



NEWSLETTER

JULY
2021

PO Box 100627; Anchorage, AK 99510-0264

907/334-8049

www.alaska-trails.org

ALASKA TRAILS NEWS AND NOTICES

GO BAG SOME PEAKS, WIN A PRIZE, HELP ALASKA TRAIL STEWARDS

DONATE BY PLAYING Playing outside in the mountains screams fun to begin with, but what if you could win prizes, too? And do it all to help a good cause?!

Welcome to Marmot Peak Bingo! Buy a BINGO card for \$20 at The Hoarding Marmot, tag five peaks in a row on the card and win a prize! Make sure to track your summits with Strava, Garmin, Gaia or some other activity tracking app to submit as proof. Not challenging enough? Be the first to cover the entire card and win one of the GRAND PRIZES!

This event runs from July 1 to August 31. Several local vendors have donated prizes and all proceeds from the event go to Alaska Trail Stewards who help keep our trails maintained. Check out the volunteer opportunities at: www.alaska-trails.org/volunteer-opportunities.



WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH THE ANCHORAGE MAYOR'S CHARITY BALL

DONATE ITEMS Do you own a business or know one that would like to donate something to a silent auction as part of the Anchorage Mayor's Charity Ball?

All of the net proceeds from the ball – that's 100 percent – are distributed to the four local charities and this year we are one of them! The chosen charities receive an average of \$50,000 each from the ball.



We are excited to have this opportunity, as that is a significant amount of funding for our small organization.

Founded in 1994 by a group of dedicated volunteers, led by Robert Penney and then Mayor Rick Mystrom, the Anchorage Mayor's Charity Ball has raised more

than \$3.5 million to support local Anchorage charitable organizations. The ball will be held Saturday, October 9, at the Dena'ina Center in Anchorage.

If you would like to donate something or know of a business that would, please contact Alaska Trails at 907-334-8049 or office@alaska-trails.org

Find out more about the ball here: <https://mayorscharity.org/>

CHUGACH STATE PARK CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY WITH 50-51 FEST

VOLUNTEER, THEN CELEBRATE Chugach State Park turned 50 years old on August 6, 2020.

Unfortunately, the anniversary was muted due to the coronavirus pandemic, so the park postponed the celebration. Now it is excited to celebrate with the public in 2021! Hosted by Arctic Valley Ski Area in the beautiful Chugach Mountains, the Chugach Park 50-51 Fest will be available virtually and in-person, with music, events, and all things outdoors in our parks.

Alaska Trails is proud to be a partner of the fest and is kicking off the celebration with a volunteer event. "Arctic Valley Trails Care" will be held Saturday, July 31, starting at Marston Trailhead. We will block eroding social trails, clean and maintain drainage, and remove brush from trails. Come join us, then join the 50-51 Fest activities!



50th ANNIVERSARY ALASKA STATE PARKS

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Trail Education & Volunteer Event
- 12:00 PM- 1:00 PM
Trail Run hosted by AMR
- Amalgajam- Main Stage
- 1:15 PM -2:15PM
Daddy's Issue
- 2:30 PM- 3:30 PM
Past Our Prime- Main Stage
- 3:30 PM- 3:45 PM
Chugach Stories - Friends of Nike Summit- Small Stage
- 3:45 PM- 4:45 PM
SunDog- Main Stage
- 5:00 PM-6:00 PM
Zen Trembles- Main Stage
- 6:15 PM- 7:30 PM
Rabbit Creek Ramblers- Main Stage
- 7:45 PM- 9:00 PM
Hope Social Club- Main Stage
- 10:30- 11:59 PM
Blackwater Railroad Company- Top of the Ridge!

SPONSORED BY MATSON IN ALASKA
Hosted by Arctic Valley Ski Area

- Find out and sign up for our trails volunteer event at: <https://tinyurl.com/2kv2k8ue>
- For more details on the 50-51 Fest see: www.facebook.com/events/237883184718995

EVEN MORE VOLUNTEER TRAIL EVENTS

Alaska Trail Stewards has more volunteer events besides 50-51 activity. New to trail work? Not a problem. No experience is necessary, just sturdy boots, a good attitude, and a willingness to learn what it takes to keep our trails great. We can't wait to get out there with you!

Learn more and sign up on our website: www.alaska-trails.org/volunteer-opportunities

The mission of the Alaska Trail Stewards Program is to provide volunteer-based trail maintenance services to public land managers and others who have responsibility for safely and sustainably maintaining trails throughout Alaska.

