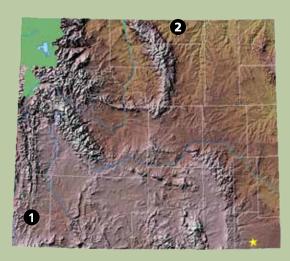




PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2014



NPS UnitState Capital

#### **CURRENT PROJECTS**

- 1. Bear River Parks and Trail
  Town of Bear River
- 2. Sheridan Trails
  Sheridan Community Land Trust

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

#### **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.

One of the five town-owned parcels along the Bear River that will become a park with equestrian and walking trails. Photo: Betsy Byrne

### Recent Successes

### **Wyoming Trails Summit**

The first Wyoming Trails Summit, hosted by Platte River Trails and Wyoming Pathways, took place in Casper this year. This successful event included presentations by the directors of three state agencies. The leaders of the Wyoming Departments of Parks and Cultural Resources, Health, and Transportation opened the conference by showcasing their efforts to enhance the non-motorized trail and alternative transportation resources in the state. The summit included speakers and participants from the International Mountain Biking Association, Alta Planning, the Bureau of Land Management, and several cities and counties from around the state. NPS staff presented on a panel session entitled, "Where Streets, Pathways, and People Merge," sharing the stage with real estate professionals and the Executive Director of Wyoming's Rural Development Council. The summit organizers hope to see more trails summits in the future.

# Groundwork USA Corps Experience in Yellowstone National Park

For the second year, twenty youth representing Groundwork Trust organizations from across the country participated in the Groundwork USA Corps Experience in Yellowstone National Park. This week-long experience, supported by a grant from the NPS youth programs office, is designed to provide diverse youth with the opportunity to work in Yellowstone alongside park professionals on a variety of projects to gain a better understanding and appreciation of the park.

#### We're Here For You!

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



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# 2013 Nationwide Partnership Success

1,357 Miles of Trail Developed

736 Miles of River Conserved

20,270 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

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



**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™** 

## **Current Projects**

#### 1. Bear River Parks and Trail

Project Partner: Town of Bear River NPS Contact: Ken Richley Location: Along the Bear River in the Town of Bear River Congressional District: WY - 1

#### **Project Goal**

Develop 3 miles of trail along the Bear River in the town of Bear River, connecting five town-owned parks. The town will develop their five parks to include low impact amenities and equestrian trails.

#### **NPS Role**

Assist the community concept plan development for parks along the Bear River, as well as for a trail connecting the parks. Help form a parks and trails committee to move the project forward. Provide basic riverbank stabilization recommendations and identify potential partners.

#### 2. Sheridan Trails

Project Partner: Sheridan Community Land Trust

NPS Contact: Gary Weiner

Location: City of Sheridan and outlying areas of the county

Congressional District: WY - 1

#### **Project Goal**

Create approximately 9 miles of trail in and around the city of Sheridan, and develop a 20-mile Goose Creek/ Tongue River water trail. Enhance non-motorized outdoor recreation opportunities in close proximity to town, which are currently in very short supply.

#### **NPS Role**

Assist with resource assessment, trail alignments and construction best practices, river access site development, and fundraising strategies.

### Recent Successes cont.

Corps members were divided into work crews led by the Youth Conservation Corps and NPS staff, and worked on a number of projects including installing bear boxes and "bumper logs" to protect sensitive roadside habitats, trail work, and the removal of refuse from a geyser basin. Participants remarked that the experience was a unique opportunity to work and talk with a variety of staff, and helped to put the work they do in their own communities into a "big picture."



Groundwork USA Corps Experience participants and NPS staff in Yellowstone National Park.
Photo: Groundwork USA