.
- Prepared National Register nominations for eligible properties on the trail in New Mexico, through a cooperative agreement with New Mexico Preservation Division.
- Continued involvement with Cimarron Developmental Concept Plan, consulting with Village of Cimarron, New Mexico administration and an interpretive design contractor. Partners include Santa Fe Trail Association and Santa Fe Scenic Byways.
- Presented Santa Fe Trail Rediscovery Project to members of Bent's Fort Chapter of SFTA in Las Animas, Colorado.
- Started design of two Dodge City Ruts wayside exhibits that need to be replaced. Discussed three new wayside exhibits as part of a Challenge Cost Share Project (CCSP) that began in 2009. The new exhibits will match others trailwide that emphasize the site's importance and where to visit next to the east or to the west. Partners include SFTA and Boot Hill Museum, Dodge City, Kansas.



The landmark "wagon mound" in New Mexico alerted wagon train drivers on Raton Pass that Santa Fe was about a week away.



- Developed and installed one wayside exhibit at Amelia White Park in Santa Fe. Partners included Old Santa Fe Trail Neighborhood Association, the City of Santa Fe, and SFTA. Installation: February 2010.
- Initiated three CCSP agreements with (1) Kaw Nation of Oklahoma for two wayside exhibits, (2) SFTA for five wayside exhibits at Bent's New Fort, and (3) SFTA to transcribe, annotate, and index four unpublished Santa Fe Trail memoirs-diaries.
- Assisted with content and design of Junior Wagon Master program for youth grades K-12. The program will create four booklets for four sections of the Santa Fe NHT. Participants will receive Junior Wagon Master patch upon completion of age-appropriate activities. Partnered with SFTA.
- Offered technical assistance to the New Mexico Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway Alliance for interpretive planning such as brochures and exhibits. Guided alliance through the process of wayside exhibit planning: from topics and themes through design and fabrication. Helped the alliance identify exhibit locations and topics and produced technical writing. Provided information about the process for requesting bids for contractors. Coordinated information between the alliance and other sites, institutions, and agencies to provide a trailwide interpretive vision.
- Coordinated the fabrication and placement of road signs, in consultation with trail partners at Philmont, Rayado, Cimarron, Point of Rocks, and Las Vegas in New Mexico.
- Inventoried and collected all research materials from CCSP agreements and other contracts. Nonsensitive projects in paper form will be scanned and placed online.
- Published newsletter in September for SFTA board meeting.

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

In 1838, the United States government forcibly removed more than 16,000 Cherokee Indian people from their homelands in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, and Georgia, and resettled them in Indian Territory (now Oklahoma). The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail (TRTE) recognizes the removal of the Cherokee and the paths that 17 Cherokee detachments followed westward. Today the trail encompasses up to 4,000 miles of land and water routes, and traverses portions of nine states.

Key Partners/Cooperators: Trail of Tears Association (TOTA), Cherokee Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, other federal and state agencies and land-managing entities, and various smaller organizations.

Key Achievements:

- Produced an interpretive film entitled *Trail of Tears*. Partners included the Cherokee Nation and Harpers Ferry Center. Distributed to partners, schools, U.S. Senators and representatives, government agencies, and general public; distribution ongoing.
- Reviewed and edited trail-related research reports: Tuscumbia, Courtland, and Decatur RR study; Camp Ground Cemetery report; and TOTA's Oklahoma Chapter efforts at National Archive and Records Administration (NARA); to be placed online at www.nps.gov/trte.
- Assembled a database for Trail of Tears detachments that illustrated beginning and ending points, number of migrants, and other key data. Partners included NARA and various TOTA members. Distributed to NTIR staff and to TOTA members.
- Worked with NTIR GIS coordinator and TOTA personnel to establish for each trail: (1) total numbers of trail miles, and (2) single-line trail distances for major routes.
- Inventoried and collected all research materials from CCSP agreements and other contracts. Nonsensitive projects in paper form will be scanned and placed online.
- Visited Port Royal State Historic Site, Radford Farm, Trail of Tears Commemorative Park, Salem, Berry's Ferry, Crabb Abbot Farm, Golconda, Campground Church, Hamburg Hill to view infrastructure changes and discuss future projects, including site tours, exhibits, publications, site design, signage needs, GPS locations, photography, and identification of potential certification sites.
- Consulted with NTIR management and a range of partners (including Tuscumbia city leaders and Trail of Tears Association members) to lay groundwork for a Tuscumbia Landing Development Concept Plan (DCP) to be started in FY11.
- Visited Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge to determine a placement for water route waysides. Partnered with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Visited New Madrid to choose a place for water route waysides along levee. Partnered with TOTA.
- Published newsletter in September for TOTA board meeting.
- Reprint TRTE map and guide brochure.