We encourage everyone to get vaccinated. The Centers for Disease Control recently announced that if you're vaccinated, you don't need to mask outdoors (<https://tinyurl.com/ydzdkxmf>). Therefore, we are optimistic about having safe and fun events to build and maintain trails. The best way for you to join in on that is to get vaccinated and do your part to keep the community safe.

PARTNERSHIP WITH FASHIONPACT HELPS ALASKA TRAILS

DONATE BY SHOPPING There's a new and easy way to support us! We have partnered with Anchorage's



newest resale boutique called FashionPACT. FashionPACT's mission is to strengthen the Anchorage community by raising funds for local non-profits. You can help by donating gently used clothing, shoes, jewelry, etc. at FashionPACT and choose our organization. FashionPACT sells the items in their boutique and gives us payment for the things that sell. Learn more at

www.FashionPact.com

In addition to FashionPACT, you can help Alaska Trails continue its mission with the help of several other organizations:

FRED MEYER REWARDS: Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Alaska Trails at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. You can search for Alaska Trails or by our nonprofit number – KU871. Then, every time you shop and use your rewards card, you are helping Alaska Trails earn a donation! You still earn your rewards points, fuel points, and rebates, just as you do today.



AMAZONSMILE: If you shop at Amazon, please take the simple extra step of signing up for AmazonSmile.



It's the same Amazon website, but when you shop from AmazonSmile, you can make a donation to Alaska Trails at the same time: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/73-1677483>

GOODSEARCH: GoodSearch.com is a search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to charities designated by the user. You use it just as you would any search engine, and, it's powered by Yahoo!. Just go to www.goodsearch.org and be sure to enter Alaska Trails as the charity you want to support.



BAGOY'S: Anchorage-based Bagoy's Florist and Home helps through its Helping Hands web fundraising program (<https://www.bagoys.com/programs/charitable-giving/>). When you order online from Bagoy's (www.bagoys.com) there is a check box at the bottom of the payment page that says "This is a Helping Hands order." When you check that box, the list of enrolled organizations are shown and you can choose Alaska Trails from the list.



ALASKA TRAILS HAS TOOL TRAILERS READY FOR TRAIL PROJECTS

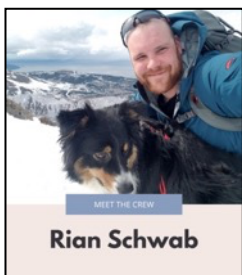


BORROW TOOLS As you start planning trail building and maintenance projects, remember that Alaska Trails has mobile tool caches available to loan to organized trail groups in Southcentral and Interior Alaska. One cache is in the Fairbanks area and the other is in Anchorage/Mat-Su Valley area.

The trailers have a bunch of trail tools including McLeods, Pulaskis, rakes, gloves, and much, much more. If you would like to borrow one of the caches, please contact us (info on masthead).

SEEN RECENTLY ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

June 28: Slowly but surely! A big thank you to all the volunteers who came out last weekend to help us continue building the new Little O'Malley Peak Trail. We've got lots of great volunteer events coming up in July, ranging from Turnagain Pass up to Arctic Valley. Learn more and sign up on our website: www.alaska-trails.org/volunteer-opportunities



June 16: We're excited to welcome Rian Schwab to our Chugach State Park crew. Welcome to the team, Rian!

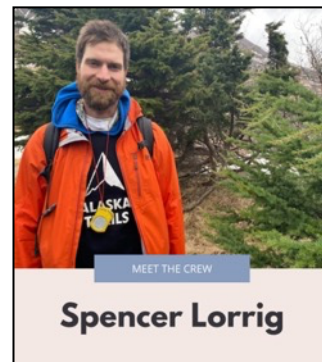
About Rian: "I am a born and raised Alaskan. As someone who loves the outdoors and mountains I decided to volunteer with Alaska Trails and ended up working on various projects around the Chugach and Talkeetna ranges over the years. I'm currently back in school to finish my degree to work in natural resource management. When I'm not working or schooling I'm usual out on my bike or backpacking across Alaska. In the winter I love to get out on the skis."

June 9: Alaska Trails is excited to announce that the brushing work on the Bird to Gird Trail in Chugach State Park is all done! We are grateful to Alaska Land Clearing for their hard work in clearing the brush to make this trail safer and more fun.

