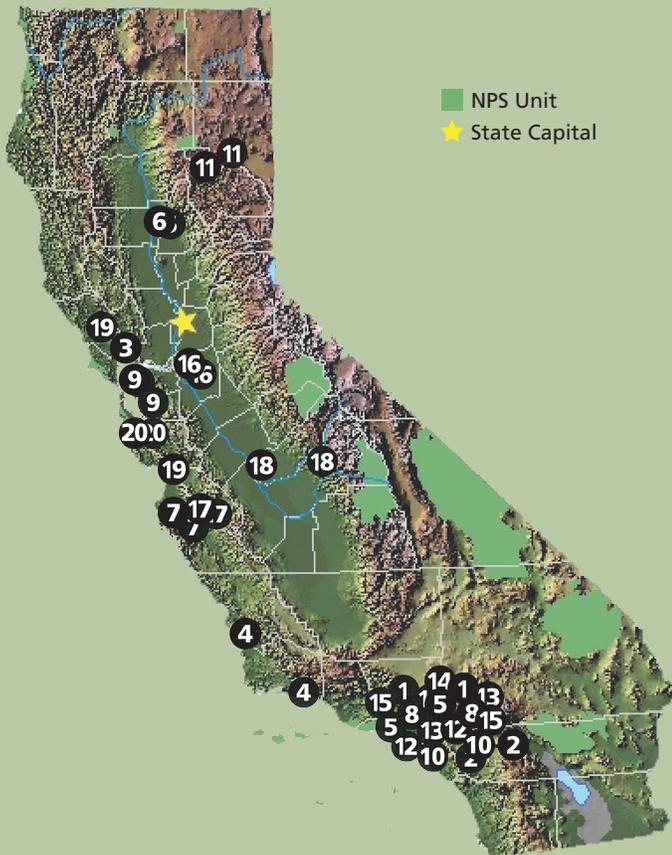




Secretary Jewell and Mayor Garcetti complete yoga stretches with students from Franklin High School along one of the featured LASHP Trails mobile website walking tours. Photo: NPS

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2015



Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Recent Successes

Urban Trails Interactive Website

In spring of 2014, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell caught a sneak peek of a new interactive mobile website being developed by a group of community partners who are reimagining urban trails in Los Angeles. Joined by a dozen students from nearby Franklin High School who worked on the project, Secretary Jewell used the mobile website on a 1-mile walking tour from the historic birthplace of Los Angeles at El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument to Los Angeles State Historic Park.

The walking tour began at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area's new outreach office located in the heart of El Pueblo, providing an opportunity for Secretary Jewell and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti to see how the National Park Service is enhancing its commitment to serving the diverse communities of urban LA.

From there, directional arrows and mileage counters on the mobile website navigated the group to various "hotspots" where site-specific historic images and interpretive information about important cultural landmarks were displayed.

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ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. Program staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.

Current Projects

1. Big Tujunga Trails

Project Partner: City of Los Angeles
Recreation and Parks Department
NPS Contact: Patrick Johnston
Location: Northeast boundary of the
City of Los Angeles
Congressional Districts: CA - 28, CA - 29

Project Goal

Restore 25 miles of trails in the Sunland/Tujunga and Verdugo Hills area. Address issues of connectivity and trail protection through coordinated trail management.

NPS Role

Assist the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department and other public lands managers to create a multiagency taskforce to address trail restoration, connectivity, and protection.

2. Butterfield Overland Trail

Project Partner: Riverside County
Regional Park and Open Space District
NPS Contact: Patrick Johnston
Location: Temescal Valley
Congressional District: CA - 42

Project Goal

Identify a preferred recreational trail alignment for a 16-mile segment of the historic Butterfield Overland Trail running through Temescal Valley. Develop a prioritized action plan for trail implementation and corridor resource protection, including key linkages to nearby natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

NPS Role

Assist with collaborative planning process between key stakeholders to identify a preferred recreational trail alignment for the Butterfield Overland Trail segment within Temescal Valley leading to the development of a prioritized action plan for implementation.

3. El Cerrito Trails Wayfinding

Project Partner: El Cerrito Trail Trekkers
NPS Contact: Patrick Johnston
Location: Contra Costa County
Congressional District: CA - 11

Project Goal

Develop trail signage and way-finding concepts to improve public awareness and facilitate use of approximately 5 to 7 miles of trails and walkways throughout the City of El Cerrito, including key linkages to adjacent open spaces and nearby transportation hubs.

NPS Role

Provide guidance with sign planning and graphic design support in the development of way-finding signage concepts for key trail linkages across the city of El Cerrito.

