



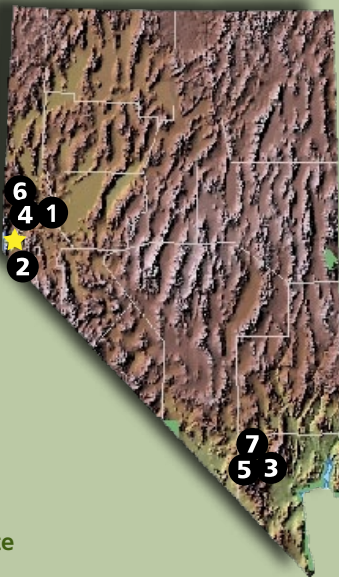
Nevada News



Winchester Cultural Center families play in the snow, one of the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights activities. Photo: Juan Varela, Clark County

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2011

- NPS Unit
- ★ State Capital



CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. Canoe Hill Trails**
Great Basin Institute
- 2. Carson Valley Trail**
Carson Valley Trails Association
- 3. Henderson Trails Enhancement**
City of Henderson
- 4. Red Hill Recreation**
Washoe County
- 5. Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights**
Public Lands Institute, UNLV
- 6. Swan Lake Nature Study Area**
Nevada Land Conservancy
- 7. Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP)**
SNAP Interagency Recreation and OHV Team

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Recent Success

Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Launched

In January 2010, a group of agencies and community organizations came together to develop the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights, which serves as a tool for increasing participation in outdoor activities, promoting the health benefits of exercising and

"The RTCA has been instrumental... from the creation of a partnership to communications to meeting planning..."

- Chris Roller
American Heart Association

being outdoors, and connecting children to nature. It features a list of outdoor activities that every child in Nevada would benefit from experiencing.

The initiative and its website (nvoutdoorkids.org) launched during the October 2010 Trails Day celebration in Henderson, Nevada. The website includes itineraries for outdoor adventures, an events calendar, a blog, and other resources that

encourage children and families to enjoy the outdoors.

RTCA, in collaboration with the UNLV Public Lands Institute, facilitated the development of the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights through youth focus groups and workshops of the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Alliance, a collaborative partnership

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides 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.

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Current Projects

1. Canoe Hill Trail

Project Partner: Great Basin Institute
NPS Contact: Barbara Rice
(510) 817-1449
Location: Sparks
Congressional District: 2

Project Goal

Establish a network of trails on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands within the foothills of Sparks, connecting local neighborhoods, regional parks, county trails and bikeways.

NPS Role

Facilitate expanded community and partner involvement and develop a community supported trails vision.

2. Carson Valley Trail

Project Partner: Carson Valley Trails Association (CVTA)
NPS Contact: Deb Reardon
(702) 895-4890
Location: Douglas County
Congressional District: 2

Project Goal

The Carson Valley Trail is envisioned to be a loop trail that will traverse the foothills around the Carson Valley. This regional trail crosses BLM, US Forest Service and potentially private lands and includes connections to the Pony Express National Historic Trail and the Tahoe Rim Trail.



Hikers participate in the Carson Valley Trail Hike for Health event in Genoa, NV. Photo: CVTA

The Carson Valley Trails Association, in collaboration with Douglas County and other partners, are working to implement the loop trail and community trail connections. In order to connect existing and planned segments for a continuous trail, investigating opportunities for trails on private lands is a critical next step.

NPS Role

Facilitate meetings of the community-led landowner outreach team in order to identify trail opportunities, issues and solutions for connecting segments of the Carson Valley Trail. Prepare outreach materials and participate in landowner outreach meetings as needed.

3. Henderson Trails Enhancement

Project Partner: City of Henderson
NPS Contact: Linda Stonier
(510) 817-1450
Location: City of Henderson
Congressional District: 3

Project Goal

The City seeks to implement its Open Space and Trails Plan by providing a system of way-finding and interpretive signs throughout its major trail corridors. Through this effort, Henderson will develop one of the safest and best connected trails systems in the Las Vegas Valley for recreation and transportation, including protected desert environments throughout the built environment with parks, off-street trails, open spaces for recreation and education, and compatible cultural programs.

NPS Role

RTCA will advise on methods for developing interpretive plans and provide input on user surveys and data collection efforts.