- Completed Crabb Abbot Farm DCP implementation and original route signing in Shawnee National Forest. Coordinated efforts with a range of private landowner and federal agency partners, which involved on-site visits, and oversight of sign orders and sign installation. Dedicated on September 20, 2010, in Pope County, Illinois during Trail of Tears Association conference, involved multiple partners and trail stakeholders and received media attention.
- Continued to produce Trust for Public Lands DCP for Eastern Tennessee.
- Completed site development at Mantle Rock Preserve, Kentucky, including highway and site signing, construction of a retracement trail, and development of eight wayside exhibits at trailhead and along trail. Partners included the Cherokee Nation, The Nature Conservancy, TOTA, and Kentucky Heritage Council. Installation: August 2010. Dedicated on September 20, 2010 during Trail of Tears Association conference, involved multiple partners and trail stakeholders and received media attention.
- Coordinated fabrication and placement of highway and site identification signs at trail-related sites and original routes in Illinois, Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky, and Georgia. Partnered with TOTA.
- Entered in to seven certified partnerships:
  - Cedar Town Cherokee Removal Camp, Cedartown, Georgia (11/9/09)
  - Willstown Mission Cemetery, Fort Payne, Alabama (11/23/09)
  - Andrew Ross House, Fort Payne, Alabama (1/28/10)
  - McGinnis Cemetery Trail Segment, Anna, Illinois (2/1/10)
  - Toler Farm Trail Segment, Anna, Illinois (2/1/10)
  - Golconda Riverfront, Golconda, Illinois (2/9/10)
  - Wagner Farm Trail Segment, Golconda, Illinois (2/10/10)

Mantle Rock unveiling ceremony

NTIR Trails Project Summary

NTIR supports partner trails-projects through our Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) and with ONPS base funds. Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program cost share grant funding is administered separately from the trails Challenge Cost Share Program. It is described in the Route 66 Corridor Preservation section on pages 29-30.

Challenge Cost Share Program

The Challenge Cost Share Program provides matching funds to nonfederal partners for a variety of trail-related projects and studies. The program engages a wide spectrum of partners, both public and private. FY10 Challenge Cost Share projects are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3. NTIR New Challenge Cost Share Projects FY10

Trail	*Partner*	*Project Description*	*Federal Share*	*Partner Share*	*Total*
CALI/ OREG	Accessible Arts Incorporated	Field program for visually-impaired teens	$24,000	$24,000	$48,000
CALI/ OREG	OCTA	Education retreat to develop curriculum-lesson plans	$16,670	$16,695	$33,365
CALI	Educational Encounters	Student/teacher workshop on California Trail music	$5,840	$6,195	$12,035
ELCA	CARTA	Jornada del Muerto film	$14,000	$37,260	$51,260
ELCA	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Poeh Museum website and wayside exhibits	$19,125	$32,125	$51,250
ELCA	Cornerstones	San Miguel Mission artifacts	$24,957	$25,528	$50,485
ELTE	Stephen F. Austin University (CESU)	Oral history	$19,296	$19,326	$38,622
ELTE	Stephen F. Austin University (CESU)	Education workshops	$12,312	$12,549	$24,861
ELTE	Stephen F. Austin University (CESU)	Demonstration garden and wayside exhibit	$8,725	$8,812	$17,537

