



# Oregon News



Members of the Intertwine Alliance get together for a Regional Conservation Workshop. Photo: Mike Houck

## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2014



■ NPS Unit  
★ State Capital

### CURRENT PROJECTS

1. East Portland Brownfields  
Groundwork Portland
2. Intertwine Sense of Place  
Urban Greenspaces Institute
3. Northwest Community Forest Partnership  
Nisqually Land Trust
4. Powerdale Lands Recreation & Access  
Columbia Land Trust
5. South Santiam River Trail  
Linn County Parks and Recreation Department
6. Wallace Marine Bike Park  
Salem Area Trail Alliance

Find out more about each project starting on page 2.

## Recent Successes

### The Intertwine: Conservation on a Large Scale

“Intertwine” means “to twist or twine together, to be mutually involved.” There’s probably no better word to describe the coalition of 80+ diverse public and private organizations and the nearly 3,000 square miles of natural areas in the Portland-Vancouver area that the Intertwine Alliance works to sustain. Their goal is to tap new sources of funding, leverage existing investments, and more fully engage residents in nature and the outdoors.

In 2010, the Intertwine Alliance launched an ambitious effort to create a Regional Conservation Strategy and Biodiversity Guide for the nine-county Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region. The plan identifies significant natural areas for acquisition and protection, and outlines strategies to conserve natural resources to ensure that habitats interconnect in every neighborhood and watershed. The NPS assisted with coordinating partners, creating a project methodology, forming an outreach strategy, and acting as a critical thinking partner. The strategy took over two years to complete and included over 100 contributors.

The collaborative effort is yielding good results. The alliance has hosted GIS modeling workshops throughout the region, and agencies such as Clean Water Services, Forest Park Conservancy, and METRO have begun to utilize the GIS modeling in their decision making. Columbia Land Trust and Clark County’s Legacy Lands Program are working together to use the strategy recommendations to guide a land protection and acquisition planning effort. Visit [theintertwine.org](http://theintertwine.org) for more Intertwine successes!

# Current Projects



Celebrating the region's rich diversity, third-grade students from all around Vancouver participate in the annual Children's Cultural Parade. The parade takes place at Fort Vancouver, a significant historic site that will be included in the Intertwine Sense of Place project.  
Photo: Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

## 1. East Portland Brownfields

Project Partner: Groundwork Portland

NPS Contact: Dan Miller

Location: Portland

Congressional District: OR - 3

### Project Goal

Create one to three new park and community spaces in southeast Portland.

### NPS Role

Help partners work with landowners to determine which parcels are suitable for development, and assist with a community workshop to design these new public spaces.

## 2. Intertwine Sense of Place

Project Partner: Urban Greenspaces Institute

NPS Contact: Dan Miller

Location: Greater Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan Region

Congressional Districts: OR - 1, 3, 5; WA - 3

### Project Goal

Conduct a detailed inventory of regional history and culture. Include a web-based database and digital map that allows people to search for significant cultural and historic sites.

### NPS Role

Help convene professionals in the historic and cultural fields from around the region; assist with development of project scope, timelines, meeting facilitation, and planning.

## 3. Northwest Community Forest Partnership

Project Partner: Nisqually Land Trust

NPS Contact: Michael Linde

Location: Washington, Oregon

Congressional Districts: OR - 1, 2, 3; WA - 3, 4, 6, 8

### Project Goal

Establish five self-sustaining community forests, averaging 5,000 acres each, that will be managed for a wide range of public and community benefits.

### NPS Role

Create an alliance of conservation organizations to share existing knowledge, strategies, and approaches for the establishment and management of community forests.



The old Powerdale aqueduct used to provide water to run hydropower turbines and now has the potential to become a unique trail. Photo: Columbia Land Trust



# Current Projects cont.

## 4. Powerdale Lands Recreation & Access

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

### Project Goal

Develop three to nine miles of environmentally sensitive trail for non-motorized use and dedicated river access on 400 acres of land along the Lower Hood River.

### NPS Role

Work with the Powerdale Lands Stakeholders Committee and project partners to develop a recreation and access plan for lands acquired after the Powerdale Dam decommissioning process. The NPS will help facilitate meetings, formulate outreach strategies, and work with adjacent landowners to create a plan that respects adjacent landowners.

