



July 2021

FAQ: Effect of Boardwalks on Vegetation and Wildlife

How can the impact of boardwalks and trails upon vegetation and wildlife be reduced?

[Read more...](#)



2020 Recreational Trails Program Annual Report

A report on the use and benefits of Federal Recreational Trails Program funds across the United States. [Read more...](#)

Submit Your Photos for the 2021 National Recreation Trails (NRT) Photo Contest



Now accepting entries for the 2021 NRT Photo Contest. You can now submit photos for entry directly into our new

form. [Read more...](#)

The Future of the Outdoor Recreation Economy - Headwaters Economics

To continue building a robust future for outdoor recreation, the outdoor sector needs investments in outdoor infrastructure, businesses that support collaboration and sustainable growth, a talent pipeline to build a skilled workforce, and marketing resources that ensure quality and equity. [Read more...](#)

September 11th National Memorial Trail Being Discussed for 20th Anniversary



An effort is underway to honor those who lost their lives on 9/11 with a memorial trail that traverses 1,300 miles. [Read more...](#)

The Coalition for Recreational Trails Annual Achievement Awards - Nomination Deadline Extended

The deadline for nominations has been extended to July 19. Send in forms, including any supporting materials and pictures, by that date. [Read more...](#)

Planning, design, mapping and sustainable sign products for parks and trails



[learn more](#)

Trail News and Notes

Click on each article to read more.

- [\(Nationwide\) National Park Service Selects 14 New Communities for Assistance](#)
- [\(California\) Patrice Vecchione, Walkabout Town: The Complexities of Creating a Neighborhood Trail](#)
- [\(Colorado\) Air Force Academy Civil Engineering Cadets to Team with U.S. Forest Service on New Two Elk Trail Bridge](#)
- [\(Colorado\) Judge Denies Emergency Motion to Stop Boulder from Funding](#)

Rocky Mountain Greenway

- *(Colorado) Montrose County Receives \$20,000 Award from National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Coalition "NOHVCC"*
- *(Georgia) Public Artwork Coming to North Oconee River Greenway*
- *(Hawaii) Save Them or Tear Them Down? The City is Close to Finally Deciding the Fate of Haiku Stairs*
- *(Michigan) Great Lakes Trails: Relief Funds Spark New Investments into Outdoor Recreation*
- *(New York) Newark City Council Passes Resolution of Support for Essex-Hudson Greenway*
- *(New York) Tug Hill Region Attracts Over 35K Snowmobile Users Annually, Local Study Finds*
- *(North Dakota) Fargo-Moorhead Flood Diversion Trail Seen as Step to Possible Greenway*
- *(Oregon) Popular Columbia River Gorge Trail Reopens*
- *(Texas) Paso del Norte Trail Featured in New Texan by Nature Video*

Trail Policy Landscape

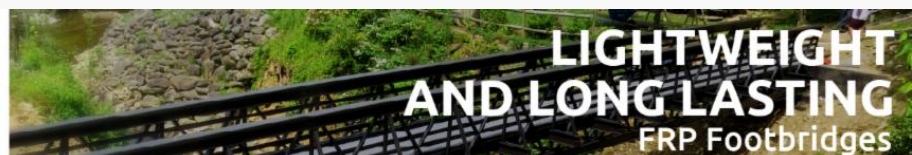
Here are some of the policy and advocacy issues we are tracking.

- **The House of Representatives Passed the *Outdoors for All Act* and the *Transit to Trails Act***

The House of Representatives passed the Outdoors for All Act as part of transportation infrastructure legislation, the INVEST in America Act (H.R. 3684). Additionally, Representative Jimmy Gomez of California introduced the Transit to Trails Act as an amendment to this important legislation. We're calling on the Senate to include the Outdoors for All Act and Transit to Trails Act in any transportation infrastructure legislation.

- ***Overwhelmingly Bipartisan Bill, the Veterans in Parks (VIP) Act, is Introduced***
House Committee on Natural Resources Ranking Member Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) joined Committee Chairman Raul Grijalva (D-Ariz.), House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), House Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.), U.S. Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-Iowa), U.S. Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-Ariz.) and 129 other members in introducing the bipartisan Veterans in Parks (VIP) Act, which would give veterans and Gold Star families free lifetime access to public lands, and active-duty military free annual passes.
- ***The House Appropriations Committee is Directing \$25 Million to the Every Kid Outdoors Program in Fiscal Year 2022***

The John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act reauthorized the Every Kid Outdoors program through 2026. This program provides U.S. fourth graders and family members with free access to over 2,000 federal lands and waters.