Table 3. NTIR New Challenge Cost Share Projects FY10

Trail	*Partner*	*Project Description*	*Federal Share*	*Partner Share*	*Total*
POEX	NPEA	Guittard Station wayside exhibit	$1,300	$1,300	$2,600
POEX	Knowledge Tree Films	"1861: The Spirit of the Pony Express" documentary film	$20,000	$203,322	$223,322
SAFE	SFTA	Four diaries project	$14,000	$14,430	$28,430
SAFE	City of Santa Fe	Fort Marcy wayside exhibits	$16,876	$17,906	$34,782
SAFE	Kaw Nation	Wayside exhibits	$4,838	$4,838	$9,676
SAFE	SFTA	Bent's New Fort wayside exhibits	$18,230	$18,801	$37,031
TRTE	TOTA	Research National Archives	$9,025	$18,030	$27,055

Aerial of Bent's New Fort and military earthworks. See the Santa Fe Trail ruts?

Source: National Agricultural Imagery Program 2011, available through NRCS

Work continues on some CCSP projects that were initiated in prior years. Those projects that were officially completed in Fiscal Year 2010 are listed in Table 4.

Table 4. NTIR Completed Challenge Cost Share Projects FY10

Trail	*Partner*	*Project Description*	*Federal Share*
ELCA	Joy Poole and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Association	Transcription of Diary of Dr. Rowland Willard (1825-1827)	$7,000
SAFE	Santa Fe Trail Association	Amelia White Park wayside exhibit	$1,238
SAFE	Santa Fe Trail Association	Web upgrades	$6,000
TRTE	Oklahoma Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association	Research at the National Archives, Washington, D.C.	$5,630
TRTE	Chieftains Museum, Rome, Georgia	The Chieftains Excavations 1969-1971	$15,500
TRTE	Jeff Bishop and Chieftains Museum	Research and documentation of the historic John Ridge property along the Calhoun Road in Floyd County, Georgia	$2,995
TRTE	Harvey Henson, CESU with Southern Illinois University	Remote sensing investigation at Camp Ground Church Cemetery near Anna, Illinois	$15,000

ONPS Base-Funded Projects

NTIR supports some partner projects with ONPS base funding, sometimes because the project requires more than $30,000 (the limit for CCSP funding) and sometimes because CCSP funding is insufficient to cover all of the projects we would like to support. Trails projects funded out of NTIR's base budget are shown in Table 5. They typically do not require a partner match.

Table 5. NTIR ONPS Base-Funded Projects FY10

Trail	*Partner*	*Project Description*	*Federal Share*
CALI/OREG/ MOPI	Organization of American Historians	African Americans on the emigrant trails	$21,419
CALI/OREG/ POEX	Kansas State Historic Preservation Office	National Register nominations	$52,250
CALI/OREG/ MOPI/POEX	Central Wyoming College Foundation	Middle Sweetwater archeological project	$25,000
CALI/OREG/ MOPI/POEX	(funded from two sources)	Environmental assessment	$137,403
ELCA	New Mexico DOT	Jornada del Muerto signs	$31,268
ELCA/ROSI	University of New Mexico	La Bajada study	$80,000
ELTE	Tejas NHT Association	Tribal listening session	$10,000
OLSP	Old Spanish Trail Association	Tribal listening session	$5,178
POEX	National Pony Express Association (NPEA)	150th anniversary support	$3,000
SAFE	Santa Fe Trail Association	Tribal listening session	$2,285
TRTE	The Nature Conservancy	Mantle Rock construction	$900
ALL	Partnership for the National Trails	Workshop Support	$5,000
TOTAL			**$373,703**

