

Wednesday, April 6

10:30-11:30am	<p>Berms, Pumps & Jumps - How to Design Fun Mountain Bike Trails</p> <p>Lee Bolling, President – Singletrack Advocates (STA)</p> <p>Let's dig into the specifics of designing amazing mountain bike trails with slopes, jumps, berms and fun times! Lee Bolling led the development of Anchorage's premier singletrack trails and shares his knowledge on lessons learned throughout the last 12 years of designing, building, maintaining and shredding these trails. In this presentation you'll learn the importance of trail slopes, good jump and berm design, and how to harness the trail-force for your own dream trail.</p>
11:45am-Noon	<p>AK Trails intro - All you ever wanted to know about Alaska Trails - Join us for a quick, interactive take on what Alaska Trails is up to and where we are going!</p>
12-1:00pm	<p>Valdez Success Story – Building Trails from the Ground Up</p> <p>The City of Valdez acquired 186 acres of land in 2019 with the purpose of conservation and development of a new outdoor recreation park including hiking, biking and universal access. This presentation will provide an overview of the project as well as a round table discussion with the project partners including: Huddle AK, Interior Trails, and Parks and People LLC.</p> <p>The presenters will share how they solicited stakeholders' environmental values in developing a nature-based community recreation area. The master plan, the trails and other facilities all incorporate the community's values. The conceptual framework for investigating the range of attitudes toward nature and the findings from the Meals Hill Master Plan survey will also be explored. The panel will also share how they translated the findings into actionable planning practices.</p> <p>With the master plan adopted, City of Valdez completed a comprehensive funding strategy with the intention of leveraging alternate funding sources.</p>

Thursday, April 7

9-9:30am

**A long trail's journey from the Continental Divide Trail's perspective:
Keynote by Teresa Martinez, CDTC Executive Director**

Continental Divide Trail Coalition is a national non-profit organization building a strong community of volunteers, enthusiasts and supporters who want to see the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT) completed and protected. Their mission is to create a community committed to constructing, promoting, and protecting the CDT, which stretches from Canada to Mexico, through Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico.

9:30-11:30am

**Alaska Long Trail Work Session: Identifying routes, uses, and gaps
from Seward to Fairbanks**

This session will start the process of bringing together diverse stakeholders to brainstorm, discuss, and identify the Alaska Long Trail gaps, routes, and uses from Seward to Fairbanks. While a lot of work has been done by partners along the proposed route in the past year, many questions remain unanswered, and the bulk of the planning work is still ahead of us. Over the course of the next year, this planning work will be carried out in local and regional working groups along the envisioned length of the trail. The working groups will comprise local governments, trail users, communities, trails organizations, tourism representatives, non-profits, Alaska Native entities, businesses, and public land management agencies. The conference session will initiate this planning effort through Zoom breakout rooms where participants will focus on the specific geographic area of their interest. All are welcome in this first of many meetings to follow.

11:45am-12:15pm

**Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
2023-2027 update**

SCORP provides the long overdue opportunity for a legitimate, comprehensive, project-focused, locally-driven process for guiding investments and strategies for outdoor recreation. This includes addressing needs for infrastructure such as parks and trails, open space acquisition, and broader strategies for funding, marketing, and partnership building. A multi-agency team and a large group of volunteers have been working on developing content for the SCORP over the past year. This session will give an update and next steps for this document.

1-2:30pm	<p>Updates from around the State</p> <p>There are a lot of great trail projects and programs happening across the state. This panel will give some quick snapshots of those projects – with each presenter providing links to where you can learn more. We hope to inspire others to reach for new heights. Presenters include: the Denali Borough, Chugach National Forest, Hoonah Indian Association, the Bureau of Land Management, Denali National Park and the Tongass Sustainable Trail Strategy.</p>
2:45-4pm	<p>Funding updates: Infrastructure bill, ARPA, EDA, state capital budget</p> <p>Funding continues to be critical for trail projects – and with new federal funding on the way it is becoming even more important. This panel will update participants on a variety of those sources and present information on how to take the next steps on those opportunities. Presenters will focus on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), the Economic Development Agency (EDA), CAPSIS and the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA).</p>
Friday, April 8	
9-9:30am	<p>CO Front Range Strike Team: Keynote by Emily Olsen, National Forest Foundation Rocky Mountain Region Director</p> <p>The Colorado Front Range Trail Stewardship Strike Team is a partnership between the National Forest Foundation (NFF), the US Forest Service, and the Mile High Youth Corps (MHYC), with support from the VF Foundation. The Strike Team is working with the Forest Service, focusing on conservation projects in the front range of Colorado — an area that experiences heavy traffic, rapidly expanding population, and could always use more trail work.</p> <p>Could something like this work in Alaska? We hope you can join us to find out more.</p>
9:30-10:30am	<p>Building a sustainable volunteer crew leader program</p> <p>Volunteer crew leaders are an essential part of volunteer trail operations. How do you build a sustainable and robust program that not only recruits but retains stellar volunteer crew leaders? Come learn how the Washington Trails Association, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, and Pacific Crest Trail Association have built sustainable crew leader programs that help their volunteer programs to thrive.</p>

<p>10:45-11:45am</p>	<p>Expanding Capacity to Design, Approve, Build and Maintain Trails in Alaska - Workforce Challenges and Solutions</p> <p>This session will address the need to grow the trails workforce in Alaska. Alaska's capacity to design, permit, build and maintain trails increasingly lags behind the demand and need for quality trails. Panelists will share information on workforce opportunities, challenges, emerging strategies and success stories in the effort to grow trail workforce capacity, and create more predictable, better paying jobs. Topics will include strategies for success in larger and smaller communities, benefits of partnerships with tribes and regional non-profits, the role of non-profit trail organizations in aggregating and leveraging trails funding, and the importance of regular funding from local, state and/or federal governments.</p>
<p>1-2:15pm</p>	<p>Trail Building in SE: Lessons learned</p> <p>Building and maintaining trails all over Alaska is difficult, but perhaps nowhere more so than in Southeast Alaska. From workforce issues to the cost of materials, landslides to remoteness (even by Alaska standards) - trails organizations, land managers, landscape architects and trail builders deal with a unique set of challenges in Southeast. But they also rise to that challenge with clever solutions. Tune in to hear from a diverse set of panelists to hear how they manage to accomplish trail projects in Southeast Alaska.</p>
<p>2:30-4pm</p>	<p>Adaptive Mountain Bikes and Associated Trail Construction Standards</p> <p>This presentation will address the growth of adaptive mountain biking (aMTB), briefly overview common adaptive mountain bikes and their capabilities and examine rational Canadian aMTB trail standards. The presentation will also speak to common avoidable barriers and a general assessment of current trail stock.</p>