Resources and Training

Geographic Information System (GIS) For Beginners

Gathering GIS data can help create maps for trails. This guide for beginners will tell you how to get started. [Read more...](#)

The SHIFT Summit will be held October 18-20

Held annually since 2015, SHIFT (Shaping How we Invest for Tomorrow) gatherings have been historically held in Jackson, WY. Now the 2021 SHIFT Summit will be held in Grand Junction, Colorado, with strong local host community involvement. [Read more...](#)

The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) Announces Scholarship for Young Leaders

This virtual Trail Apprentice Program is for young leaders aged 18 to 28 years. The Trail Apprentice Program provides scholarships to young leaders interested in a career in recreation, natural resource management, conservation, environmental studies, history, or a related field, so that they can attend the PNTS virtual fall workshop for free and participate in career exploration, networking, and educational opportunities amongst the National Trails community. Apply by August 15. [Read more...](#)

Upcoming Regional Trails Training Program (RTTP) Events

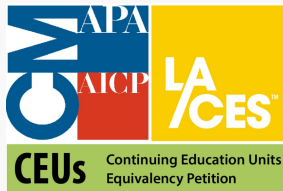
The goal of the RTTP is to provide sustainable, cost-effective online and in-person trail stewardship training to the trail community in Nevada (as well as other states). [Browse upcoming trainings...](#)

Join Our Facebook Group "Trail Workers of America"

This group is created for trail workers, planners, volunteers, and more to connect, ask questions, and discuss trail related issues. [Join here...](#)

Training Calendar and Volunteer Opportunities

Check out our [training calendar](#) for upcoming conferences and events. You can also find volunteer opportunities [here](#). If you have an opportunity for us to post, please email trailhead@americantrails.org.



Seeking Learning Credits?

American Trails offers learning credits for our Advancing Trails Webinar Series, our International Trails Symposium and Training Institute, and other trail-related conferences, workshops, and webinars. [Read more...](#)

Featured Trail Industry Manufacturer: Equinox

Located in Asheville, NC and serving the Southeast, the Equinox team has the tools and experience to take a greenway or trail project from feasibility studies and the conceptual stage to site-specific design and construction. During the process, they can take care of landowner outreach, acquisition strategies, maintenance guidelines, and public workshops. [Learn more about this company...](#)

Featured Trail Job: Director of Education and Training

The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics seeks a Director of Education and Training that will welcome the challenge of developing and expanding education curriculum and messaging, training, offerings and field-based programs to elevate and accomplish the Center's mission. [Read more...](#)



**LOOKING FOR
TRAIL JOBS?
CLICK HERE**

Advancing Trails Webinar Series and Learning Credit Opportunities

Free July Webinars

We record all of our webinars which are available for download at any time in our online store. Each webinar also offers a closed caption transcript and learning credits.

- July 1 – *Using Wildlife Fright Distances to Inform Trail Planning*
- July 14 – *Trail Construction Costs, Risks, and Tips for Success*
- July 22 – *Return on Investment of Trails and Parks: Economics and Beyond*
- July 29 – *Trail Design Details: The Wins and Losses*

View a list of all of our upcoming and archived webinars...



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Sponsor an American Trails Webinar to Reach 500 to 1,100 Attendees

Send an email to candace@americantrails.org if you are interested in sponsoring a future webinar.

2021 Webinars (With Dates):

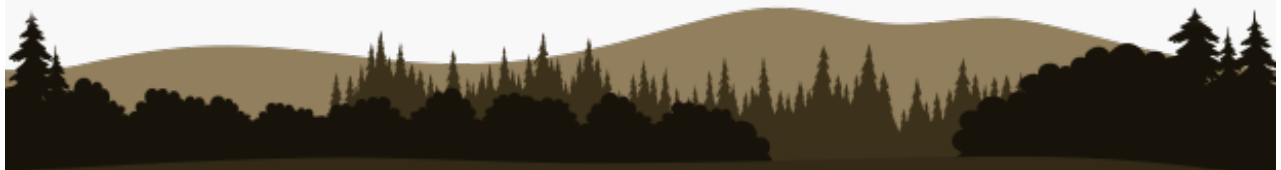
- July 22* – *Return on Investment of Trails and Parks: Economics and Beyond* (In partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association) (Partner sponsor Pannier)
- July 29* – *Trail Design Details: The Wins and Losses*
- August 19* – *Understanding National Water Trails: From Application to Designation*
- August 26* – *Introduction to Trail Management (Part 3 of 3)*
- September 2* – *The Value of Trail Assessments* (In partnership with

NOHVCC)

- **September 28*** – *Rails-with-Trails: Best Practices and Lessons Learned* (Sponsored by Rhino Marking & Protection Systems, partner sponsor Presto Geosystems)
- **October 28*** – *Trail Ambassador Programs: Tips, Tricks, and Best Practices*

2021 Webinars (Dates TBD):

- Motorized and nonmotorized trail sharing opportunities and safety (Sponsored by NY State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation)
- Adaptive mountain biking/trail design for safety and accessibility (Sponsored by NY State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation)
- Dealing with trail maintenance backlog forum (Partner sponsor Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado)
- Wheels and Legs: How Well Do They Mix? Addressing Nonmotorized Trail User Conflicts (Sponsored by Rhino Marking & Protection Systems)
- Best practices for trail service procurement professionals*
- Collective impact: trail collaboratives*
- GIS for trails*
- Trail insurance*
- Policy and trails*
- We welcome your suggestions to host your own webinar or sponsor a topic of interest (we can assist with finding presenters)!



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