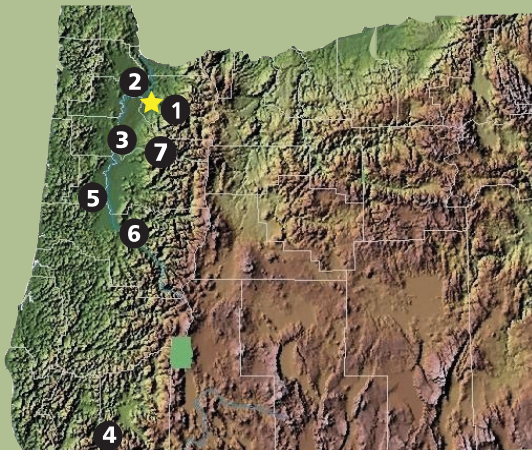




Oregon News

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2013



CURRENT PROJECTS

- 1. East Portland Brownfields Groundwork Portland
- 2. Intertwine Conservation Initiative Intertwine Alliance
- 3. Iron Mountain Park City of Lake Oswego
- 4. Rogue River Recreation Access and Management Jackson County Parks; Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
- 5. Salem Area Greenway Salem Area Trail Alliance
- 6. Sweet Home Community Trails Sweet Home Trails
- 7. Willamette Falls Legacy Portland Metro

★ State Capital
■ NPS Unit

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

Randy Dreiling, longtime GOATS advocate, rounds a corner on the Alpine Trail near Oakridge. Photo: Mark Morical, The (Bend) Bulletin

Recent Successes

GOATS Keeps Oakridge Area Trails Going

In 2004, RTCA helped local partners develop the Oakridge-Westfir Community Trails Plan, collecting input from residents and trail users through surveys and open houses. A few years later, the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) designated Oakridge as one of their first “Ride Centers,” and the planning group reorganized as GOATS (Greater Oakridge Trails Stewards), a 501(c)3 chapter of IMBA, to build bigger partnerships and find funding for trail projects.

Oakridge is now known as “The Mountain Bike Capital of the Northwest.” The riding experience ranges from adventurous trail rides to close-to-town loops, and includes dirt jumps and a pumptrack.

“The Oakridge-area communities consciously decided to change from being driven by the timber industry to a recreation economy.”

—Anna Laxague, MBA Regional Director

GOATS and big-time partners IMBA and the US Forest Service have garnered over \$600,000 in funding. This year the organization coordinated over 2,800 volunteer hours. The GOATS Youth Fund supports Kids Mountain Bike Oakridge and other youth initiatives that help get kids on bikes and trails, supporting a healthy future for their community (www.oakridgegoats.org).

Current Projects

1. East Portland Brownfields

Lead Partner: Groundwork Portland
Congressional District: OR - 3

Groundwork Portland, a nonprofit organization dedicated to environmental justice and issues of equity in the Portland metro area, is using a community-based planning process to locate brownfields and abandoned parcels of land suitable for redevelopment in the East Portland neighborhood surrounding David Douglas High School. RTCA is helping coordinate high school students to inventory and assess potential lands around their school. NPS will then help project partners select a parcel for redevelopment and conduct the community process that will determine the land's future use.



Students at David Douglas High School inventory abandoned parcels of land for redevelopment potential. A community planning process will determine the land's future use.
Photo: Groundwork Portland

2. Intertwine Conservation Initiative

Lead Partner: Intertwine Alliance
Congressional Districts: OR - 1, 3

The Intertwine Alliance is planning a series of watershed-based workshops in the Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan Area that will highlight areas that have a

high value for conservation. RTCA will help conduct these workshops, exploring how partners can better work together to meet the natural resource needs of each watershed, and develop action plans based on their input. RTCA will also assist with outreach to non-traditional conservation organizations — including the health community and nonprofit organizations — that focus on the region's underserved communities.

plan sensitive to natural resources but allowing for trail recreation.

4. Rogue River Recreation Access & Management

Lead Partners: Jackson County Parks; Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Congressional District: OR - 2

RTCA will help create a plan for river access development needs and management strategies for a 13-mile stretch of the Upper Rogue River. The recent removal of Gold Ray Dam has opened up this previously inaccessible stretch of water. The plan will address increased recreation use and access needs that are compatible with the environmental goals for the river.