Table 6. Projects Supported with Funding Other Than ONPS FY10			
Trail	*Partner*	*Project Description*	*Federal Share*
Butterfield Trail	Kirby Sanders	Study of routes and stations	$24,990
Coronado	Charlie Haecker	Coronado study	$5,000
Four northern trails	(funded from two sources)	Envrionmental assessment	$115,500
Chisholm/Great Western NHT	Armando Alonzo	Complete a study on the significance of trail in Texas	$54,180

Connect Trails to Parks

Connect Trails to Parks is an NPS grant program that awards project funding to parks that intersect with national historic or national scenic trails. NTIR partnered with one park:

- Trail of Tears NHT Stones River National Battlefield for two wayside exhibits.

Volunteer-in-Parks

The NTIR volunteer-in-parks (VIP) program was reestablished with a new VIP coordinator.

Key Achievements:

☆ Cataloged NTIR library; entered into database.

☆ Prepared for 2011 projects: (1) catalog Route 66 Corridor library and (2) research and write Old Spanish NHT Official Map and Guide brochure.

Geographic Information System

GIS is an integral part of trails programming, as its products are used routinely by in-house and independent researchers, cultural resource managers, and others.

The Geographic Information System (GIS) Program oversees development and ongoing maintenance of GIS data for Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program and nine national historic trails administered by NTIR. In addition to in-house hours devoted to GIS, NTIR continues to work with University of Utah's Department of Geography (DIGIT Lab) under a multi-year cooperative agreement established between the NPS and the university. The DIGIT Lab assists in management of geodatabase for the nine national historic trails. The DIGIT Lab also serves as an additional repository for NTS-IMR georeferenced data and provides technical advice and assistance as needed.

GIS capabilities are essential to NTIR's ability to map and administer trails, evaluate and respond to development threats, provide effective maps for interpretive purposes, and conduct and produce feasibility studies and management plans. In fact, GIS is a foundation of virtually everything done at the office. In FY10, our GIS database manager in Salt Lake City retired and the position was not reclassified. A cartographic technician position through the Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP). The selected candidate, Brian Deaton, is a graduate student in the Department of Geography at the University of New Mexico. The cartographic technician, GIS specialist, and historian continue to consolidate the work of both offices into an effective, unified program.

Key Achievements:

- Finalized NTIR GIS Plan and started implementation.
- Participated in NPS Enterprise GIS Subcommittee (EGISS) discussions.
- Acquired GIS server and multiuser geodatabase software to facilitate centralization of NTIR GIS data.
- Developed GIS Intranet page to provide staff access to centralized data and map files (>1000 maps).
- Continued development of an officewide resource database project.

- Trained staff on FGDC metadata generation.
- Completed development of FGDC metadata templates for each trail to expedite process of metadata creation and maintenance.
- Coled NPS National Trail GIS Standards Subworkgroup.
- Responded to over 36 data requests, mostly from other agencies and their contractors for management and compliance purposes.
- Provided GIS mapping and technical support for three feasibility studies:
  - Four Trails Feasibility Study
  - Chisholm and Great Western NHT (Cattle Trails) Feasibility Study
  - Butterfield Overland Trail Special Resource Study
- Continued development of standard NTIR map and metadata templates for GIS products.
- Continued testing of new GIS replication technology to improve exchange of trail data with partners.
- Provided technical support for multiple planning efforts, including the El Camino Real de los Tejas CMP and Old Spanish CMP work.
- Continued to partner with the Intermountain Region Geographic Resources Program to serve NTIR web map services.

