



# NEWSLETTER

MAY  
2022

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[www.alaska-trails.org](http://www.alaska-trails.org)

## ALASKA TRAILS NEWS AND NOTICES

### STATEWIDE TRAILS CONFERENCE KICKS OFF 2022 SEASON

Alaska Trails once again embraced the virtual world for the 2022 Alaska Statewide Trails Conference, held April 6-8.

Organizers and participants seized the opportunity to stage a successful virtual conference by implementing lessons learned from previous virtual events.

Wednesday saw two exciting presentations. The conference kicked off with a showcase from Lee Bolling of the Singletrack Advocates on how to build mountain bikes trails. This was followed by an all-star line-up highlighting the successes the City of Valdez has had in incorporating trails into a master plan for land it recently acquired.

Thursday began with an inspiring keynote from Teresa Martinez of the Continental Divide Trail Association, who highlight the great success they have had on that long trail. Alaska Trails and others updated the conference on the Alaska Long Trail and then the group split into regional areas to do a deeper dive into Long Trail planning. This was followed by an update on the sessions Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2022-27.

Thursday also included exciting updates on trail projects around the state – from Southeast all the way up to Denali. The day closed with a panel on funding – even more critical now that the need for trail funding is so acute and that there are many new federal infrastructure grant opportunities.

On Friday, the sessions began with a keynote on an innovative program in Colorado call the Front Range Strike Team. This was followed by a panel on volunteer crew leaders with great ideas from an array of successful organizations. Workforce solutions followed with a discussion on how best to grow the capacity for trail building and maintenance across the state, especially in light of new funding. The afternoon included a panel on issues specific to trail building in Southeast – including, of course, rain! Our last session of the conference featured two speakers sharing their experiences as adaptive athletes and what it takes to build trails that they can use and enjoy.

Alaska Trails would like to extend a special thank you to all the presenters who took the time to share their knowledge and expertise. The recorded video presentations as well as the powerpoints to go with them can be found at our conference website: <https://www.alaska-trails.org/conference-archive-links>

*Graphic: The Alaska Long Trail was a big topic of discussion on Thursday*



## WE'RE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WILLING TO GET DIRTY

**VOLUNTEER** We have posted our first volunteer events of the year. Check out <https://www.alaska-trails.org/current-volunteer-opportunities>. Hope to see you out on the trails soon!

Our first two events are on National Trails Day – June 4. We will have volunteers working on part of the Iditarod National Historic Trail in collaboration with the US Forest Service and Alaska Geographic. And we will have volunteers brushing in Chugach State Park at the Glen Alps Trailhead area in partnership with the Chugach Park Fund and Matson. Please visit the website to sign up and read more about these events and others to come!

## ALASKA TRAILS SEEKS COORDINATOR FOR VOLUNTEERS, MORE

**APPLY** Alaska Trails is seeking applicants for our Volunteer and Communications Coordinator (VCC) position.

This person oversees all aspects of the Alaska Trail Stewards (ATS) volunteer program. This includes recruiting volunteers for trail improvement projects, arranging training opportunities, and coordinating with land managers to identify meaningful, safe, and fun projects.

In addition, the VCC will head up program development and promotion, and will be responsible for identifying and pursuing new funding sources in addition to contributing to current annual fundraising efforts.

More information at: <https://www.alaska-trails.org/jobs>



## ALASKA TRAILS HAS TOOL TRAILERS READY FOR TRAIL PROJECTS



**BORROW** 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).

## SPRING TRAILS ARE VULNERABLE, PLEASE USE WITH CARE

**TREAD LIGHTLY** Alaska Trails asks that you please keep in mind how your trail activities might affect other trail users, especially in the spring.

As snow melts and the ground thaws, the trails become extremely muddy. Using really muddy trails at this time can result in ruts that stay all summer when the trails dry out. Those ruts can make the trails difficult to use all summer and into the next winter. They help create erosion by keeping water on the trails.

But with a little thought this problem can be greatly reduced.

- **Try to be patient.** Stay off the trails if you can. If you are unsure if a trail is ready to be used, check it out with the commitment to turn back if you are doing too much damage.
- **Choose low impact.** If you use the trails in several different ways, choose the method of travel that will



cause the least amount of damage if you do run into some muddy sections.