3. Iron Mountain Park

Lead Partners: Lake Oswego Parks & Recreation Department
Congressional District: OR - 5

Lake Oswego received a land donation in 1963 and has been adding land to Iron Mountain ever since. Today, it owns 18 parcels of over 50 acres of natural open space with a diversity of natural resources and rich mining history. RTCA will work with project partners to develop a management

5. Salem Area Greenway

Lead Partner: Salem Area Trail Alliance
Congressional District: OR - 5

The Salem Area Trail Alliance is working with Oregon State



The Intertwine: adding conservation to recreation. Photo: Bob Sallinger, Portland Audubon Society

Current Projects cont.

Parks and Recreation Department to analyze state-owned lands along the Willamette River for development of a system of mountain bike trails and a bike park. The goal is to increase the close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities for residents of Oregon's capital city. RTCA is helping project partners determine the best locations for these amenities, and with development of site plans.

6. Sweet Home Community Trails

Lead Partner: Sweet Home Trails
Congressional District: OR - 4

Sweet Home envisions a community trails plan that will serve as a blueprint for reconnecting the community to its forests and rivers, providing more ways for people in Sweet Home to get outdoors, be active, and connect with nature. RTCA is helping project partners reach out to stakeholders and the overall community to get input for the trails plan.



The Salem Area Trail Alliance and Oregon State Parks and Recreation want to increase close-to-home outdoor activities like this popular Ventura Pump Track in Portland.
Photo: Northwest Trail Alliance

7. Willamette Falls Legacy

Lead Partner: Portland Metro
Congressional District: OR - 5

In 2011, the Blue Heron Paper Company declared bankruptcy, leaving behind a 22-acre unused industrial parcel in Oregon City's downtown, adjacent to the iconic Willamette Falls. Recognizing the opportunity this site could provide to Oregon City, Clackamas

County, and the entire region, a partnership formed to investigate potential site acquisition using funds from Metro's Natural Areas Program. RTCA is helping project partners develop a collaborative vision for the site, and then develop a concept plan to implement that vision focusing on public access, ecological restoration, cultural interpretation, and economic development.



Project partners have an opportunity to envision a new use for an old industrial site located next to Willamette Falls, in downtown Oregon City.
Photo: Portland Metro

We're Here For You.

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

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2012 Nationwide Partnership Success

- 2,154 Miles of Trail Developed
- 1,074 Miles of River Conserved
- 70,385 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected
- 94% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

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.

www.nps.gov/rtca

Recent Successes cont.

Tillamook County Water Trail Nabs a National Award

Eight years ago the Tillamook Estuary Partnership championed the development of a non-motorized water trail system that integrates over 250 miles of paddling opportunities in five coastal watersheds. Since then, water trail partners have garnered over \$60,000 in grants, published a beautiful series of guidebooks, sponsored ongoing education and stewardship activities, and logged countless volunteer hours of support. This year the water trail won recognition as a National Recreation Trail, becoming one of more than 1200 trails across the country recognized for their exemplary standards and their local and regional significance. RTCA provided planning assistance to this water trail and an earlier success model, Hoquarten Slough. Check out the trail's Facebook page for photos of the flotilla event launched to celebrate designation.



Paddlers enjoy a ride on the Nestucca River as part of a celebration paddle for the Tillamook County Water Trail and their new status as National Recreation Trail. Photo: NPS/Sue Abbott

Dreaming Big: Portland-Vancouver Regional Trails

Many years ago, Mike Houck and the Urban Greenspaces Institute had a dream to see a regional trails plan that covered the entire Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan Area. It was a big dream — the planning area spans two states, six counties, dozens of cities, and meant engaging even more neighborhood and friends groups.

In 2008, RTCA worked with key partners, including the Urban Greenspaces Institute, Portland's Metro Regional Government, and Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation to develop the first Bi-State Regional Trails Plan. The planning effort took nearly two years, focusing on the region's backbone of keystone trails, and recommending 37 new trails that provide critical connections to the existing system. Since the plan's completion, regional stakeholders have formed a quarterly trails group, secured over \$75,000 to develop an interactive trails website, generated regional trail sign standards, held trail counts, created over seven master plans, and developed ten new regional trails. For more info, check out www.theintertwine.org.



Students at Lewis & Clark College volunteering along the Springwater Corridor Trail. Photo: Johnson Creek Watershed Association