











PACIFIC CREST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL FY 2015 Appropriations Request

Prepared by: Pacific Crest Trail Association www.pcta.org



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Cover Photos by Ryan Weidert and Chris Bagby





FY2015 Appropriations Request

The Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) respectfully asks Congress to support the following FY2015 appropriations to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT):

I. Land	PCT Corridor Acquisition Projects
& Water	US Forest Service (USFS) Budget Request
Conservation	- \$4.0 million
Fund	 California—<u>Castle Creek</u>, trail and resource protection
(LWCF)	within the Shasta Trinity National Forest; <u>State Line</u> ,
, , ,	trail and resource protection within the Klamath
	National Forest, immediately south of the Oregon-
	California state line.
	 Washington—<u>Plum Creek Timberlands</u>, acquire
	checkerboard parcels from willing sellers to protect the
	trail corridor from development pressures.
	• \$250,000—LWCF line item for program administration
	Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Budget Request
	• \$542,000
	 Oregon—<u>Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument</u>,
	purchase privately owned parcels within the Cascade-
\$5.0 million	Siskiyou National Monument
II. Capital	US Forest Service (USFS) Budget Request
Improvement	 \$2.0 million—allocation for PCT in the USFS Region 5
&	CMTL account to fund the following ongoing programs:
Maintenance	Full-time USFS PCT Program Manager
– Trails	 Planning and optimal trail location reviews
(CMTL)	 Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the PCTA to
`` ,	support volunteer trail maintenance and public
	education programs
	 Trail maintenance, construction, reconstruction and
	interpretation
\$2.0 million	 Trail management and operations
φ2.0 ΠΠΠΟΠ	 Youth and Corps Trail Crew Programs
	National Park Sarvias (NBS) Budget Beguast
III. Trail	National Park Service (NPS) Budget Request
Maintenance	• \$200,000—line item for PCT maintenance on NPS lands
\$500,000	Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Budget Request
	 \$300,000—line item for PCT maintenance on BLM lands
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Trail Funding Justification—FY2015



The USFS has overall responsibility for the PCT, but operational responsibility is shared by the NPS, the BLM and several state and county parks through which the trail passes. The PCTA is the major private partner, as codified in a Memorandum of Understanding, with these land management agencies. As such and as demonstrated below, the PCTA leverages limited federal dollars through the extensive use of volunteers and private donations to

ensure the PCT is protected, preserved and promoted as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people.

PCTA Contribution Over the Past 10 years (2004-2013):

The USFS and PCTA partnership continues to produce outstanding results. Volunteer hours have increased significantly due to the PCTA's Regional Representative Program. Five Regional Representatives cover 2,200 miles of the PCT and provide volunteer support through their local offices. Volunteers now have access to trail project information, training, tools and supplies needed to do their jobs.



Total PCTA Contribution:	\$ 25,200,000
Private Dollars Raised:	\$ 8,300,000
Value of Volunteer Hours:	\$16,900,000
Total Volunteer Hours:	<u>816,000</u>

* In 2010 and 2011, funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allowed the USFS, BLM and PCTA to put an unprecedented number of volunteers and corps crews to work on the trail.





Table of Contents

This booklet outlines the two key FY2015 appropriations to the US Forest Service (USFS) necessary for the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT), which the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) respectfully asks Congress to support.

Tab 1: LWCF

The 2,650-mile PCT is not completely protected! The PCTA and the USFS have identified more than 1,500 private land parcels, encompassing about 200 miles along the trail, which remain at risk of development or other non-compatible uses. Key to bringing these parcels into public protection is use of the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) appropriations. With the \$5.0 million requested for FY2015 as part of the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning Proposal, the USFS and the BLM are ready and able to procure, from willing sellers, critical components of the PCT.

Tab 2: CMTL & Trail Maintenance

Each year, the combined forces of fire, flood, tree-fall and other factors severely impact the PCT. The USFS and partner public agencies cannot provide manpower sufficient to remedy these impacts adequately. The PCTA, however, annually enlists and trains battalions of volunteers, who spent about 81,000 hours last year working to keep the trail passable. The money that the USFS receives from the taxpayers is vital to keep those volunteers out on the trail, as they need supervision, tools and training to do their work.

Tab 3: Congressional Maps

The PCT passes through three states and 18 Congressional districts.

Tab 4: Letters

In the past, members of Congress have shown support of the PCT Appropriations Request by signing on to a letter addressed to the Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies. This year we are asking members of Congress to show support by signing a letter in support of the entire National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning Proposal.

Tab 5: PCT/PCTA Information

The PCT spans 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon and Washington. The PCT is one of the first two National Scenic Trails designated by Congress in 1968. (The Appalachian Trail was the other.) The USFS is responsible for administering the trail, and depends on Congress to appropriate funds annually for that purpose.

The PCTA is a private, nonprofit membership organization. Since 1977, its volunteers and small staff have worked in partnership with the USFS, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management and California State Parks to ensure the protection, preservation and promotion of the PCT.





LWCF



FY2015 LWCF Request: \$57,695,000



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Background

In August 2013, the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, and the US Fish & Wildlife Service, assembled a comprehensive land protection package for an appropriation through the FY2015 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for the National Trails System through the Collaborative Landscape Planning program. This \$57,695,000 package includes 43 parcels in 16 states along 15 national scenic and historic trails. The interagency collaboration and public/private cooperation involved in this application are impressive, and perhaps, an example to be followed in future Federal efforts of all kinds.

The National Trails Landscape

The national scenic and historic trails are wilderness and rural, historic and cultural corridors traversing 49 states and every ecological biome in the US. These long-distance trails, stretching for hundreds or thousands of miles each, connect with 70 national wildlife refuges, 80 national parks, 90 national forests, and 100 major metropolitan areas, protect crucial conservation areas, preserve irreplaceable historic and cultural places, and provide wildlife migration corridors, as well as education, recreation and fitness for people of all ages.

