

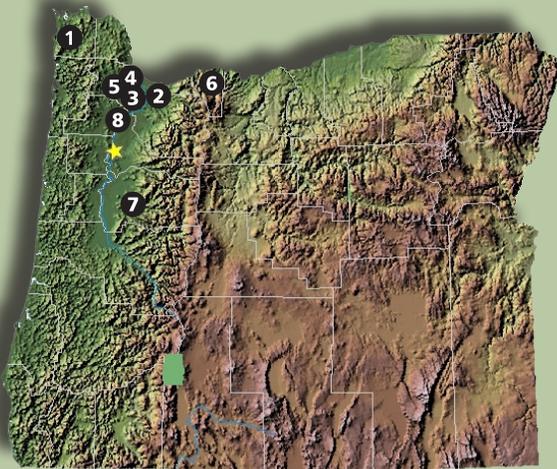


Oregon News



An artist's sketch of Waterfront Park. Sketch Photo, City of Warrenton.

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2015



CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Clatsop County Regional Trails
Warrenton Trails Association, Clatsop County
- 2. Hogan Butte Nature Park Trails
City of Gresham
- 3. Intertwine Sense of Place, Oregon and Washington
Urban Greenspaces Institute
- 4. Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance Partnership
Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance
- 5. Portland Regional Youth-Led Restoration
Metro
- 6. Powerdale Lands Recreation & Access
Columbia Land Trust
- 7. South Santiam River Trail
Linn County Parks & Recreation Department
- 8. Yamhelas Westsider Trail
Yamhill County, Friends of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Recent Successes

Paddle Trail Alliance Gears up for Whitewater Park

Members of the Bend Paddle Trail Alliance (BPTA) had a vision to develop a water trail along the upper Deschutes River near Bend. But making a vision happen can be difficult. To assist them in their effort, BPTA sought assistance from the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program. The National Park Service helped BPTA convene stakeholders and discuss the issues that were involved in developing a 95-mile long paddle route (with an additional 26 miles on the Little Deschutes River). With additional partners including the City of Bend, Deschutes National Forest, and the Bureau of Land Management's Prineville District, BPTA and the National Park Service worked collaboratively for two years to develop the water trail and supporting guidebook.

Since the official launch of the water trail, BPTA has been busy securing grants like funding from the Recreation Trails Program administered through Oregon State Parks and fundraising locally to develop the west coast's first whitewater surf park. Through successful events like the Pickin' and Paddlin' bluegrass series, BPTA has been able to raise over \$800,000 towards their overall goal of \$1.1 million for the development of the Colorado Dam whitewater park.

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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.

“The National Park Service allowed Johnson Creek Watershed Council and Bureau of Environmental Services to be an equal participant rather than a facilitator with a perceived bias. In addition, The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program’s planning expertise helped the stakeholders to work collectively and effectively to develop the Johnson Creek Acquisition Strategy.”

- Matt Clark

Executive Director

Johnson Creek Watershed Council

Current Projects

1. Clatsop County Regional Trails

Project Partner: Warrenton Trails Association, Clatsop County
NPS Contact: Alexandra Stone
Location: Clatsop County
Congressional District: OR - 1

Project Goal

Develop a regional network of land and water trails that connect northwest Oregon communities and tourist destinations, support recreation, active transportation, and the regional economy. Seek benefits from the leadership of a regional trail coalition.

NPS Role

Support formation of a regional trails coalition, help guide outreach, and facilitate preparation of an action plan.

2. Hogan Butte Nature Park Trails

Project Partner: City of Gresham
NPS Contact: Dan Miller
Location: Gresham
Congressional District: OR - 3

Project Goal

Develop a hiker-only trail system of approximately 3 to 4 miles in length for the 52-acre Hogan Butte park in Gresham.

NPS Role

NPS Role: Design and lay out a hiker-only trail system on Hogan Butte.

3. Intertwine Sense of Place, Oregon and Washington

Project Partner: Urban Greenspaces Institute
NPS Contact: Dan Miller
Location: Portland
Congressional District: OR - 1, OR - 3, OR - 5

Project Goal

Create a detailed inventory of the history and culture of the region including a web-based searchable database and a digital map allowing people to view the locations of important cultural and historic sites.