Alaska Trails is also appreciative for the funding for this Recreational Trails Program project which came from the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation and the Federal Highway Administration.

June 9: Meet the crew! Spencer Lorrig is the leader for our Chugach State Park trail crew. He worked as a crew member last summer, and we're excited to have him back again this year. A little bit more about him:

"I grew up in Wisconsin and after a family vacation to Alaska I fell in love with the mountains and moved up here to Alaska. After a couple years working in Tourism and hospitality I made the transition to the rewarding work of trail building. Anchorage and the Chugach range provide so many recreation opportunities and you can find me hiking and biking during the summers and grabbing both my downhill and cross country skis in the winter. I am most looking forward to the wildlife viewing that comes with working outside each day." Welcome back, Spencer!



June 8: It's #TrailheadTuesday! To kick off this season, we're highlighting trails that we'll be working on this summer. Thanks to a Recreational Trails Program grant awarded by Alaska State Parks, we're doing brushing and trail maintenance on the Indian to Girdwood trail. Commonly referred to as Bird to Gird, this ADA-accessible trail actually begins in Indian. Unfamiliar with the trail? Check out this great video from Alaska State Parks to learn more!

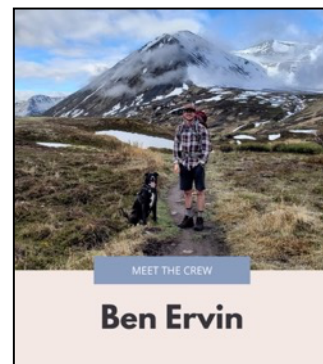
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAv5oiln5So>

June 4: Help us welcome Ben Ervin to our summer crew! Each year we work with the Anchorage Park Foundation on their Youth Employment in Parks program. This summer Ben is the supervisor. Here's a little bit more about him:

"I grew up in California and Colorado and moved to Alaska in 2017 after graduating college in the Chicago area. I discovered hiking and backpacking with some friends late in high school and immediately knew it was something for me.

"I have worked building trails on front and backcountry crews in Rocky Mountain National Park, Kachemak Bay State Park, and Chugach State Park. I worked as a commercial and residential carpenter for a few years before coming back to trail construction in 2021.

"Part of the reason I love Alaska so much is because of how much it offers to outdoor enthusiasts like myself. When I'm not working, I enjoy hiking, backpacking, bikepacking, climbing, and shredding some backcountry pow. This trail season, I am looking forward to seeing the Y.E.P. kids take an interest in trail work for their first time and maybe pursue a career in it down the road."



ALASKA TRAILS LINKS

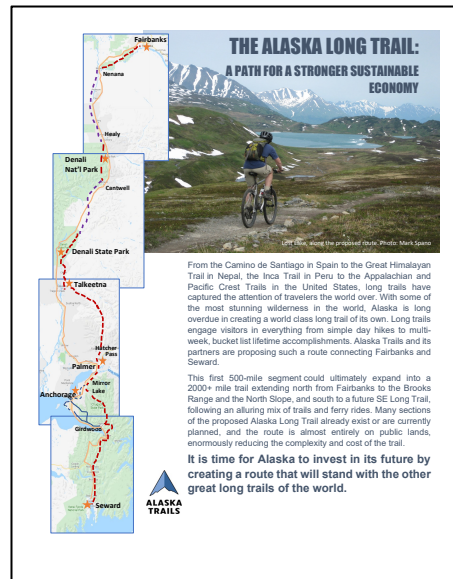
- Budget plan includes money for 500-mile Alaska hiking trail: <https://tinyurl.com/93hrndhc>

STATEWIDE NEWS AND NOTICES

HERE'S A CHALLENGE: GET DIRT ON A LEGISLATOR THIS SUMMER

GET A LEGISLATOR DIRTY During Great Outdoors Month, and all the way through July, trail enthusiasts should take time to invite local and state elected officials to get on the trail bandwagon.

In August, the legislature will be considering how to spend Alaska's \$1 billion in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Two proposals introduced during regular session would invest in outdoor recreation jobs that create economic opportunity. The proposals are complimentary. The statewide civilian conservation corps (aka Trails Build Alaska), will help train and create skilled trail workers. Those workers could be hired to help with the other proposal, the Alaska Long Trail, which, when complete, would connect Seward to Fairbanks with a 500-mile long trail.