By Congressional action, national scenic and historic trails are nationally significant. Each is a collaborative venture in the conservation, interpretation, and responsible public use of important elements of our Nation's natural and cultural heritage. As established by law, the administration and management of these trails requires Federal interagency collaboration. Significant LWCF investment is essential to protect them for public appreciation and benefit.

The collaborative nature of the national scenic and historic trails means that a financial investment by any of the partners has the potential to be greatly leveraged by contributions from other partners. This has been the case repeatedly in the National Trails System. Any Federal financial investment in these trails is highly stimulatory. In 2012 alone, private organizations, state agencies, local and tribal government entities, and volunteers contributed over \$33,000,000 in funding and other support to the National Trails System.

Federal financial investment does not just help to buy land to protect critical resources; it also sets the stage for citizen and community involvement in national trail stewardship. The Federal investment in these trails – well illustrated by the Appalachian Trail – clearly stimulates citizen engagement and volunteerism, connects citizens with the Nation's natural and cultural heritage, and strengthens communities across the land.

Outcomes with Collaborative Landscape LWCF

Each national trail has a comprehensive management plan that outlines management objectives for it. Protection of a continuous recreation corridor is paramount for the scenic trails while protection of significant cultural sites is critical for historic trails. The projects included in the proposal will help fulfill those trail-specific plans. Indicators of success vary from trail to trail, but include increased visitation, increased community participation, return of rare or endangered species, and restoration of damaged landscapes.

Threats to the National Trails System Landscape

National scenic trails are to be continuous corridors of superlative recreational opportunity, so permanent gaps are a major threat to their integrity. Trail gaps result in the abandonment of trail sections, negating years of effort and public and private investment. Disruption of natural and historic settings by energy development, mining and logging, housing and commercial development, and other changes destroy the quality of visitor experience along both national scenic and historic trails. Destruction of irreplaceable historic and cultural resources and rare and endangered ecosystems lessens the value and inspiring nature of these trails.

National Trails System Land and Water Conservation Fund

FY2015 LWCF Request: \$57,695,000

The primary partners who work with the Federal agencies to construct, maintain, protect and promote the National Trail System respectfully ask Congress to support FY2015 LWCF appropriations of \$57,695,000 to protect critical sites and segments along the Congressionally authorized Ala Kahakai, Old Spanish, Lewis and Clark, Captain

John Smith Chesapeake, Trail of Tears, California, Iditarod, and Nez Perce National Historic Trails; and along the Appalachian, Continental Divide, Pacific Northwest, Ice Age, New England, North Country and Pacific Crest National Scenic Trails. These partners include the Ala Kahakai Trail Association, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Appalachian Mountain Club, Connecticut Forest & Park Association, Continental Divide Trail Coalition, Continental Divide Trail Society, E Mau Na Ala Hele, Ice Age Trail Alliance, Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Pacific Northwest Trail Association, Trail of Tears Association, Chesapeake Conservancy, Old Spanish Trail Association, Nez Perce Trail Foundation, North Country Trail Association, Pacific Crest Trail Association and the Partnership for the National Trails System.

Bureau of Land Management Budget Request \$15,246,000 million | 7 parcels |15,859 acres

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (MT): \$11,704,000 for trail, landscape, habitat and recreation protection along the Upper Missouri River frontage, including key campsites from Lewis and Clark's historic expedition and breathtaking views along the White Cliffs of the Missouri River.

Nez Perce National Historic Trail (ID): \$3,000,000 for trail and resource conservation at one of the last remaining working ranches at Henry's Lake.

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (OR, CA): \$542,000 for trail and resource protection within the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument.

US Fish and Wildlife Service Budget Request \$7,829,000 million | 14 parcels | 4,634 acres

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (VA): \$2,000,000 to protect the trail's historical resources in an area that would encourage public recreation and interpretation.

Iditarod National Historic Trail (AK): \$90,000 for protection of 120 acres within the Innoko Wilderness Area and 1.6 miles of the Iditarod Trail.

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (WA): \$270,000 to allow 13 listed salmon and steelhead stocks to reverse their downward population trend in the Columbia watershed.

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail (TN): \$2,969,000 for seven tracts along the Mississippi river that will protect migration corridors within the Chickasaw and Lower Hatchie National Wildlife Refuges.

California National Historic Trail (ID): \$2,500,000 to protect the largest breeding concentration of Sandhill Cranes as well as a haven for other waterfowl from a current farming threat.

US Forest Service Budget Request \$15,271,000 million | 10 parcels | 7,701 acres

Appalachian National Scenic Trail (NC): \$3,906,500 to protect high priority, high elevation viewshed along the Appalachian Trail that connects with North Carolina land purchased to the south to provide an extensive natural heritage area.

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (MT): \$255,000 to achieve uninterrupted trail corridor enabling migration and human recreation. Trail of Tears National Historic Trail (TN): \$585,000 to preserve an historically and culturally significant segment along the Unicoi Turnpike - Trail of Tears which is one of the few remaining segments of the trail in its original condition.

Old Spanish National Historic Trail (NM): \$2,570,000 to finalize the protection of a five-mile-long segment of the Old Spanish Trail as it enters Carson National Forest.

Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (WA): \$2,800,000 to conserve grizzly bear and Canadian lynx habitat while filling in a 2.5 mile gap of the Pacific Northwest Trail along Big Sheep Creek.

Nez Perce National Historic Trail (MT): \$1,050,000 to complete the consolidation of lands on Bloody Dick and Selway Creeks in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (CA, WA): \$4,104,000 for trail, resource, and watershed protection near the headwaters of the Trinity River and through the populous King County enabling increased public use and recreation.