4. Healthy People, Healthy Trails, Parks and Open Spaces

Project Partner: Santa Barbara County
Trails Council
NPS Contact: Patrick Johnston
Location: Santa Barbara County
Congressional District: CA - 24

Project Goal

Establish a pilot Healthy People, Healthy Trails program serving approximately 200-300 people in the communities of Santa Maria and Lompoc. Enhance 3-7 miles of existing trails to support a range of positive health outcomes.

NPS Role

Facilitate a collaborative planning process between key partners for the development of a Healthy People, Healthy Trails program, including identification of shared goals and objectives, priority setting, consensus building, trail identification and mapping, and marketing.



The trails around the Sunland/Tujunga area of Los Angeles are popular with a variety of trail users.
Photo: NPS

Current Projects cont.

5. Los Angeles River Recreation Map

Project Partner: Friends of the Los Angeles River

NPS Contact: BriAnna Weldon

Location: Los Angeles County

Congressional Districts: CA - 28, CA -

30, CA - 34, CA - 40, CA - 44, CA - 47

Project Goal

Develop a comprehensive printed map and possibly an online portal for recreation opportunities, amenities, and ecological features on and around the 51-mile stretch of the Los Angeles River and surrounding riverfront cities.

NPS Role

Assist with compiling information about existing and proposed river opportunities and restoration and design of the final maps.

6. Outdoor Education For All

Project Partner: California State University, Chico

NPS Contact: Barbara Rice

Location: Butte County

Congressional District: CA - 1

Project Goal

Plan and implement a place-based outdoor education program through a partnership consisting of local education and park providers. Connect youth to the outdoors through educational and stewardship projects and activities to encourage improved local stewardship of natural resources and a more environmentally aware and active youth.

NPS Role

Facilitate strategic planning for this growing outdoor education partnership to promote its success and sustainability.