Every vote in the legislature counts, so no matter where you live, invite legislators and/or their staff to join you to walk a trail and talk about why trails are so important to you, your friends, family and community. We have not yet met an Alaska legislator that does not recreate outdoors in some way. Mountain bike advocates, be sure to provide a bike and helmet for your elected representatives and let them experience the fun of an easy, local bike trail - unless they are already a known shredder! Legislators might even be willing to get their hands dirty, in a publicity-friendly way, by joining with other volunteers to help maintain or build trails, or at classic shovel-wielding ground-breaking or grand opening ceremonies. Invite local newspaper and radio reporters to these occasions. If they can't come, ask if they would accept and publish your photos. If that sounds daunting at least post your images to websites and tag the legislator in social media posts.

Funding for the statewide Trails Build Alaska and Long Trail, combined with approval of a Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation budget that beefs up outdoor recreation grant programs, would represent the single largest investment in outdoor recreation in Alaska in decades. You can bet legislators will be hearing from a multitude of constituents with ideas on how to spend the ARPA funds. Why not us? Together, by keeping our needs on legislators' radar in fun, meaningful and visible ways, we can make sure that the CCC, Long Trail and State Parks budget requests win approval.

From Alaska Outdoor Alliance post

FOREST SERVICE SEEKS COMMENTS FOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

COMMENT The U.S. Forest Service is seeking ideas for 2023 maintenance projects related to the Great American Outdoors Act funding for 2023. Deadline for comment is July 6.

Projects can include work on cabins, campgrounds, trailheads, trails, roads, bridges, parking areas, visitor centers, day-use areas, boat ramps, marine facilities, and picnic areas. View the user-friendly interactive, online map of current and proposed projects (<https://tinyurl.com/7yn9e8xy>). Each 2023 project

has a comment section for providing feedback. You can also choose the “Other” category by District to provide new ideas not currently on the list.

Visit the USFS website for more information about GAOA projects in Alaska:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r10/home/>

From What's Up? by Peg Tileston

WATCH FOR BIRD NESTS WHEN WORKING ON TRAILS



Trail work sometimes requires downing trees or clearing shrubs. When doing so make sure not to violate the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which makes it illegal for anyone to “take” migratory birds, their eggs, feathers, or nests. “Take” includes destroying or damaging active bird nests or eggs. Different areas of the state have different sensitive periods generally occurring between April 15 and July 25. However, if you encounter an active nest at any time leave it in place and protected until young hatch and depart. “Active” is indicated by intact eggs, live chicks, or the presence of an adult on the nest.

For more information and recommended time periods for avoiding vegetation clearing see:

<https://tinyurl.com/y9ulmffg>

Photo from Denali 101: www.denali101.com/denalinationalpark/birds_of_denali.html

SEEN RECENTLY ON STATEWIDE FACEBOOK PAGES

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - ALASKA

Bureau of Land Management - Alaska

June 23: 🕒 You're almost out of time to comment on the Environmental Assessment and amendment to the East Alaska Resource Management Plan.

📅 The comment period on the analysis documents closes July 2!

👁️ You can still review the documents and provide written comment.

📣 Announcement: <http://ow.ly/XNPj50F1Hi7>

💡 Guidance on creating unique comments:

<http://ow.ly/9iVo50F2s0p>

📄 Analysis and electronic comments:

<http://ow.ly/nt9650F1Hi8>

📧 Where to mail:

Bureau of Land Management

ATTN: East Alaska RMP Amendment/EA

222 W. 7th Ave., Stop 13

Anchorage, Alaska 99513

🗓️ Make sure to comment by July 2!





June 8: What is an easement and why should I care?

- [i](#) formally called "access easements"
- [i](#) one kind is a 17(b) easement
- [i](#) public access across private land
- [i](#) enables travel to other public lands, a river or lake
- [i](#) some look like trails or roads
- [i](#) some are landing strips, parking, camping, loading areas

Learn more about 17(b) easements [➔](#)

<http://www.blm.gov/alaska/17b-easements>

Learn about the Jack Creek Trail easement, in the photos [➔](#)

<https://www.blm.gov/visit/jack-creek-trail>

AMERICAN TRAILS

June 21: Our entire webinar archive, as well as associated learning credits, are now free to the public!