National Park Service Budget Request \$25,002,600 million | 22 tracts | 5,349 acres

Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail (HI): \$3,900,000 for trail and resource conservation in the Great Crack.

Appalachian National Scenic Trail (NH): \$4,260,000 to extinguish the threat of imminent development and to create a block of 2,000 acres of conservation land that protects the viewshed of the Appalachian Trail.

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CO): \$308,000 to remove motorized use of 0.5 miles of the Continental Divide Trail and to restore 1 acre of habitat currently occupied by an access road and buildings in the scenic Rocky Mountain National Park.

Ice Age National Scenic Trail (WI): \$3,700,000 to provide an urban access point to the Ice Age Trail in the city of St. Croix, and to enhance the geologic diversity of the trail by completing a continuous four-mile segment through Wisconsin's Driftless Area.

New England National Scenic Trail (MA): \$120,000 to significantly improve hiker safety and scenic viewshed by keeping hikers off 2.5 miles of busy road, and to contribute to the protection of a contiguous open space corridor extending from Erving State Forest to the east, and Rattlesnake Mountain and Northfield Mountain and Mount Grace to the west.

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (VA): \$6,000,000 to permanently protect and open for public education a nationally significant American Indian site, and to continue public archaeological research.

North Country National Scenic Trail (MI): \$1,061,300 for protected corridor along Tyler Creek that connects existing protected land and gets four miles of the North Country Trail off dangerous roads



FY 2015 Proposed National Trails System LWCF Project Locations FY 2014 National Trails System LWCF Project Locations Included in President's Budget





Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF): \$5.0 million

LWCF Request:

1) USFS PCT Corridor Acquisitions:

Priority Projects	State	Congressional District	Request
1 Castle Creek 1	CA	CA-01	\$ 570,000
2 State Line	CA	CA-01	\$ 1,286,000
3 Plum Creek Timberlands	WA	WA-08	\$ 1,500,000
4 Castle Creek 2	CA	CA-01	\$ 748,000

2) USFS Program Administration:

\$ 250,000

3) BLM PCT Corridor Acquisition:

Priority Projects	State	Congressional District	Request
5 Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument	OR	OR-02	\$ 542,000

Total LWCF Request:

\$4,896,000





Why is this needed? For most of the 2,650 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail, hikers and equestrians can experience some of the most sublime outdoor scenery in the world. But, in far too many spots along the way, this experience is harshly interrupted by stretches of private lands with logged-over areas, inappropriate barriers and incompatible development. More than 30 years after the 1968 congressional designation of the PCT as one of the first National Scenic Trails, it is still not completely protected. Approximately 200 miles remains marred by inadequate public rights to travel and to protect the user's experience through what should be a gorgeous and wild landscape.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund will be critical in efforts to complete the PCT. The USFS, with its partner public agencies and the Pacific Crest Trail Association, has identified critical parcels for purchase from willing private sellers. In recent years, LWCF appropriations have not been adequate to keep the PCT land acquisition program on track. Opportunities to purchase some of the properties along the PCT constantly come and go. When those opportunities are missed, some permanent changes in land use which conflict with PCT use can take place. Thus, it is urgent for the USFS to continue its efforts to identify and secure those parcels crucial to the trail.

LWCF Progress:

PCT Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Activity	FY 2000—FY 2013
LWCF Appropriations to the US Forest Service for the PCT	\$20,951,415
PCT Completed Acquisitions using LWCF funding	
Klamath NF—Copper Butte	
Rogue River NF—Siskiyou Gap	
Tahoe NF—Barker Pass	
Okanogan-Wenatchee NF—Plum Creek (parcels – other tracts still require purchase)	
San Bernardino NF—Lookout Mtn	
Cleveland NF—Hook Ranch	
San Bernardino NF—Mission Springs & Onyx Peak (parcels – other tracts still require purchase)	
Angeles NF—Agua Dulce (parcels – other tracts still require purchase)	
Angeles NF—Soledad Canyon (parcels – other tracts still require purchase)	
Shasta Trinity NF—Mt. Eddy	





Castle Creek

<u>Project Details</u> LWCF Request: \$1,318,000 Congressional District: CA-01, Representative LaMalfa

Acres: 659

Number of Tracts: 2

Acquiring Agency: USFS



Project Description: At more than 600 total acres, the two Castle Creek tracts are vital to the long-term protection of the Pacific Crest Trail. Both parcels contain portions of the PCT and are in close proximity to a high-use PCT access point at the Parks Creek Trailhead that is very popular with hikers and equestrians. These high-elevation parcels afford PCT users spectacular and sustained views of the Trinity Alps and the Scott Mountains, as well as one of the highest peaks in Northern California, Mount Eddy. In addition, the parcels are near the headwaters of the Trinity River and their acquisition is critical to the consolidation and protection of the Trinity River's watershed.

Benefits of Protection: All acquisitions provide critical scenic protection to the PCT experience, particularly in proximity to urban areas and along narrow easements for the PCT through private lands with no protection. All parcels provide habitat and wildlife corridors for threatened, endangered and sensitive species. Acquisitions improve safety by eliminating road walks, and provide crucial open space to link areas of the existing public lands.

Threats to the Landscape: Agricultural conversion, residential development, visual intrusion, and loss of public access.

Partner Contributions: Over the past 10 years, the Pacific Crest Trail Association has provided 816,000 volunteer hours worth \$16,900,000, as well as \$8,300,000 in private dollars raised to benefit the trail – a total contribution of \$25,200,000.







References

All Data: Forest Service, BLM

Disclaimer

Original data was compiled from multiple source data and may not meet the U.S. National Mapping Accuracy Standard of the Office of Management and Budget. This map has no warranties as to its contents or accuracy.

