

DIFFERENT PATHWAYS TO TRAIL SUCCESS



THREE PROJECTS - DIFFERENT PATHS

- South Fork Eagle River Reroute
 - Reconstruction and reroute of existing trail
- Ram Valley Reestablishing Access Feasibility Study
 - Study and analysis of new trail alignment due to loss of access
- Russian Jack Singletrack Trail Project
 - Construction of newly designed, purpose-built bike trails

WHAT WAS THE NEED FOR THIS PROJECT?

- Success in completing the Little O'Malley Peak trail reroute
- South Fork Eagle River Trail improvement project ten years earlier completed half of the trail's length
- Park Management identified improvement of last half of trail as a priority
- Project selected by CPF with concurrence of Park staff
- Fundraising began January 2022



South Fork Eagle River Trail, Chugach State Park

WHAT WAS THE NEED FOR THIS PROJECT?

- Fun Biking for the East Side
- Ride to where you Ride
- Spot for Mighty Bikes - similar to Junior Nordic
- First Applied for funding in 2014
- Got an RTP, lost an RTP
- Master Plan



Russian Jack Singletrack Trails, Municipality of Anchorage

WHAT WAS THE NEED FOR THIS PROJECT?

- Publicly platted road lost public access during a subdivision process
- Subsequent tenuous public access across private property, utility easement and recreation easement
- Limited parking along the roadway
- Publicity + increased use led to conflict with neighbors and revocation of access across private property
- Large chunk of CSP no longer accessible



Upper Ram Valley, Chugach State Park

HOW WAS THE PROJECT FUNDED?

● Rasmuson Tier II Grant	\$79,000
● Individual Donations	37,335
● Continental Subaru	31,075
● ConocoPhillips	30,000
● Athletic Brewing	10,000
● Chugiak-Eagle River Foundation	<u>5,000</u>
Total:	<u>\$192,410</u>



Alaska Trails Crew South Fork Eagle
River Trail
July, 2023

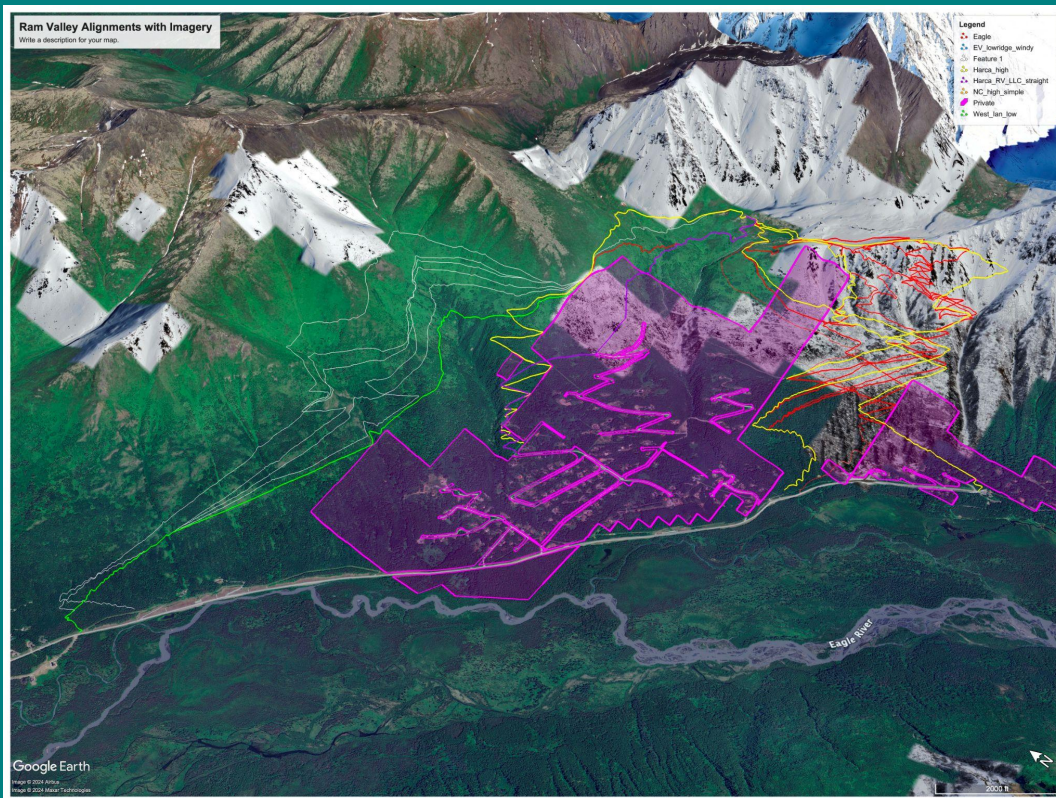
HOW WAS THE PROJECT FUNDED?