Learn more: <https://lnkd.in/gEwcQgF>

STATEWIDE LINKS

- Budget plan includes money for 500-mile Alaska hiking trail: <https://tinyurl.com/93hrndhc>
- Proposed State Park Regulations (some are trail-related): <http://notice.alaska.gov/203004>

SLIGHTLY OFF TRAIL

- Biden budget proposes \$11 million to National Forests in Alaska: <https://tinyurl.com/aehnfc72>

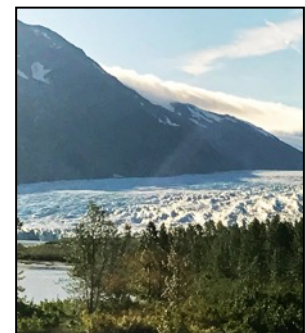
SOUTHCENTRAL NEWS AND NOTICES

NEW LODGE COMING FOR KENAI PENINSULA HUT-TO-HUT IN 2023

In it's most recent newsletter, Alaska Huts has some exciting news about the long-planned hut-to-hut system on the Kenai Peninsula. For more information on Alaska Huts see: <https://www.alaskahuts.org/>

The secret is out! If anyone saw the article in Outside Online (<https://tinyurl.com/r8kb8xk5>), it is now common knowledge that we are planning on breaking ground on the new Spencer Lodge in 2023. In addition to the main cabin at Spencer, the ultimate plan is to have a trail linking to two more cabins along the railroad corridor, accessible by whistle stop. The coolest part is that the Alaska Long Trail is gaining steam, especially with the funding approved by the Alaska State Legislature. Lots of exciting things happening soon!

We are also holding a Capital Campaign this fall to help raise money to get the Spencer Lodge built. Alaska Huts is nothing without you, our greatest supporters. Please spread the word about us to your friends. Stay tuned for more information!



Find out more about Alaska Huts here: <https://www.alaskahuts.org/>

Photo of Spencer Glacier by Kira Harris

MAT-SU TRAILS AND PARKS FOUNDATION OFFERS GUIDE

The Mat-Su Trails and Parks Foundation has a summer guide available for trails and parks in the Mat-Su area.

The days are long, but summer is short, and we hope you're getting out to explore all of the awesome summer recreation opportunities in the Valley! From summit views, to wildlife viewing, mountain biking, fishing, backcountry huts, playgrounds, ball fields, the Mat-Su really has it all in the summer!

We're here to help you find your next outdoor adventure!

We compiled some of our favorite summer trails and parks around Palmer to share with you!

Link to the guide: <https://tinyurl.com/2v295ddw>

The Summer Trails and Parks Guide is a digital and print brochure available for the community and visitors. If you're interested in displaying these brochures at your office or business location please contact us at: info@matsutrails.org

Use the OuterSpatial trails app, available for free on the App Store or Google Play, to visit all of the great trails and parks the Mat-Su has to offer!



SEEN RECENTLY ON SOUTHCENTRAL FACEBOOK PAGES

ALASKA STATE PARKS



June 24: In Willow: Newman Park is seeing education upgrades on the Shem Pete Trails this summer with panels designed by our staff from the Interpretation and Education Unit!

Thank you to our partner - Willow Area Community Organization!

ANCHORAGE PARKS AND RECREATION

June 15: The Youth Employment in Parks 2021 crew is in full swing! Check out their weekly newsletter, crafted by a YEP intern and chock-full of information and inspiring stories about these great teens.

<https://tinyurl.com/5cecmse6>

ANCHORAGE PARK FOUNDATION

June 24: What is "soft fascination", you ask?

It's what nature provides. Natural environments are just stimulating enough to gently engage the brain's attention without overloading it. Treat yourself (and your mental health) by getting outside. Read the article here: <https://tinyurl.com/2fwhuwmn>

June 23: So great to see our Downtown thriving with all the events and tourists and fishers. Don't forget about the Ship Creek Trail! It's north of Downtown on C Street and is a beautiful walk or bike ride year round. And many thanks to Anchorage Parks and Recreation's horticulture department for the beautiful flowers! <https://www.anchorage.net/outdoors/trails-and-local-parks/ship-creek-trail/>

June 15: Many thanks to the Sunset Beach Club for purchasing a mile marker sponsorship on the Coastal Trail. Look for it at MP 6.5 on the trail.

SINGLETRACK ADVOCATES



June 22: Your Donations = Weed Whacked Trail.....

The weed whacking on Kincaid south side is fantastic and the trails are rolling great. Thank you for donations, which allow us to hire Northern Trail Maintenance for the work.