Resource Advocacy and Protection

The 2010 anniversary of the Pony Express stimulated publicity that resulted in several proposals for activities that could have adverse impacts for the trail and that may be incompatible with other BLM-authorized uses. Utah BLM and NTIR worked together to respond to these requests:

- Red Bull sports drink franchise proposed a cross-country motorcycle rally along the original Pony Express Trail from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California. Cultural resource and recreation specialists were primarily concerned about the impacts of hundreds of motorcycles on sensitive trail resources. After BLM-NPS consultation with Red Bull, the franchise decided instead to sponsor a long-distance run by athlete Karl Meltzer, who completed the two-thousand-mile route in 40 days.
- BLM and NPS found an event advertised on the Internet that boasted a plan to organize the "2010 Pony Express Bicycle Challenge." Unidentified sponsors planned to stage a head-to-head race between bicyclists and equestrians during the National Pony Express Association's (NPEA) sesquicentennial re-ride from Sacramento to St. Joseph in June 2010. NPEA, BLM, and NPS had safety concerns about impacts of over 500 bikers and support personnel showing up to race and interfering with the bicyclists. Without the required BLM authorization, the bike challenge was not carried out.

NTIR cultural staff logged 104 external compliance actions on CALI, MOPI, OREG, and POEX, and reviewed scores of compliance actions with potential to adversely impact ELCA, ELTE, OLSP, SAFE, and TRTE. These included notice of intent, scoping notices, consultation letters, environmental assessments, environmental impact statements, and associated decision documents. Staff wrote and submitted comments/responses on approximately 63 percent of these. Responses (1) informed proponents that their projects would not affect trail resources, (2) requested or provided more information, (3) identified potential impacts, or (4) participated in further consultation. Key external projects of interest include:

- Paradise Powerline, a Rocky Mountain Power 230 kv transmission line, that will adversely affect the Lander Cutoff of the California Trail. NPS participated in mitigation consultations that culminated in the purchase of intact trail from a private owner by the project proponents.
- Intermountain Region Energy Task Force advises the Superintendents' Leadership Council on energy matters affecting Intermountain Region.
- Lander Field Office BLM revised Resources Management Plan. Land managers, trail administrators, and local governments will craft a plan to guide the use of many miles of superb trail and setting (including South Pass) in Wyoming. NPS is a cooperating agency, represented by NTIR. In FY10, BLM and its cooperators developed draft alternatives. The draft EIS will be released in FY11.
- Gateway West Transmission Line will adversely impact the Oregon and California Trails across Wyoming and Idaho. NPS is a cooperating agency, represented by NTIR, City of Rocks National Reserve (CIRO), and three other NPS units. All of the alternative routes pose adverse impacts to sensitive trail segments, and one route would be within the CIRO trail viewshed. Private property owners want the line to cross public lands wherever possible, voicing concerns about stray voltage in their irrigated agricultural fields. The U.S. Forest Service wants to avoid impacts to roadless areas, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service wants to avoid impacts to its preserves. Responses are being coordinated by Pacific West Region.
- Grouse Creek/Goose Creek Wind Energy Project in the Goose Creek Mountains of northern Utah would be visible from the Salt Lake Cutoff at Granite Pass. NPS consulted with BLM, which denied the application. The decision is under appeal.
- Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line has potential for adverse effects to the Oregon Trail in Idaho and Oregon. The one alternative route that might have avoided impacts to the trail was eliminated from the study. BLM has invited NPS to sign a Programmatic Agreement to work together on mitigation.
- Antelope Ridge and Montague Wind Energy Developments will affect the Oregon Trail in Oregon. These projects are on private land and are not being treated as a federal undertakings (no lead agency is identified). Compliance is a state process only. However, NPS did write to correct the company's misstatements about the NPS comprehensive plan for the Oregon Trail.
- BLM Oil and Gas Lease Sale of parcels along the POEX near Five-Mile Pass, Utah, could adversely affect the trail. BLM deferred the sale due to NEPA inadequacy.