7. Pinnacles Gateway Partnerships

Project Partner: Pinnacles National Park

NPS Contact: Linda Stonier

Location: Pinnacles National Park, San

Benito and Monterey Counties

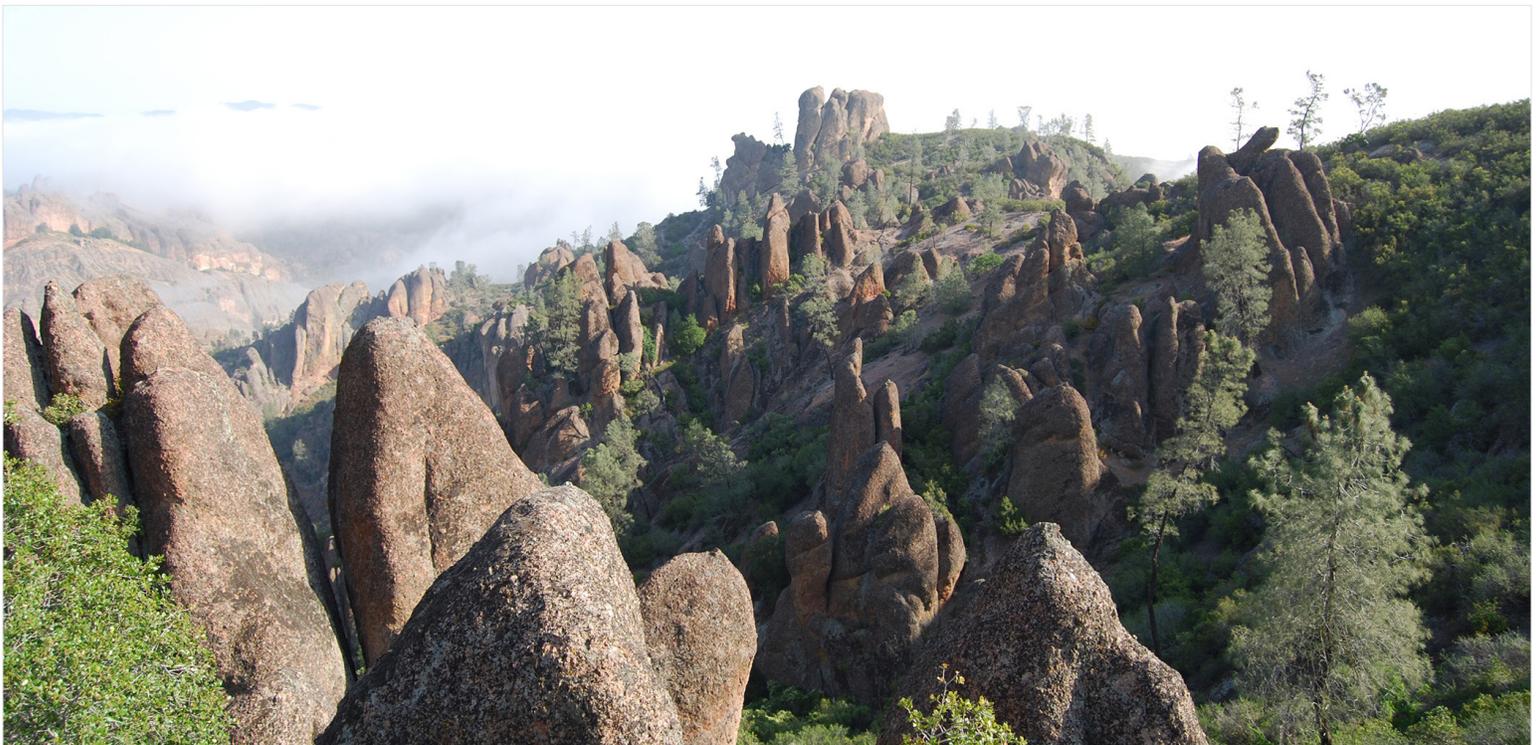
Congressional District: CA - 20

Project Goal

Identify the common goals of this new national park and its gateway communities and thereby strengthen connections between them. Initial goals include increased use by community residents of the park's recreational and educational opportunities; improved access for underserved residents in gateway communities; and enhanced economic benefits to gateway communities from park visitation.

NPS Role

Engage national park staff and gateway stakeholders to build mutual understanding, define common goals, and identify ways of working together to implement common projects and programs.



Pinnacles National Park and surrounding communities are working together to identify and accomplish common goals. Photo: NPS

Current Projects cont.

8. San Dimas Wash Trail

Project Partner: City of Glendora
NPS Contact: Anne Dove
Location: Los Angeles County
Congressional Districts: CA - 27, CA - 32

Project Goal

Create 11 miles of multiuse trails along three stream/wash corridors, with the 2.7-mile San Dimas Wash as the pilot project. The city has identified these corridors as parts of a citywide trails network that will connect schools, neighborhoods, and community destinations, while providing connections to the trails network in the Angeles National Forest and eventually to the San Gabriel River Trail.

NPS Role

Facilitate development of a strategy for planning and implementing trails along these streams and washes, using one corridor as a pilot for concept level planning and design.

9. San Leandro Creek Greenway

Project Partner: Friends of San Leandro Creek
NPS Contact: Barbara Rice
Location: Alameda County
Congressional District: CA - 9

Project Goal

Develop a 6.3-mile connected trail along a creek in an urban setting connecting communities of west San Leandro and East Oakland to natural resources with opportunities for outdoor education, improved health, expanded public access to local waterways, and creek stewardship.

NPS Role

Assist with community engagement and outreach.

10. Santa Ana Active Streets

Project Partner: Latino Health Access
NPS Contact: MaLisa Martin
Location: Orange County
Congressional District: CA - 46

Project Goal

Integrate 10-15 miles of bike and walking routes and paths into the City of Santa Ana's bike plan and possibly into Orange County's plans. Improve the existing and planned bike and pedestrian facilities for safe access and overall usability.

NPS Role

Assist Latino Health Access and Santa Ana Active Streets (SAAS) member organizations to continue strategic and action planning to increase the capacity and organization of the newly formed coalition. Support SAAS's efforts to effectively engage in the City of Santa Ana's Circulation Element of their General Plan updates.

11. Susanville Railroad Depot Greenway

Project Partner: Lassen Land and Trails Trust
NPS Contact: Anne Dove
Location: Lassen County
Congressional District: CA - 4

Project Goal

Create 8 acres of greenspace integrated into a greenway network connecting to 134 miles of trails to include the iconic Bizz Johnson National Recreation Trail.

NPS Role

Facilitate development of a plan and conceptual design for a newly acquired site that serves as a regional trail link. Facilitate planning and design of the Railroad Depot Greenway through public workshops and a design charrette.

12. Take Me to the Park

Project Partner: Death Valley National Park, El Nido Family Center, Compton High School, Outward Bound Adventures
NPS Contact: MaLisa Martin
Location: City of Compton, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Cabrillo National Monument, Channel Islands National Park, Death Valley National Park
Congressional District: CA - 37

Project Goal

Design and deliver outdoor education programs to Compton youth participants in a program that will run the length of the school year and include 10 trips to national parks and other public lands and the installation of a community project.

NPS Role

Assist with development of curriculum, project coordination, and collaboration among partners.

13. Whittier Greenway Extension

Project Partner: City of Whittier
NPS Contact: Anne Dove
Location: Los Angeles County
Congressional District: CA - 38

Project Goal

Develop a 2.7-mile extension to the recently completed 4.5-mile Whittier Greenway Trail, which will connect the city to the San Gabriel River Trail.

NPS Role

Assist the city in identifying and engaging key stakeholders and the general public. Convene a trail advisory group to consult with city and NPS staff through the planning process.