If you'd like to volunteer help weed whack please contact stakincaid@gmail.com or stahillside@gmail.com

June 17: Hemlock Burn Trail is looking great! Donate and get your individual/family name on the sponsor sign, or your corporate logo too. Visit our website to donate.

<http://www.singletrackadvocates.org/>

June 15: Keep single track single!

Please don't try to ride around the roots. Doing so widens the trail and exposes more roots!

MAT-SU BOROUGH RECREATION AND LIBRARY SERVICES

June 22: The Mat Su Borough Trail Crew is working to complete the Matanuska River Trail. This 5 foot wide, crushed gravel, Americans with Disabilities Act compliant trail was started a few years ago and currently runs from the Matanuska River bridge to the lower campground at the Matanuska River Park. This year we are continuing it to Eagle Avenue near Sherrod Elementary School. Please be aware of equipment and Crewmembers working in the area. We hope that you'll check out the new trail once it's completed in early August!



June 7: The Mat Su Borough Trail Crew is hard at work completing a 3 year project to re-gravel the lower section of the West Butte Trail from the benches down to the trailhead. They should complete this project by the end of the week. Please pay attention to equipment and workers operating on the trail. We hope that you enjoy the new gravel!

VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKERS AND HIKERS



June 21: Great new images of the Fireweed trail. Trail brushing helps keep the trail dried out during summers of rain, and the line of sight has been cleared for safety.

Northern Trail Services is doing a great job thus far and will continue later this month by brushing out the remainder of our GPRA trails.

ISLAND TRAILS NETWORK IS IN KODIAK, ALASKA.

June 23: Travis's crew has been working hard brushing the hiking trails around town. They have cleared much of Barometer, Heitman Lake Trail, and the Red Cloud Trail so far.

This project is funded by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.



SOUTHCENTRAL LINKS

- Hiking Lazy Mountain - Palmer, Alaska (4 min video): www.youtube.com/watch?v=nMBrodHJWcs
- Kachemak trails prepped for summer: <https://tinyurl.com/2apf425f>
- YEP crews busy improving Anchorage parks and trails: <https://tinyurl.com/jah9dsxs>
- Tackle Anchorage's terrific city trail system: <https://tinyurl.com/ya8v863r>

INTERIORWIDE NEWS AND NOTICES

CHALLENGE OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES TO FIND TRAILS IN INTERIOR

The Fairbanks Summer Trails Challenge is live with most of the 20 signs up and ready to find all over the borough!

As of June 25 the following trails do not have signs yet: 1. Chena River Bike Path; 6. Beaver Springs Nature Trail; 15. Cranberry Trail; and trails #17-20.

Borough staff is working to get these posted and the borough will update once all signs are up!

New for this year, the borough has added a "Sourdough Trailblazer" category. To join that category you need to be 60 and older and find at least five signs.

This event, put on by the Fairbanks North Star Borough Parks and Recreation Department, is an all-ages, all-abilities, outdoor scavenger hunt. The challenge is designed to get you out with your friends and family to explore our wonderful local trails, both new and familiar.

Anyone is allowed to participate in the search. When you find a sign, prove you made it by taking a "selfie" photo with the sign and posting it on social media with the hashtag "#FNSBTrails" or email your photo to trails@fnsb.us. And of course, leave the sign to be found by the next trail challenge participant.

Participants who find at least ten signs during the event can win prizes from local sponsors and the coveted Trailblazer Award. Participants under the age of ten can find at least five signs to win the Junior Trailblazer Award! Whether you find one or find them all, challenge yourself to get outside and enjoy nature!

To find a list of signs and more about the event see: <https://tinyurl.com/2fszb8xu>



FAIRBANKS ADVOCATE TO DISCUSS WHERE TRAILS COME FROM

Local trails advocate Stan Justice will be speaking about trails as part of the Discover Alaska lecture series.

Justice's talk, Where Did Our Trails Come From?, will be held on the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus in the BP Design Theater (401 Engineering Building) on July 14 starting at 7 p.m.

The Discover Alaska series is put on by UAF Summer Sessions and Lifelong Learning. To find out more about the lecture series and the many other events put on by the program see:

www.uaf.edu/summer/events/upcoming.php

SEEN RECENTLY ON INTERIOR FACEBOOK PAGES

BLM-WHITE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

June 9: The BLM Eastern Interior Field Office would like to thank the many volunteers, who along with our partners and sponsors, made last weekend's #NationalTrailsDay event at the Pinnell Mountain National Recreation Trail a huge success. Great weather and yummy lunches (thanks, Interior Alaska Trails and Parks Foundation!) helped our volunteers and BLM staff complete even more work than we anticipated. The volunteers left the trail primed for yesterday's arrival of a Student Conservation Association trail crew to continue the project.