## 5. South Santiam River Trail

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



The NPS is helping Groundwork Portland identify potential parks and open space in underserved communities in East Portland.  
Photo: Abigail Cermiak



The concept design for the Wallace Bike Park evolved directly from the community design workshop that the NPS helped facilitate. Map: Sector Environmental Design

### Project Goal

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

### NPS Role

Work with the South Santiam Community Forest Committee to develop a concept plan for the South Santiam River Trail. The NPS will help contact private landowners, hold public meetings, facilitate planning discussions, and coordinate development of the trail plan.

## 6. Wallace Marine Bike Park

Project Partner: Salem Area Trail Alliance  
NPS Contact: Dan Miller  
Location: Salem  
Congressional District: OR - 5

### Project Goal

A bike park consisting of over 15 acres of open space and 3 miles of new trails.

### NPS Role

Help facilitate planning discussions, develop work plans, host collaborative design workshops, provide best practices and case studies for developing a quality, safe bike park.



Fly fishing on the South Santiam River. Photo: Linn County Parks and Recreation

## 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

### 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.

[www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)

## Recent Successes cont.

### Port Fosters High School Enterprise on Alsea River Water Trail

Look at the Alsea River, get out on the water, and you appreciate the description emblazoned on the Port of Alsea's water trail map: "Remarkable River, Reliable Access." It appeals to experienced and novice paddlers alike and is recognized by BirdLife International as one of the world's 10,000 Important Bird Areas.

In an effort to bring more local youth to the river and launch a high school entrepreneurship class, the Port of Alsea and Waldport High School purchased a fleet of sit-on-top kayaks in 2005 and started an annual Waterways Festival. The class soon morphed into the "Kayak Shack," a school-based enterprise that provides kayak rentals and tours. Here students learn first aid and CPR, skills needed to run a small business, and the value of eco-tourism. As they gain experience and leadership abilities, they become American Canoe Association-certified guides who lead kayak tours on the Alsea River. With NPS planning assistance, the port officially dedicated the Alsea River Water Trail in 2008. The Kayak Shack continues to help families and visitors paddle safely on the river, while the port supports their efforts and provides quality access to the water.

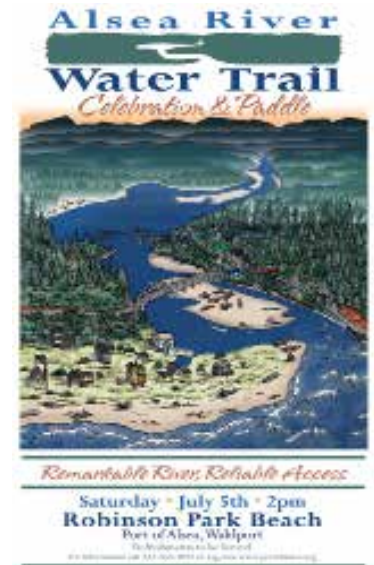


Photo: Port of Alsea

### Hood River County Embraces Trails Recreation

Hood River County owns over 31,000 acres of forest land that is managed for timber revenue. Accessible to many towns along the Columbia River, including metro Portland, these lands have become increasingly popular for outdoor recreation. Over time, some of the recreation activities—particularly unauthorized trail building—began to compromise forest resources and trail use. In 2007, the County Forestry Department was awarded NPS planning assistance to help develop a trails master plan. The first step was to inventory and GPS 200+ miles of trails. Next, a planning team was formed to take a comprehensive look at the forest and make recommendations for developing new trailheads, creating areas for non-motorized use only, establishing equestrian-friendly routes, and identifying trails that needed to be rerouted or closed for natural resource protection.

Since completion of the master plan, the county has secured over \$120,000 in public and private funds for development and management of their trail system. The planning effort was so successful that the US Forest Service and Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department sought NPS assistance to help with trail planning on their nearby lands.

*"The trail planning process that the NPS helped us go through was instrumental in solving the critical issues we were struggling with as land managers."*

- Henry Buckalew, Hood River County Forester.