- Ruby Pipeline Project crosses multiple western states and threatened to impact CALI in Nevada. The Oregon-California Trails Association worked with the agency and proponent to realign the project and avoid trail impacts. A Record of Decision has been released.
- Mount Hope Molybdenum Mine project on the POEX northwest of Ely, Nevada will take down an entire mountain but leave the trail trace itself intact. NPS is a cooperating agency, represented by NTIR. BLM developed a mitigation plan that does not include off-site activities. NPS offered suggestions.
- Whistling Ridge Wind Energy Development on the Columbia River in Washington would be visible in some locations from the OREG auto tour route on the Oregon side of the river. NTIR declined comment because emigrants on the Oregon Trail at this location put their belongings on rafts and canoes and traveled down the river itself. Modern dams have deepened and broadened the Columbia, submerging the wild, dangerous rapids faced by the pioneers, so the river no longer retains its historic character. Lewis & Clark NHT, however, voiced concerns about visual impacts of the wind farm on the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area, and their comments drew objections from Washington legislators who support the development. Subsequently, NTIR received and responded to a FOIA request relating to government records of the establishment and administration of the OREG along this segment of the river/trail.
- 3-Bars Ecosystem and Landscape Restoration project is a BLM Mount Lewis Field Office project that will restore trail setting and probably upgrade recreational use of the POEX in Nevada. NPS, represented by NTIR, accepted cooperating agency status for this project.
- Spaceport America. NPS is a cooperating agency; NTIR is involved in ongoing consultation with the FAA for mitigation of impacts on El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT.
- Keystone XL Pipeline will adversely impact El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT in east Texas. NPS is a cooperating agency on this FAA-administered project, and NTIR is engaged in ongoing consultation with the Department of State for mitigation of these impacts.

Spaceport America has the potential to adversely effect the setting, including the scenic viewshed of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro in the Jornada del Muerto.

Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program

Congress created the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program to preserve and commemorate the vital history of an American icon, Route 66. The program works with the eight states through which the route passes to raise awareness about the history and significance of the route; identify preservation needs and strategies; and to facilitate collaboration among the states. The program provides technical and financial assistance to preserve the most significant and representative historic properties dating to the highway's period of historic significance (1926-1970). It also assists with preservation planning, research, and educational initiatives.

Key Cooperators/Partners: Statewide Route 66 associations, preservation organizations, educational institutions, State Historic Preservation Offices, county and state departments of transportation, tribal agencies, state and federal environmental protection agencies, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the World Monuments Fund, private individuals and others.

Key Achievements:

- Assisted Rutgers University, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, and Center for Urban Policy Research with a study of economic impacts of historic preservation and tourism on Route 66, through a cooperative agreement. Through a Memorandum of Agreement, the World Monuments Fund provided an additional $24,000 to support the project.
- Added an additional 50 sites to the Route 66 Discover Our Shared Heritage Travel Itinerary at www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/route66 in collaboration with the World Monuments Fund, American Express, NPS Heritage Education Services, and National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.
- Collaborated with California Preservation Foundation to conduct community meetings and initiate research for the development of a historical context and Multiple Property Documentation Form for California Route 66, through a cooperative agreement.
- Collaborated with Arizona State Historic Preservation office to undertake a comprehensive survey of historic Route 66 properties in Arizona, through a cooperative agreement.
- Hosted annual Route 66 Archive and Research Collaboration meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where a strategic plan for the initiative was developed. Partnered with New Mexico Route 66 Association. $16,000.
- Awarded five grant projects and concluded four grant projects.

Route 66 Cost Share Grant Program

The Route 66 Cost Share Grant program, funded and administered separately from the trails Challenge Cost Share Program, provides financial assistance for eligible historic preservation, research, oral history, interpretation, and education projects related to the highway.
See Table 1 for details of the 2010 program.