ARCTIC OFFROAD



From Brian Accola

June 27: Home!

6 hours solo on Saturday with over 100 feet of new trail cleared on the historic, original Nome Creek access road.

3 hours Sunday with Randy G and Robert Bobby Lee on Table Top Mountain trail clearing.

Bobby and I wheeled the Jeep Trail along Nome Creek on the way out

FAIRBANKS TRAIL USERS OPEN GROUP

June 20: Several interior Alaska trails have already been affected by collapsing ground due to warming temperatures and the incidences will probably increase.

Shared from

Alaska Outdoor Alliance

June 13: Why climate resiliency should be part of every kind of infrastructure planning. "We're dropping in elevation because we live on ice cubes."

The sinking feeling over much of Alaska: <https://tinyurl.com/yek6h23a>

INTERIORWIDE LINKS

- Work Underway to Repair Pinnell Mt. Trail Damage (KUAC): <https://tinyurl.com/56mx3s8t>
- Advancing local hiking (FDNM Letter to Editor): <https://tinyurl.com/2y4pncun>
- Public Easement for Antler Creek Trail in Healy (comments due by July 28): <http://notice.alaska.gov/203018>
- 17th annual Stream Cleanup Day draws volunteers to remove trash of all shapes, sizes from Noyes Slough and Chena River (FDNM): <https://tinyurl.com/va9pmc2e>
- My Big Fat Stupid Hike: <https://tinyurl.com/3ttzwr5r>
- Packrafting Beaver Creek Again: <https://tinyurl.com/r9e44sju>

SOUTHEAST NEWS AND NOTICES

TRAIL MIX SEEKS FIELD ORGANIZER TO TRAIN, HIRE TRAILS WORKERS

Trail Mix, Inc., is seeking to hire a contract field organizer to train and hire Alaskans as part of a statewide trails workforce. Candidates should be self-starters and quick learners who are comfortable building a volunteer base and primarily running grassroots tactics remotely. 1-2 years of grassroots organizing experience required. Pay is \$30/hr for 160hrs (~40hrs/week). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Position open until filled. For full job description and how to apply, go to bit.ly/trailmixorganizer21.

From What's Up? by Peg Tileston

SEEN RECENTLY ON SOUTHEAST FACEBOOK PAGES

TRAIL MIX, INC.

June 28: 🛠️ Trail Report Week 6 🛠️



Last week crew members worked through the rain and sun at Pack Creek, Blackerby, and prepared to depart on another hitch, this time to Balls Lake near Prince of Wales. We can't wait to welcome home our Pack Creek in the next few days and hear about the observation deck they've been installing all week. While they've been away, crews back here in Juneau have been running helicopter support with Coastal Helicopters to make sure all the materials make it out to Admiralty. Our other crew began wrapping up the first phase of work on

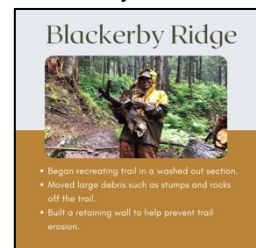
Blackerby trail.

Off the trail, our admin team has been working non-stop to prepare for another year of Hike for a Pint! Get excited, registration is opening up July 1st!

June 21 🛠️ Trail Report Week 5 🛠️

Wow, how the time flies! Our crews are five weeks into our trail season and have already made an amazing impact on Juneau's trails. This past week, crews worked out at Blackerby Ridge Trail, Treadwell Ditch, and Duck Creek Wetlands. Jesse's Crew also spent the end of the week packing and preparing to head out for a hitch (a multi-day trail work project that usually includes camping and travel).

On Sunday, we said farewell to Jesse's crew as they headed off to Pack Creek on Admiralty Island. We can't wait to share all the details of this trip upon their return. The crew is expected to be working at Pack Creek for a week. In the meantime, our other two crews will keep breaking ground, moving gravel, and creating a better trail system here in Juneau.