- APF Challenge Grant – enabled us to hire YEP
- Two grants from Mighty Bikes – used funding to hire Coffman Engineers
- RTP grant – still in process – enabled us to hire Happy Trails
- Volunteers



Russian Jack Singletrack Volunteers
Summer 2023

HOW WAS THE PROJECT FUNDED?



- State of Alaska FY24 Capital Funding
- onX Maps Access Grant

Phase 1 Trail Alignment analysis;
One of the initial steps in
developing the Ram Valley
Feasibility Study

WHO WERE THE PARTIES INVOLVED?

- **Funder**

Chugach Park Fund: field of interest fund within the Alaska Community Foundation with volunteer team that includes members of the Chugach State Park Citizen Advisory Board

- **Contractor**

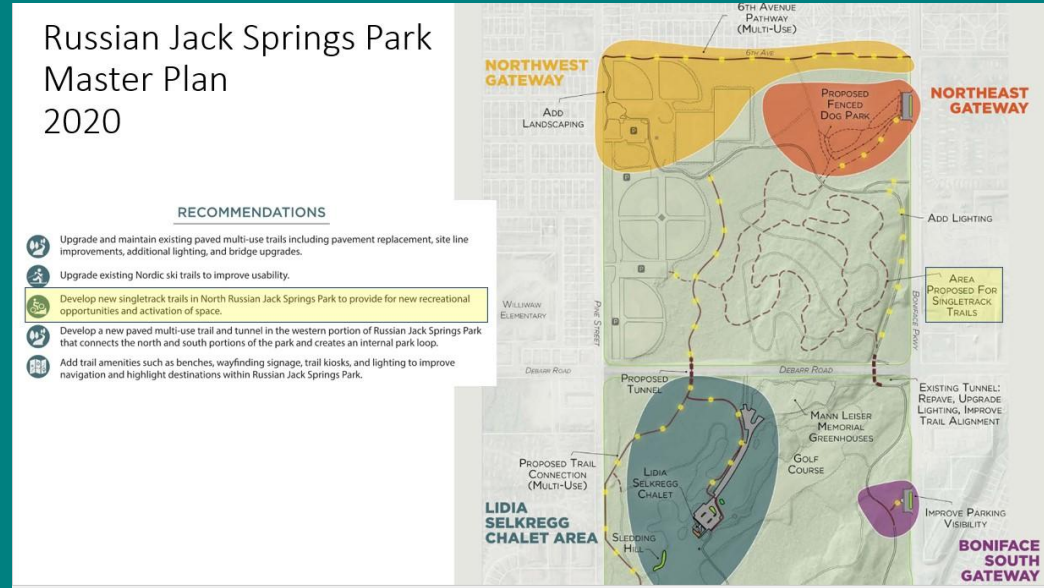
Alaska Trails: hired, trained, supervised and paid crew, coordinated with state park staff, scheduled/oversaw helicopter support and provided work plan and final report

- **Land Manager**

Chugach State Park staff: concurred with selection of project, reviewed work plan and inspected contractor's work;

WHO WERE THE PARTIES INVOLVED?

