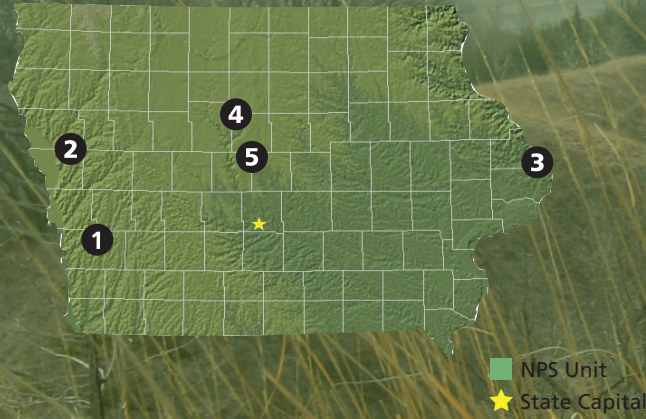




# Iowa News



## PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

1. City of Avoca River and Trail  
City of Avoca
2. Hitchcock Nature Center Trail Expansion  
Pottawattamie County Conservation Board
3. Derry Station Heritage Trails  
Derry Area Recreation Board
3. Mississippi River Connections  
Mississippi River Trail, Inc.
4. Upper Des Moines River Land and Water Trails  
Prairie Partners RC&D, Humboldt Area Trails Co.
5. Webster County Water Trails  
Webster County Water Trails

## 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.

## Current Projects

### 1. City of Avoca River and Trail

Project Partner: City of Avoca

RTCA Contact: David Thomson

Location: Along two forks of the West Nishnabotna River

Congressional District(s): 5

#### Project Goal:

Build five miles of land-based multi-use trails, 15 miles of river enhancements and water trails, and four acres of wetland and park area restoration.

#### RTCA Role:

Assist the City of Avoca, develop dialogue between the project partners and facilitate input into a conceptual plan for each part of this outdoor recreation project. This project has a strong land-based trail component, as well as a river and water trail component.

### 2. Hitchcock Nature Center Trail Expansion

Project Partner: Pottawattamie County Conservation Board

RTCA Contact: David Thomson

Location: Council Bluffs

Congressional District(s): 5

#### Project Goal:

Develop three miles of new trail connecting over 30 miles of existing primitive trails.

#### RTCA Role:

Assist with the sustainable development of the Hitchcock Nature Center trail expansion. Provide examples of trail construction details and approaches to planning a new trail system.

## We're Here For You.

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



**Dave Thomson**  
402-661-1570  
dave\_thomson@nps.gov

## 2009 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,411 Miles of Trail Developed

2,664 Miles of River Conserved

87,385 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected

97% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

Find more information online at [www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca)



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# Current Projects cont.

## 3. Mississippi River Connections

Project Partner: Mississippi River Trail, Inc.

RTCA Contacts: Diana Allen, Randy Thoreson

Location: Headwaters of Mississippi River in Minnesota to Gulf of Mexico, New Orleans

Congressional District(s): 2, 4

### Project Goal:

Through connections with 18 National Parks and Trails, build a collaborative partnership that highlights and enhances 3,000 miles of trail (land and water) and 30,000 acres of open space along the entire Mississippi River corridor.

### RTCA Role:

Provide support and services, including facilitation, research and coordination to the Mississippi River Parks and Trails Collaboration to help partners showcase the Mississippi River as a valuable national natural resource and recreation corridor. RTCA services will enhance local, state, regional and national efforts to: 1) protect and preserve the Mississippi River and the Mississippi River Trail as a national landscape; 2) demonstrate the impact of partnership development by and between National Park Service superintendents and other public and private partners.

## 4. Upper Des Moines River Land and Water Trails

Project Partner: Prairie Partners RC&D, Humboldt Area Trails Co.

RTCA Contact: David Thomson

Location: North Central Iowa

Congressional District(s): 4

### Project Goal:

Develop 50 miles of water trail and 10 miles of land trails connecting to communities in north-central Iowa.

### RTCA Role:

Assist local trail and community groups to connect existing trail and water trail systems. Provide examples of other regional efforts to connect natural resources and community benefits of developing a trail system. Also assist with community involvement.

## 5. Webster County Water Trails

Project Partner: Webster County Water Trails

RTCA Contact: David Thomson

Location: Fort Dodge area

Congressional District(s): 4

### Project Goal:

Develop 19 miles of water trail and three miles of riverfront enhancements.

### RTCA Role:

Assist local leadership to build a broad base of support for the project. Provide technical assistance with project phasing, scope of work, selection of river access areas, mapping, and general community involvement.



Recent improvements to the Jones County Water Trail at "Pictured Rocks" area along the Maquoketa River.