June 14: 🛠️ Trail Report Week 4 🛠️

Last week, we rounded out our team with the addition of our 3rd Crew Lead, Owen. Now, we have three crews working out on the trails each week. Three crews can accomplish a lot, as I'm sure you'll see throughout the season. Today we'll be showcasing our work at the Under Thunder Sediment Trap, Treadwell Ditch, and Duck Creek.

June 1: Next up on our 2021 trail projects list is the fairy-tale Switzer Creek trail!

Loop trails are coveted among locals and visitors, and while there aren't many within the Juneau trail system, the Switzer/Marriot Aquatic Education Trail checks a lot of boxes! The trail passes through meadows, forest, succession growth, and wetland habitats with an abundance of wildlife and botanical treasures.



However, one branch of the trail runs in close proximity to a stream and needs to be moved. Trail Mix will reroute this section farther away from the stream to prevent erosion. Volunteers will assist with "grubbing," preparing a path for the new trail, and then filling and shaping gravel tread. The existing trail will still be open while the new one is being built, so add this to your summer hike list and say hey to our crew and volunteers!

JUNEAU PARKS & RECREATION

June 17: Trail Mix, Inc. rocks! 🙌 It takes a great effort to maintain the many, many, MANY miles of Juneau trails. Already this summer they've been spotted at Point Bridget, Duck Creek, Under Thunder, and Treadwell Ditch. Help us give them a huge shout out with your positive comments below!

We partner with Trail Mix, Inc. on many events and we are glad to have their support once again for Walk Southeast 2021. Everyone needs some Trail Mix Swag. Thank you Trail Mix, Inc.!



June 4: Improvements to a trail and wetland area along Duck Creek in the Mendenhall Valley will begin, June 7, and will continue through the month. Please use caution in this area and follow any construction signage. Improvements include clearing trees, storm water control, and creating a walkway to the bridge. Project goals include rehabilitating wetland areas and improving habitat.



MRV Architects designed the improvements, Trail Mix, Inc. is performing the trail work, and Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition will facilitate the revegetation of the area. The work is being funded through mitigation money provided to the City and Borough of Juneau by the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities for impacts to park property from the Stephen Richards Drive and Mendenhall Loop Road Roundabout projects.

NATIONWIDE NEWS AND NOTICES

NATIONWIDE / INTERNATIONAL LINKS

WEBINARS, MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, TRAINING, ETC.

- For a listing of upcoming trail webinars workshops, conferences, and other meetings, see the American Trails calendar at: www.americantrails.org/training/calendar

TRAILS-RELATED NEWSLETTERS

- American Trails "Trail Tracks": www.americantrails.org/newsletter
- Conservation International newsletter (June): <https://tinyurl.com/tuxky2vw>

FUNDING

- Yamaha Dealers and Customers Supporting Access to Land for Work, Play: <https://yamahaoai.com/>

VOLUNTEER

- American Hiking Society: 2021 Volunteer Vacations: americanhiking.org/volunteer-vacation-trips/

OTHER NATIONAL LINKS:

- 'Greenway Stimulus' Could Bring Boom in Bike and Walking Trails: <https://tinyurl.com/jd9tahk7>
- 10 New National Recreation Trails Added To National Park System: <https://tinyurl.com/5ch7euf8>
- National Forest System Trail Stewardship Partner Funding 2021 Projects Selected: <https://tinyurl.com/kk4nsnr>
- Secretary Haaland Promotes Outdoor Recreation, Designates Ten New National Recreation Trails: <https://tinyurl.com/smp2mx7v>
- 10 Great Hut-to-Hut Trips in the U.S.: <https://tinyurl.com/r8kb8xk5>
- The 8 Best Scenic Hiking Trails Around Texas: www.wideopencountry.com/scenic-hiking-trails-texas/

SLIGHTLY OFF-TRAIL

- The Future of the Outdoor Recreation Economy - Headwaters Economics: <https://tinyurl.com/3j7dst8s>
- Geographic Information System (GIS) For Beginners: <https://tinyurl.com/747r2ytj>

The Alaska Trails board meets via teleconference the first Tuesday of every other month from 5-7pm. If you want to hear more about Alaska trail topics, share trail information, or propose a trail project, join us. Members and the public are welcome. Call for more information and meeting details [907-334-8049](tel:907-334-8049).

A copy of this newsletter will also be posted to our web site. Newsletters come out at the beginning of each month. Deadline for articles is seven days before the first of the month. Send stories to Editor Eric Troyer at fbxtrails@gmail.com