Consultations

14. CAR-LESS California: Phase 2 Southern California

Project Partner: US Forest Service, Region 5
NPS Contact: Barbara Rice
Location: Southern California
Congressional District: N/A

15. Los Angeles Greenways (GRASS)

Project Partner: City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Sanitation
NPS Contact: Patrick Johnston
Location: City of Los Angeles
Congressional Districts: CA - 29, CA - 30, CA - 34, CA - 40, CA - 44, CA - 47

16. Lower Stanislaus River Access and Stewardship

Project Partner: City of Oakdale
NPS Contact: Steve Bowes
Location: Cities of Oakdale, Ripon, & Riverbank
Congressional District: CA - 4

17. Pinnacles National Park East Side Enhancements

Project Partner: Pinnacles National Park
NPS Contact: Anne Dove
Location: Pinnacles National Park
Congressional District: CA - 20

18. San Joaquin River Gorge Partnerships

Project Partner: Three Forests Interpretive Association/BLM
Contact: Barbara Rice
Location: Auberry
Congressional District: CA - 4

19. Santa Rosa Southeast Greenway

Project Partner: Santa Rosa Southeast Greenway Campaign
NPS Contact: Linda Stonier
Location: City of Santa Rosa
Congressional District: CA - 5

20. South Bay Trails & Transit

Project Partner: Bay Area Ridge Trail Council
NPS Contact: Barbara Rice
Location: City of San Jose
Congressional Districts: CA - 17, CA - 18, CA - 19



An interagency field tour of existing and potential public access opportunities along the Lower Stanislaus River stopped in Ripon's Oak Grove.
Photo: Laura Podolsky

We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit from NPS Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.

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2014 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,278.74 Miles of Trail Developed

2,046.25 Miles of River Conserved

9,411.06 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Find more information online at

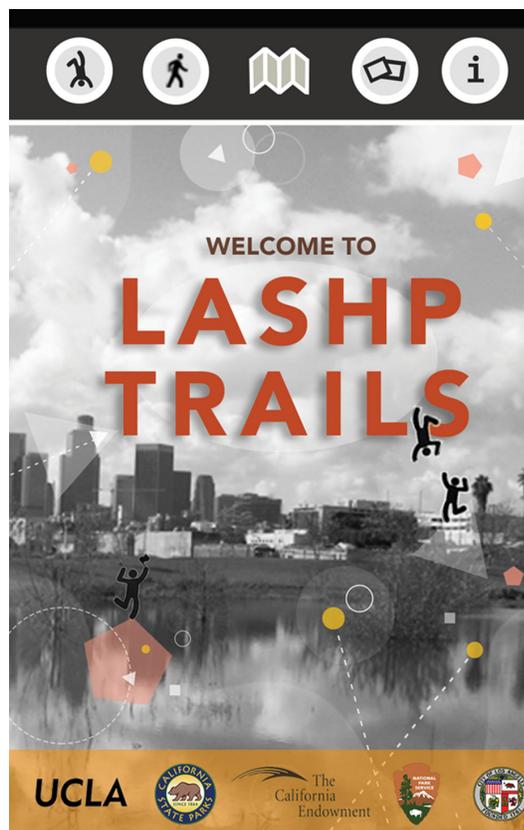
www.nps.gov/rtca

Recent Successes cont.

In some spots, the website challenged participants to climb a flight of stairs nearby or use an open plaza to complete a series of yoga stretches, building additional physical activity with discrete health benefits into the user's experience.

The urban trails project began in 2011 when staff from the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program engaged a group of 60 students from Franklin High School's transportation academy to develop ideas for connecting the community to local urban park spaces in Los Angeles. The students developed a concept for a network of urban trails that would link historic neighborhoods, cultural sites, and nearby natural resources to a centralized "community trailhead" located at the 32-acre Los Angeles State Historic Park (LASHP).

The students' work inspired local partners from the City of Los Angeles' Planning Department, California State Parks, the California Endowment, UCLA's Interpretive Media Lab, and the National Park Service to explore how this trail network could be formalized. Ultimately, the California Endowment provided funding for the development of a pilot "LASHP Trails" mobile website to be released publicly in October, 2014.



Screenshot of the LASHP Trails mobile website.
Photo: UCLA IMLab

Differing from digital trail applications, the LASHP Trails mobile website has been designed as a tool of discovery, not just wayfinding. It requires you to be in a physical location to "unlock" content, emphasizing the importance of actually going out to experience and explore a place in person. This framework was critical to all partners involved, where the express intent had been to develop a model tool that utilizes the flexibility and interactivity of digital media to promote exploration and connection to local urban park spaces.

The urban trails project supports several National Park Service Call to Action priorities—from engaging youth, to promoting healthy recreation, to enhancing access to close-to-home outdoor spaces—all within the context of one of the largest and most dense urban settings in the country.