Legend	

- FY2015 LWCF Request
- Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail

National Forest Boundary

- Wilderness Boundary
 - National Forest / NF Wilderness



Private







State Line, Cascade Siskiyou National Monument

Project Details

LWCF Request: \$1,828,000

Congressional District:

CA-01 and OR-02, Representatives LaMalfa and Walden

Acres: 914

Number of Tracts: 4

Acquiring Agencies: USFS & BLM

Project Descriptions:



State Line (USFS) – At more than 600 acres, this tract is located immediately south of the Oregon-California state line. As the trail passes through the mixed coniferous forests of the region, evidence of private timber operations are visible. Consolidation of the publicly owned PCT corridor in this area would greatly improve the experience of hikers and equestrians on the National Scenic Trail. In addition, an important access point for trail maintenance is located on the parcel.

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument (BLM) – At nearly 300 total acres, the three tracts identified within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument would further consolidate the public ownership of the PCT's corridor within the Monument. The parcels contain sections of PCT that are very popular with day users from the nearby Rogue Valley. The PCT in this area is the major avenue of exploration, whether on foot or horseback, for the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, and the Soda Mountain Wilderness contained within.

Benefits of Protection: All acquisitions provide critical scenic protection to the PCT experience, particularly in proximity to urban areas and along narrow easements for the PCT through private lands with no protection. All parcels provide habitat and wildlife corridors for threatened, endangered and sensitive species. Acquisitions improve safety by eliminating road walks, and provide crucial open space to link areas of the existing public lands.

Threats to the Landscape: Agricultural conversion, residential development, visual intrusion, and loss of public access.

Partner Contributions: Over the past 10 years, the Pacific Crest Trail Association has provided 816,000 volunteer hours worth \$16,900,000, as well as \$8,300,000 in private dollars raised to benefit the trail – a total contribution of \$25,200,000. BLM and the Pacific Forest Trust are actively seeking to consolidate land ownership in and around the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, which has 30,000 acres of private land. BLM has acquired more than 5,000 acres, and the Pacific Forest Trust and the Conservation Fund have donated funds for acquisition. PCTA worked with BLM and shouldered the majority of the cost in purchasing a conservation easement in this project area, as has the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy for another tract.







- References
- All Data: Forest Service, BLM

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- Local Government
- Private





Plum Creek Timberlands

Project Details

LWCF Request: \$1,500,000

Congressional District: WA-08, Representative Reichert

Acres: 900

Number of Tracts: 1

Acquiring Agency: USFS

Project Description: The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail traverses the length of this property. This area is facing increased development pressure due to its close proximity to Seattle. This land is owned by Plum Creek Timber Company, a willing seller. The proposed acquisition is within the boundary of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. The project



area is located in eastern King County and western Kittitas County. King County, with a population of 1.8 million people, is the twelfth-most-populous county in the United States. The area is heavily visited by the recreating public. It contains the headwaters of the Green River and a series of high mountain lakes, numerous streams and rivers, large stands of old growth, huckleberries and mountain meadows. The scenic views are among the most striking in the Cascade Range. The area also provides habitat for a variety of endangered species, including grizzly bear, wolf, spotted owls, marbled murrelets, steelhead, salmon and bull trout. An abundance of other wildlife inhabit the area, including elk, deer, cougar, coyote, bobcat, and an occasional moose.

Benefits of Protection: All acquisitions provide critical scenic protection to the PCT experience, particularly in proximity to urban areas and along narrow easements for the PCT through private lands with no protection. All parcels provide habitat and wildlife corridors for threatened, endangered and sensitive species. Acquisitions improve safety by eliminating road walks, and provide crucial open space to link areas of the existing public lands.

Threats to the Landscape: Agricultural conversion, residential development, visual intrusion, and loss of public access.

Partner Contributions: Over the past 10 years, the Pacific Crest Trail Association has provided 816,000 volunteer hours worth \$16,900,000, as well as \$8,300,000 in private dollars raised to benefit the trail – a total contribution of \$25,200,000. The Trust for Public Land has invested approximately \$20,000 in the Plum Creek Timberlands acquisition, acquiring 17 parcels.





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National Forest

Washington State

Private

BLM Local Government



More detailed cadastral maps can be requested from the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region.







II. Capital Improvement & Maintenance—Trails (CMTL) —USFS: \$2.0 million

CMTL Request:

Allocate \$2.0 million for the PCT in the USFS Region 5 CMTL to fund the following ongoing programs in Regions 4, 5 and 6:

- · Full-time USFS PCT Program Manager
- · Planning and optimal trail location reviews
- Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the PCTA to support volunteer trail maintenance and public education programs
- Trail maintenance, construction, reconstruction and interpretation
- Trail management and operations
- Youth and Corps Trail Crew Programs

Need: Every year, dedicated Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) volunteers flock to the woods with picks, shovels, saws and spirit to rebuild washed-out bridges, cut away fallen trees, and restore eroded portions of the trail. PCTA recruits young and old by the hundreds to give their time and energy to fix what needs to be fixed all the way from Mexico to Canada on the PCT. In 2013 alone, PCTA volunteers and corps crews devoted 81,000 hours to keeping the trail open. As a result, hikers and equestrians alike will tell you that the PCT is one of the finest wilderness trail experiences in existence.

But we need help from the USFS. Our volunteers cannot be successful without support from the Forest Service. They need tools, training classes, food and transportation help to make it to where their efforts will do the most good. The USFS has to purchase materials to rebuild those bridges, to plan the work effectively, and otherwise ensure that the PCT continues to be a world-class trail for the thousands of users who expect to go out and enjoy it.