NPS Role

Help to convene professionals in the historic and cultural fields from around the region. Assist with developing project scope, timelines, and action planning. Facilitate meetings and draft notes and planning documents.

4. Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance Partnership

Project Partner: Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance
NPS Contact: Dan Miller
Location: Portland
Congressional District: OR - 1, OR - 3

Project Goal

Expand and strengthen the Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance, an alliance of regional nonprofit organizations working in urban areas to protect, restore and enhance conservation and outdoor recreation resources.

NPS Role

Provide organizational development and technical expertise to the Metropolitan Greenspaces Alliance, a national organization comprised of regional conservation nonprofits based in major cities of the United States.

5. Portland Regional Youth-Led Restoration

Project Partner: Metro
NPS Contact: Dan Miller
Location: Portland
Congressional District: OR - 1, OR - 3

Project Goal

Empower high school age youth to plan and host volunteer restoration plantings at two locations in Portland.

NPS Role

Assist with coordinating the project, acting as a team lead to ensure that the youth-led teams are functioning properly and are getting the instruction and assistance they need from the supporting organizations.

Current Projects cont.

6. Powerdale Lands Recreation & Access

Project Partner: Columbia Land Trust
NPS Contact: Dan Miller
Location: Hood River
Congressional District: OR - 2

Project Goal

Develop 3-9 miles of nonmotorized environmentally-sensitive trail system and the formalize river access on over 400 acres of land along the lower Hood River.

NPS Role

Help facilitate meetings, set agendas, timelines, develop project action planning, help to formulate an outreach plan, and work with adjacent landowners to create a feasible access plan that is respectful of adjacent landowners.

7. South Santiam River Trail

Project Partner: Linn County Parks & Recreation Department
NPS Contact: Dan Miller
Location: Sweet Home
Congressional District: OR - 4

Project Goal

Develop a 12-mile nonmotorized trail along the South Santiam River corridor.

NPS Role

Assist the South Santiam Community Forest Committee to develop a plan for the South Santiam River Trail. Help contact private landowners, hold public meetings, facilitate planning discussions, and coordinate the creation of the trail plan.

8. Yamhelas Westsider Trail

Project Partner: Yamhill County, Friends of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail
NPS Contact: Dan Miller
Location: Gaston
Congressional District: OR - 1

Project Goal

Develop a 17-mile multipurpose recreational path for use by pedestrians and bicycle and equestrian users, transforming the abandoned Yamhelas Westside rail corridor in Yamhill County into a regional recreation asset.

NPS Role

Assist Yamhill County and partners in developing a viable concept plan for the abandoned 17-mile Yamhelas rail corridor.



Paddlers, swimmers, and geese enjoying the Deschutes River. Photo: NPS

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

Find more information online
at
www.nps.gov/rtca



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Recent Successes cont.

Portland Conservation Partners Boost Potential with Land Acquisition Strategy

Johnson Creek, a prominent watershed in Portland, had a problem. Its watershed spans five cities and four districts. Each of these entities, as well as several nonprofits, was engaged in conservation and restoration within the watershed. The problem wasn't that government and the nonprofit sector were not caring for Johnson Creek. It was whether or not the entities were deploying their resources most effectively and if there were areas of the watershed that were getting missed.

The Johnson Creek Watershed Council (JCW) and the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) in Portland decided to engage the other stakeholders to develop a multijurisdictional land acquisition plan for the watershed. Recognizing that they were equal players with many other stakeholders, BES and JCW applied to the National Park Service to help facilitate all of the stakeholders to collaboratively develop the watershed-wide land acquisition plan. Agencies like Metro, Audubon Society, the Trust for Public Land and the Cities of the Johnson Creek watershed pooled resources and conducted a workshop to develop the shared acquisition plan. Since its creation, the Johnson Creek Acquisition Strategy has resulted in a several land acquisitions of critical places within the watershed.



Hikers walk on the old culvert alongside the Hood River. Photo: Columbia Land Trust