Desert plants bloom at Red Hill near Reno, Nevada. Photo: Jennifer Budge, Washoe County

Current Projects

4. Red Hill Recreation

Project Partner: Washoe County
NPS Contact: Deb Reardon
Location: Sun Valley, 7 miles north of downtown Reno
Congressional District: 2

Project Goal

A community vision and conceptual plan for Red Hill is needed to identify priorities for outdoor recreation, non-motorized trails, including connections to the future Sun Valley Rim Trail and Washoe County Trail system, restoration and conservation areas. An OHV education and outreach effort will also occur in order to direct OHV use to appropriate areas.

NPS Role

Facilitate the development of a shared vision and conceptual plan for Red Hill through community engagement. Build partnerships between Washoe County and community partners, including the Desert Research Institute, the Nevada Wilderness Project, area schools, and the surrounding Sun Valley community.

5. Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights

Project Partner: Public Lands Institute, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV)
NPS Contact: Deb Reardon
Location: Statewide initiative
Congressional Districts: 1, 2 and 3

Project Goal

As described on pages 1 and 4, the Outdoor Bill of Rights will serve as a shared community vision for connecting children to nature.

NPS Role

Facilitate implementation by the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Alliance.



Bob Goodman enjoys kayaking on Swan Lake. Photo: Becky Stock, Nevada Land Conservancy

6. Swan Lake Nature Study Area

Project Partner: Nevada Land Conservancy
NPS Contact: Deb Reardon
Location: Lemmon Valley, 14 miles northeast of downtown Reno
Congressional District: 2

Project Goal

The 1200 acre site is collaboratively managed by the multi-partner Swan Lake Nature Study Area Advisory Board, which is guided by the 2000 Master Plan and Resource Management Plan. Due to changes in Board membership and the development of surrounding communities in the last ten years, a Master Plan update is needed to develop a shared vision, mission and goals for Swan Lake. Additionally, outreach materials are needed in order to increase public awareness of the resource values and recreation opportunities at Swan Lake.

NPS Role

Facilitate Swan Lake Advisory Board agreement on a vision, mission and goals and prepare a master plan update. Support updates to existing interagency agreements and develop outreach materials.

7. Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP)

Project Partner: SNAP Interagency Recreation and OHV Team
NPS Contact: Deb Reardon
Location: Clark County
Congressional Districts: 1, 2 and 3

RTCA staff in Nevada is partially supported through a partnership with the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP). As part of this collaboration, RTCA staff serves as Project Manager for the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership Interagency Recreation and OHV Team. In this capacity, RTCA supports the completion of the Interagency Recreation Strategy and Interagency OHV Strategy projects and facilitates team development.

“Our trails vision together with the experience and knowledge of RTCA help us to see its possibilities and the roads to get there...”

- Kerstin Wolle, CVTA President

We're Here For You.

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

Deb Reardon

702.895.4890

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2010 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,694 Miles of Trail Developed

1,251 Miles of River Conserved

25,370 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

94% of Community Partners Satisfied

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



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Recent Success cont.

of more than 40 organizations including the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership, local agency parks and recreation departments, State of Nevada Parks, Clark County School District, Outside Las Vegas Foundation, Friends of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge, REI, and the Southern Nevada Health District.



RTCA also facilitated agreement of the Alliance's mission, goals, and Action Plan that serve as a guiding framework for the partnership. During the upcoming year, RTCA will support implementation of the Outdoor Bill of Rights, including continued facilitation of Alliance meetings and developing an online tool for collaboration among the group's 100 members. The Alliance is currently working to connect existing programming and events to the initiative and promote it statewide.

According to Allison Brody, UNLV Public Lands Institute, "We know that children today are spending less time outdoors, and we are finding that there are measurable consequences to this...including childhood obesity, increased stress levels, symptoms of Attention Deficit Disorders, and lack of interest in caring for community, green spaces, and public lands. Yet the Las Vegas Valley is surrounded by seven million acres of public lands that offer outstanding recreational opportunities such as hiking, camping, boating, kayaking, OHV riding, fishing, and much more. With help from the RTCA, an alliance of over 40 agencies and organizations has created and launched the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights, a terrific forum to help parents and families take advantage of all Nevada has to offer."

Initial funding for website development and the advertising campaign, which includes radio spots, billboards, print ads, and a movie trailer, was provided by the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act and the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership.



Local youth and "Teddy Roosevelt" present the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights.

Photo: Darla Cook, Forever Resorts