The Pacific Crest Trail Association urges congressional support of an appropriation for the Forest Service for PCT maintenance. Programs administered within this budget are programs that "give back" – to youth, to rural communities and to the public. The youth corps and volunteers learn skills in forestry and trail maintenance, and gain experience in cooperation and leadership. Jobs are created in rural areas, while visitors from all over the world spend their recreation and tourism dollars in communities along the trail. At the same time, the ongoing work of keeping the trail accessible is achieved. These programs represent what can be accomplished when people work across boundaries toward a common goal.





III. Trail Maintenance—NPS and BLM: \$500,000

PCT Maintenance Request:

- \$200,000 to the NPS
- \$300,000 to the BLM

Need: This appropriation is needed to meet the demand for federal agency supervision of PCTA volunteer crews to maintain and repair the PCT in the following National Parks, BLM National Monuments and BLM districts:

- Sequoia National Park
- Kings Canyon National Park
- Devil's Postpile National
- Monument
- Yosemite National Park
- Lassen Volcanic National Park
- Crater Lake National Park
- Mt. Rainier National Park
- North Cascades National Park
- BLM Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument
- BLM California Desert District
- BLM Medford District
- BLM Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument



Progress: During 2013, the PCTA completed trail maintenance projects for a total of 81,000 volunteer and corps crew hours in cooperation with federal agency partners and private partners, including:

- American Conservation Experience
- PCTA Medford Area Volunteers
 PCTA Trail Gorillas

- Boy Scouts of America
- In 2008, PCTA entered into the first long-term Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the BLM, which provides funding for the support of volunteer work projects on BLM lands.

PCTA volunteers and staff worked with BLM and local volunteers to repair offhighway vehicle damage to the trail and reclaim user-created bootleg trails in Southern California.

The PCTA has developed a volunteer framework in order to facilitate the coordination of volunteer groups along the entire trail. New groups are being recruited to adopt trail sections and take responsibility for trail maintenance and protection within their adopted section. The goal is to have all 2,650 miles of trail cared for by some type of local community volunteer organization.





Youth Trail Crew Programs

Environmental Charter Schools:

The Environmental Charter High School and Middle School are award-winning, free public schools in southern Los Angeles that educate and prepare students for four-year colleges using the environment as a lens for real-life learning. The majority of the student body is of Latino and Middle Eastern descent, and 80 percent are considered financially disadvantaged. As a direct result of their PCT experience, several of the students have been accepted into the Nature Conservancy's summer internship program to explore environmental careers. Students learn how to repair and restore the trail at sites on public lands. They learn environmental stewardship while camping and experiencing nature, often for the first time.



Environmental Charter Schools

In 2013, students from the Environmental Charter High School and Middle School contributed more than 780 hours on three projects in the Angeles National Forest and in the Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area.

"The trail work we accomplished, although important, is really just the most quantifiable part of the weekend. The lessons, the teachable moments, the lasting impressions, those are the most important parts of the weekend....They learned about out slope and back slope and sheet flows. They practiced working as a team to accomplish a goal. They learned about trail names, National Scenic Trails and an entire National Trails System." --Anitra Kass, PCTA Regional Representative, Southern California

"My favorite part of the trip was when I looked out from the mountain and saw the whole desert below me, it was really beautiful. It was good to be away from the city and be in silence, just looking up at the stars." Environmental Charter High School student participant





Youth Trail Crew Programs

Alternative Spring Break: In Southern California, PCTA works actively with universities to offer alternative spring break programs. In 2013, 15 University of Florida students devoted nearly 600 hours to trail restoration and improvement in the Cleveland National Forest.



American Conservation Experience

American Conservation Experience (ACE): ACE's conservation corps program is for 18 to 25-year-olds who are considering land management as a career path or potential course of study. Corps members serve in professionally supervised teams as they explore future outdoor careers, learn practical field skills, and develop confidence as emerging leaders in the field of conservation.



Boy Scouts of America



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In 2013, ACE crews spent more than 2,000 hours working on the trail in 17 different National Forests

Boy Scouts: In 2013, Scouts from three Boy Scout troops worked on the trail in the San Bernardino National Forest and the Silverwood

California, contributing a combined

and various BLM districts.

Lake State Recreation Area in

total of 215 volunteer hours.



Youth Trail Crew Programs

California Conservation Corps: The California Conservation Corps is a state agency hiring young men and women, 18 to 25, for a year of natural-

resource work and emergency response. The young women and men of the Corps work hard protecting and restoring California's environment, responding to disasters, and thereby becoming stronger workers, citizens and individuals. In 2013, an 18-member California Conservation Corps crew worked within the Marble Mountain Wilderness for nearly 6,000 hours.

EarthCorps: EarthCorps is a Seattle-based AmeriCorps affiliate that provides one-year intensive programs for young adults to learn best practices in conservation techniques and develop skills in leading volunteers of all ages. In 2013, EarthCorps sent crews out on projects in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forests.



NAACP Urban Youth

NAACP Urban Youth: Since 1991 the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Vancouver, Washington branch and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest have partnered to get urban youth involved in environmental education, hiking, camping and recreating on public lands. In 2013, 16 kids from the Urban Youth Program worked on two two-day projects in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.



Washington Conservation Corps

Washington Conservation

Corps: The Washington Conservation Corps (part of the AmeriCorps program) is a subagency of the Washington State Department of Ecology. It employs men and women 18 to 25 years old in an outreach program to protect and enhance Washington's natural resources. In 2013, crews from the Washington Conservation Corps contributed more than 800 hours while restoring washed-out trail

and setting boulders in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.





CONGRESSIONAL MAPS



PACIFIC CREST NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL and California Congressional Districts, 113th United States Congress










National Trails System AND Land and Water Conservation Fund

February 2014



Dear Members of Congress:

On behalf of our organizations and our 150,000 members, we are writing in support of a \$57,695,000 appropriation from the FY2015 Land and Water Conservation Fund for the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning (CLP) proposal. Our national scenic and historic trails represent the natural and cultural backbone of America, protect our precious natural, cultural, and historic resources, and contribute to the \$646 billion in outdoor recreation spending each year. The National Trails System proposal represents the very best in high leverage community-based conservation and sustainable recreation efforts at the landscape scale.