- Muni of Anchorage and their 2020 Master Plan
 - Parks and Rec Commission
 - Urban Design Commission
- Community Councils – good to get their approval and support
- Funders
- Contractor



WHO WERE THE PARTIES INVOLVED?

- Alaska State Legislature, Senate Finance Committee
- Senator Kelly Merrick
- Chugach State Park Citizen Advisory Board
- Chugach State Park Superintendent
- Eagle River Valley Community Council
- Alaska Map Science



Upper Ram Valley Ski Terrain!

WHERE IS THE PROJECT NOW?

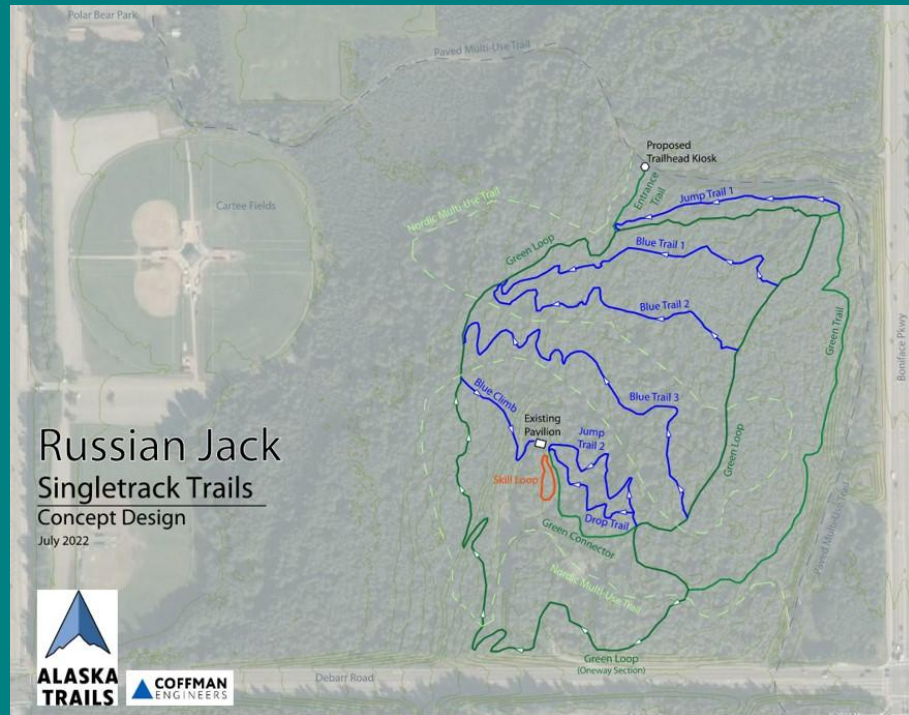
- Project completed September 30, 2023, Alaska Trails paid and grant reports submitted.
- Work completed in 12 weeks, includes:
 - 2,600 feet of new tread
 - 1,040 feet of boardwalk
 - 20 earthen drains installed
 - 100 feet of existing trail tread redefined



A hiker expresses gratitude for boardwalk
and dry shoes

WHERE IS THE PROJECT NOW?

- Nearly done!
- Happy Trails (contractor) will be back some more this summer but hope to finish by end of June.
- May have some touch up for volunteers, YEP or Alaska Trails' paid crew



Russian Jack Singletrack Trail Design

WHERE IS THE PROJECT NOW?

- DONE:
 - Phase 1 Trail Alignments
 - Alignments presented to Chugach State Park Superintendent, Chugach State Park Citizen Advisory Board and ERVCC
 - Targeted outreach to property owners
- NEXT:
 - Additional real estate and access research
 - More outreach to neighbors
 - Phase 2 Trail Alignments and cost estimates
 - Finalize feasibility study document
 - Final option selected by CSP
- FUTURE
 - Funding for trail and parking
 - Construction!



Upper Ram Valley
Bombardment Pass

CHALLENGES / SUCCESSES



DIFFERENT PATHWAYS TO TRAIL SUCCESS



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