Table 1. ROSI Cost Share Projects FY10

Grant Name	*Project Description*	*Cost Share*	*Partner Match*
Historic Seligman Sundries Seligman, Arizona	Roof repair on soda fountain and trading post on Route 66	$5,115	$5,115
Relighting the historic signs of Figueroa Street Highland Park, California	Restore two historic signs to operating condition	$6,812	$15,148
Munger Moss Motel Lebanon, Missouri	Restore iconic neon sign to operating condition	$11,300	$11,300
Bristow Firestone Station Bristow, Oklahoma	Full restoration of 1930 Art Deco style service station	$30,000	$35,577
Wagon Wheel Motel Cuba, Missouri	Restore windows, floors, porches, HVAC system of this early example of a tourist court, so it may continue operation as an overnight lodging facility	$30,000	$86,925
TOTAL		$84,227	$154,065

ROSI National Register Travel Itinerary website

Tribal Consultation

Tribal consultation continues to be increasingly integrated as part of our work along the extensive network of overland trails administered by NTIR. Dozens of federally recognized tribes are affiliated with the nine historic trails, Route 66 (ROSI), and the lands through which they pass.

To help build new collaborative relationships among the associated tribes, the NPS, and various trails organizations, NTIR's tribal liaison is spearheading a multi-year initiative to host tribal listening sessions for tribes that are historically associated with the nine trails and ROSI. The initiative kicked off in 2009. Staff deals with 166 Federally Recognized Tribes in 20 states.

Key Achievements:

- Consulted with Pueblo of Cochiti's governor on Labajada Escarpment.
- Conducted Tribal Listening Session at Lawrence, Kansas. Partnered with Oregon-California Trails Association. Held November 9-10, 2009.
- Conducted Tribal Listening Session at Reno, Nevada. Held November 12-13, 2009.
- Consulted (site visit) with chairman of the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho.
- Completed a Task Agreement with El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association for a Tribal Listening Session.
- Conducted Tribal Listening Session in Austin, Texas. Partnered with El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association. Held August 30-31/September 1, 2010.
- Consulted with Jicarilla Apache on Cimmaron project in New Mexico.
- Attended the American Indian Alaskan Native Tourism Association conference at the Tulalip Indian Reservation in Washington state, September 19-22, 2010.

Summary

In Fiscal Year 2010, The National Trails Intermountain Region noted heightened development pressures that resulted in impacts to trails across the West. A notable increase in collaboration occurred between NTIR and its agency partners in the BLM and the US Forest Service. This led to a more proactive approach to sharing information about upcoming energy proposals, an increase in cooperating agency agreements, and more effective mitigation for unavoidable trail impacts. NTIR found itself dedicating increasing resources towards keeping abreast of development impacts along the trail corridors.

Despite the increased threats to the trails that were caused by the expanding energy development, the public's interest and support of trails increased. Several features of the Public Lands Act of 2009 affected the trails and programs administered by the NTIR. Several historic routes were added to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, raising the total mileage to 5,043 miles; the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program was reauthorized for another 10 years; and new feasibility studies were assigned to the NTIR, including the Butterfield Overland Trail, the Chisholm and Great Western Cattle Trails, and an evaluation of 64 routes for potential addition to the Mormon Pioneer, Pony Express, California, and Oregon National Historic Trails. At the same time, NTIR began finalizing the Long Walk Feasibility Study, which recognized the removal of the Navajo from the traditional homelands in Arizona and New Mexico.

NTIR felt the restrictions placed on it by the travel ceiling in FY10 and sought to minimize travel and use ceiling units more effectively. On the other hand, requests for challenge costs share projects remained high, and we used some base funding to support valuable projects. NTIR continued its concentrated efforts to reach out to affected Indian tribes along the trails and roads, hosting three very successful tribal listening sessions in FY10. Altogether, 17 federally recognized tribes sent representatives to these gatherings of confer with NTIR about trail history and impacts to indigenous peoples, NPS interpretive efforts, and opportunities for tribes to become involved in trails administration and interpretation.

This report of the FY10 activities of the National Trails Intermountain Region, National Park Service is submitted by:

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Aaron Mahr, Superintendent

October 2011