The 30 national scenic and historic trails of the National Trails System extend more than 53,000 miles across 49 states linking together 80 national parks and monuments, 70 national wildlife refuges and more than 90 wilderness areas. These trails also pass through or near 100 of America's cities of 50,000 or greater population. They afford millions of Americans inspiring outdoor recreation and educational experiences both close to home and in the remotest deserts, highest mountains, and along some of the wildest rivers of our land while also protecting critical habitat and travel corridors for wildlife. These trails help to vividly tell the stories of all the major ethnic and cultural communities that comprise the rich diversity of our Nation in the places where critical times in their histories occurred. They span the history of our Nation from the time of Native-American control of the continent thru European discovery and colonial rule to Euro-American settlement of the West and the great Civil Rights struggles of the recent past.

These long-distance trails are also one of the most ambitious and innovative ventures in largescale collaborative stewardship of our public heritage in American history. Each of the 30 trails is developed and sustained through scores of long-term partnerships between Federal agencies, State and local governments, Indian tribes, and nonprofit organizations. The handful of Federal staff who administer and manage these trails rely on the contributions of thousands of citizen volunteers to make them available for public enjoyment and reinvigoration. In 2012, volunteers along the National Trails System contributed at least 1,185,375 hours valued at \$26,244,202 to sustain the trails. The partner organizations also contributed \$7,565,777 to benefit the trails. Since 1995, citizen volunteers across the National Trails System have contributed at least 12,084,796 hours valued at \$228,504,230 and the trail organizations have contributed an additional \$124,702,692 to build, maintain, explore, interpret, and protect America's national scenic and historic trails.

As impressive as those numbers are they do not convey the full depth of involvement of citizens from throughout the land in caring for elements of our natural, cultural, and historic heritage along our national scenic and historic trails that give deep meaning to their lives. In an era of "nature deficit disorder," wide-spread childhood obesity, and alienation among communities, the 45 year old grand experiment of the National Trails System provides countless opportunities for people of all ages to connect with nature and with one another while benefiting from healthful outdoor recreation. Communities are linked by these trails in common endeavors to celebrate their heritage. Strangers become life-long friends through working together to sustain these national trails. These are among the intangible benefits that come from the preservation of critical lands along these national trails.

The inclusion of the National Trails System in the FY2015 budget as part of the Collaborative Landscape Planning package will protect critical places and resources for public benefit and will help foster and enhance our community-based citizen stewardship of conservation landscapes. This strategic investment of Federal money will leverage additional monetary and in-kind contributions many times over while it enriches the lives of millions of people and strengthens our communities. Investing in the conservation of America's national scenic and historic trails is an investment in the land that sustains us and in our people who care for the land.

Sincerely,

For Wow

Gary Werner, Executive Director Partnership for the National Trails System

> Lala Par

Kaleo Paik, President Ala Kahakai Trail Association

John Judge, President Appalachian Mountain Club

Ronald Tipton, Executive Director Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Joel Dunn, Executive Director Chesapeake Conservancy

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Teresa Martinez, Co-Founder and Director, Continental Divide Trail Coalition

The Heren

Eric Hammerling, Executive Director Connecticut Forest & Park Association

Barbara Schaefer, President E Mau Na Ala Hele

o Woll

Mike Wollmer, Executive Director Ice Age Trail Alliance

JUD JUE Betty

Lundy Hatcher

Lindy Hatcher, Executive Director Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation

James L. Mallor

James Mallory, Vice-Chairman Lewis & Clark Trust

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Jim Evans, Executive Director, Nez Perce Trail Foundation

Bruce Matthews, Executive Director North Country Trail Association

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F. Travis Boley, Association Manager Oregon-California Trails Association

Gabley J. Hall Ashley Hall, President Old Spanish Trail Association

Bergeim

Liz Bergeron, President and CEO Pacific Crest Trail Association

. Jon Knechtel

Jon Knechtel, Director of Trail Operations Pacific Crest Trail Association

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Jerra Quinton Baker, Executive Director National Trail of Tears Association

Judith Bittner, President Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance

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United States Senate WASHINGTON, DG 20510

April 26, 2013

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski Chairwoman, Committee on Appropriations Room S 128, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations Room S 128, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Richard Shelby Vice-Chairman, Committee on Appropriations Room S 128, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations Room S 128, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Mikulski, Reed, Shelby, and Murkowski:

We urge you to include full funding for the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning (CLP) Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) proposal in the FY2014 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. This proposal is based on extensive interagency collaboration and is targeted to focus on high priority, community-based conservation and recreation projects.

Last year, the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, USDA Forest Service, and the US Fish & Wildlife Service, assembled a comprehensive land protection package focused on national historic and scenic trails projects under the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The package includes 120 parcels in 62 Congressional districts in 17 states. Parcels were determined based on their ability to leverage federal funds, their impact in completing trails or conservation priorities, and the level of community engagement and support. The interagency collaboration and public-private cooperation involved in this application are impressive, and should serve as an example for future federal efforts.

These collaborative, high-priority projects will close gaps and protect critical sites along 11 of the 30 national scenic and historic trails, enhance connectivity for recreation and fitness, and support economic development for rural communities along the trails. They will help the Department of Interior and its local partners meet conservation goals, including expanding wildlife habitat and migration corridors along the crests of the Cascade, Appalachian, Rocky Mountain, and Sierra Nevada Mountain ranges; over the eskers and moraines left by the Ice Age glaciers in Michigan and Wisconsin; and along the Kona Coast of Hawaii the Suwanee, Gila, Upper Missouri, Eau Claire and Lolo Rivers. This initiative will protect critical sites necessary to tell the historic and cultural stories of the trails, including a Nez Perce battlefield, a Lewis & Clark campsite, a section of the 16th century route of the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and

ancient salt-making ponds along the Ala Kahakai. These projects will help link together 80 national parks and monuments, 70 national wildlife refuges and more than 90 wilderness areas.

The national scenic and historic trails are some of the most important in our nation's history and for our future. They vividly tell the stories of the major ethnic and cultural communities that make up our Nation. They are examples of how large-scale collaborative stewardship can help leverage federal dollars and enhance public-private partnerships. Each of the 30 trails is developed and sustained through scores of long-term partnerships between Federal agencies, State and local governments, Indian tribes, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners. The handful of Federal staff who administer and manage these trails rely on the contributions of thousands of citizen volunteers to make them available for public enjoyment and reinvigoration. In 2011, volunteers along the National Trails System contributed at least 1,141,866 hours valued at \$24,390,258 to sustain the trails. The partner organizations also contributed \$8,740,790 to benefit the trails. It is clear that the small amount of federal funds needed to help protect and maintain these trails are highly leveraged.

The inclusion of the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning proposal as part of the Land and Water Conservation Fund for FY2014 will protect critical places and resources for public benefit and will help foster and enhance community-based citizen stewardship of conservation and heritage landscapes. This strategic investment of Federal money will leverage additional monetary and in-kind contributions many times over while simultaneously enriching the lives of millions of people and strengthening our communities.

We strongly urge the Committee to recognize the many benefits of the National Trails System and to provide strong funding for the acquisition of land and easements along these trails through the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning proposal within the Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriations.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request. If you have any questions, please contact Energy and Natural Resources Committee staffer, Drew Johnston, at drew_johnston@energy.senate.gov or extension 4-0883.

Sincerely,

Ron Wyden United States Senaror

Bernard Sanders United States Senator

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Richard Blumenthal United States Senator

Christopher Murphy United States Senator

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Brian Schatz United States Senator

William M. Cowan United States Senator

Jon Tester United States Senator

Brown hurrod

Sherrod Brown United States Senator

Martin Heinrich United States Senator

Tim Kaine United States Senator

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Tom Udall United States Senator

Al Franken United States Senator

Tammy Baldwin United States Senator

Carl Levin United States Senator

Jeff Merkley United States Senator

Barbara Boxer United States Senator

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 19, 2013

Mike Simpson, Chairman Subcommittee on Interior, Environment Agencies H 307 U.S. Capitol Washington, DC 20515 James Moran, Ranking Member Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Environment and Related Agencies 1016 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Moran:

We write to express our support for the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning proposal, which is spearheaded by the Department of Interior and falls under the Land and Water Conservation Fund. We respectfully urge you to support the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning (CLP) proposal by providing sufficient funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in the FY2014 Interior and Energy Agencies Appropriations bill. This proposal is based on extensive interagency collaboration and is targeted to focus on high priority, community-based conservation and recreation projects. Inadequate funding for these important investments jeopardizes access to our National Trails System and has an adverse impact on America's outdoor economy, which contributes \$1.06 *trillion* to the nation's economy each year.

Last year, the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, USDA Forest Service, and the US Fish & Wildlife Service, assembled a comprehensive land protection package focused on national historic and scenic trails projects under the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The package includes 120 parcels in sixty-two Congressional districts in seventeen states. Parcels were determined based on their ability to leverage federal funds, their impact in completing trails or conservation priorities, and the level of community engagement and support. The interagency collaboration and public/private cooperation involved in this application are impressive, and should serve as an example for future federal efforts.

These collaborative, high-priority projects will close gaps and protect critical sites along 11 of the 30 national scenic and historic trails, enhance connectivity for recreation and fitness, and support economic development for rural communities along the trails. They will help the Department of Interior and its local partners meet conservation goals, including expanding wildlife habitat and migration corridors along the crests of the Cascade, Appalachian, Rocky Mountain, and Sierra Nevada Mountain ranges; over the eskers and moraines left by the Ice Age glaciers in Wisconsin; and along the Kona Coast of Hawaii the Suwanee, Gila, Upper Missouri, Eau Claire and Lolo Rivers. This initiative will protect critical sites necessary to tell the historic and cultural stories of the trails, including a Nez Perce battlefield, a Lewis & Clark campsite, a section of the 16th century route of the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and ancient salt-making ponds along the Ala Kahakai. These projects will help link together 80 national parks and monuments, 70 national wildlife refuges and more than 90 wilderness areas.

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Page 1 of 4

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The inclusion of the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning proposal as part of the Land and Water Conservation Fund will protect critical places and resources for public benefit and will help foster and enhance community-based citizen stewardship of conservation and heritage landscapes. This strategic investment of Federal money will leverage additional monetary and in-kind contributions many times over while simultaneously enriching the lives of millions of people and strengthening our communities.

We appreciate your consideration and strongly urge the Committee to recognize the many benefits of the National Trails System and to provide adequate funding for the Land and Wildlife Conservation Fund to support the acquisition of land and easements along these trails through the National Trails System Collaborative Landscape Planning proposal.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Earl Blumenauer Member of Congress

Speier

Member of Congress



Dave Reichert Member of Congress

-Michelle-Lujan-Grisham Member of Congress

Mark Pocan Member of Congress

KIL

Suzan DelBene Member of Congress

Gerry Connolly Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici

Member of Congress

oretta Sanchez

Member of Congress

Matt Cartwright Member of Congress

Judy Chu Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer

Member of Congress

Member of Cong

rete Mound

Gloria Negrete McLeod Member of Congress------

Peter De azio Member of Congress

Jan Hile

Jared Huffman Member-of-Congress

Rick Larsen Member of Congress

Karen Bass Member of Congress

Denny Heck Member of Congress

Eliz th Esty

Member of Congress

fim McDermott Member of Congress

Ron Kind

Adam Smith Member of Congress

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Peter Welch Member of Congress

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Doris Matsui Member of Congress

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Tom Petri Member of Congress

Sam Farr Member of Congress

Gwen Moore Member of Congress

Barbara Lee

Member of Congress

Rosa DeLauro Member of Congress

Ben Ray Luján V Member of Congress







Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail

Fact Sheet



From desert to glacier-flanked mountain, meadow to forest, the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail symbolizes everything there is to love—and protect—in the Western United States.

Background: The PCT spans 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon, and Washington. Hundreds of thousands of outdoor enthusiasts enjoy this national treasure each year. In the 1968 National

Trails System Act, Congress authorized the PCT as one of the first national scenic trails. Congress charged the USFS with the responsibility to administer the PCT in cooperation with the many land managers along its route.

- Designated by Congress as one of the first National Scenic Trails in 1968
- Contiguous route completed (but not entirely protected) in 1993
- Location: Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon, and Washington
- Length: 2,650 miles Private Land: 200+ miles
- Land Managers:
 - 25 National Forests
 - 6 National Parks
 - 5 California State Parks
 - 3 National Monuments
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Scenic and State Recreation Areas
 - County Parks and Indian Lands
- Lowest point: 100 feet at the Columbia River, Oregon/Washington border
- Highest point: 13,180 feet at Forester Pass, California
- Congressional Districts on the PCT:
 - 10 in California, 4 in Oregon, 4 in Washington





Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail



Pacific Crest Trail Association Fact Sheet

PCTA Mission

The mission of the Pacific Crest Trail Association is to protect, preserve and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) as a world-class experience for hikers and equestrians, and for all the values provided by wild and scenic lands.

The PCTA strives to achieve this mission by promoting the PCT as a unique educational and recreational treasure and one of the finest pedestrian/ equestrian trails anywhere in the world. The PCTA is a private nonprofit and is recognized as a 501(c)(3) by the Internal Revenue Service. The PCTA provides a broad range of services to its members and the international public, and serves as a communications link among users and land management agencies.

Staff and Board of Directors

In 1993, the PCTA hired its first paid staff. Today, the PCTA has a regular staff of 17, including an executive director and trail and administrative staff.

A 13-member volunteer board of directors provides leadership and governance for the PCTA. Board members are elected for a three-year term.

Membership & Budget

In 2013, we celebrate an ever-expanding membership base. The PCTA now represents more than 8,000 PCTA members worldwide, and has an annual budget of \$2 million.

Partnerships

The PCTA works in partnership with the USFS, the NPS, the BLM, and the California State Parks to protect, preserve, and promote the PCT. Through a long-term Memorandum of Understanding among these agencies, the PCTA is recognized as the major private partner. Along with the government agencies, the PCTA leads the coordination, management, and operation of the PCT and feeder trails. Activities include signing, condition surveys, trailhead and trail use surveys, water development, and adopt-a-trail programs, as well as new construction and ongoing maintenance activities. Educational opportunities also are plentiful as our volunteers lead interpretive trips and speak to local schools, agencies, businesses, and other civic organizations.



Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail



Pacific Crest Trail History

- 1926 first known record of a proposal for a trail through California, Oregon and Washington
- 1932 Clinton Clarke, the "father of the PCT," begins promoting the trail
- 1930s exploration begins
- 1935 1938 YMCA organizes relays to scout the trail's route
- 1939 the PCT appears on a federal government map for the first time
- 1940s work halted due to WWII
- 1950s advocacy work continues
- 1968 designated as National Scenic Trail
- 1988 monuments placed at the southern and northern terminuses
- 1993 Golden Spike "completion" ceremony
- 2000 US Forest Service hires full-time PCT Program Manager
- 2001 US Forest Service signs agreement with National Park Service for PCT land acquisition work



Pacific Crest Trail Association History

- 1935 first meeting of the Pacific Crest Trail System Conference
- 1971 Warren Rogers, Clinton Clarke's protégé, founds the Pacific Crest Trail Club
- 1977 Pacific Crest Trail Conference incorporated
- 1987 Pacific Crest Trail Club merges with Pacific Crest Trail Conference
- 1992 Pacific Crest Trail Conference changes its name to Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA)
- 1993 PCTA hires first paid staff
- 1990s PCTA grows its membership and volunteer base
- 1997 PCTA begins annual advocacy trips to Washington, D.C.
- 2006 PCTA adopts Strategic Plan
- 2010 PCTA exceeds 100,000 annual volunteer hours with the help of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act





Thanks to Our Partners







Adventure 16 ♦ Calif. ALDHA-West ♦ National Alta Land People ♦ Calif. American Hiking Society ♦ National Antelope Valley College Fire Academy ♦ Calif. Ashland Woodlands and Trails Association \blacklozenge Ore. Backcountry Horsemen of America ♦ National Backcountry Horsemen of California \blacklozenge Calif. Backcountry Horsemen of Oregon \blacklozenge Ore. Backcountry Horsemen of Washington ♦ Wash. Backpacker Magazine

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National Trailkeepers of Oregon \blacklozenge Ore. Truckee Trails Foundation ♦ Calif. Trust for Public Land ♦ National University of Florida 🔶 Fla. Ursack 🔶 National Washington State Department of Natural Resources ♦ Wash. Washington Trails Association ♦ Wash. White Pass Ski Area 🔶 Wash. William S. Hart Unified School District Trails Program 🔶 Calif. Washington Trails Association ♦ Wash. Well.org ♦ National

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Liz Bergeron, Executive Director and CEO LBergeron@pcta.org

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