- **Pick your trails carefully.** Use well-drained trails with lots of southern exposure. They typically dry out the quickest. If you just have to get muddy, please limit your activities to trails that are already thrashed.

An alternative to using trails in the spring is to get out on foot or by bike and go explore quiet subdivision roads new to you. You get to be outside, be active, and probably find out new things about your community.

*Photo: Erosion on a popular trail in the Chugach State Park as seen on September 9, 2020 (Lex Treinen/Alaska Public Media)*

## SEVERAL EASY WAYS TO HELP FUND ALASKA TRAILS

**DONATE BY BUYING** With the help of other organizations, you can help Alaska Trails continue advocating for trails.

**FASHIONPACT:** FashionPACT, an Anchorage resale boutique, seeks 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 Alaska Trails. FashionPACT sells the items in their boutique and gives us payment for the things that sell. Learn more

at [www.FashionPact.com](http://www.FashionPact.com).

**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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

## SEEN RECENTLY ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

April 11: Some good news for your Monday morning! Trail Mix and the Hoonah Indian Association both presented at our Trails Conference last week and we are excited for them. Among the awards announced Thursday were:

- \$440,000 to the Sealaska Heritage Institute and Trail Mix Inc. for design and installation of 200 Indigenous heritage place name and interpretive signs along trails in Juneau.
- A combined \$1.7 million to the Central Council of the Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, including \$750,000 for a Youth Stewards program; \$500,000 for cultural interpretive training program and \$525,000 for a wildland fire program.

<https://tinyurl.com/cvj8uar4>



## STATEWIDE NEWS AND NOTICES

### GROUP CALLS FOR MORE OUTDOOR RECREATION INVESTMENT

The following news items come from a recent email from the Alaska Outdoor Alliance:

**TAKE SURVEY** Action alert! The state is updating its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. This document will guide directions and priorities for the next five years. Do your part to make sure the state hears from those who work in the outdoor recreation sector. If you think statewide economic strategy should include investment in the outdoor recreation sector, you have a chance to say "heck ya!" At the end of the 13-point survey, there's an open-ended question where you can say things like, "include the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) in the CEDS" and/or elaborate on other specific suggestions. Link here:



[https://uaa.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6wZztWKQjMbGkjs](https://uaa.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6wZztWKQjMbGkjs)

Save the date! The 7th Annual Confluence: Summit on the Outdoor Recreation Economy is coming to Haines, Sept. 7-9. This year's theme is Regenerative Outdoors. Lively, kinetic, small group breakouts and networking opportunities are planned! Slated topics include: outdoor recreation infrastructure financing trends & opportunities, active transportation and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and the future of tourism and outdoor recreation. Be sure to take the Alaska Marine Highway System's LeConte for the beautiful passage from Juneau to Haines for extra special conference content.

### TIPS ON HOW TO DEAL WITH HORSES YOU MEET ON TRAILS

The following public service announcement regarding horses was recently seen on Facebook:

Horses are high-flight prey animals. They are not big dogs! If you encounter a horse on roads or trails, please adhere to the following for your safety and the safety of the rider/horse.

- If you're driving on a road and you encounter horses, please slow down. A horse can bolt sideways at 45 mph and most often are frightened INTO the road.
- If you're walking, biking, or running on a trail, please stop, speak to the rider, and ask how they would prefer you proceed. Horses often have right of way on trails.
- If you have children with you and you encounter a horse, please be sure your children remain still. Talking to the rider as they approach will help their horse understand you're no threat.
- If you approach from behind, please communicate your presence as soon as you're able. Horses are much more likely to become fearful if you are suddenly running or riding up to their hind end. And always keep a healthy distance when passing behind or to the side of a horse, for your own safety.



Thank you for helping keep everyone safe and enjoy the outdoors.

## WATCH FOR BEARS, MOOSE CALVES WHEN OUT ON THE TRAILS

It's calving season for the moose again and things can get dangerous really fast when you surprise a moose or get too close and the mama decides it's time to protect her young. And, of course, bears are out of hibernation and active. To learn how to avoid surprising animals and deal with uncomfortable or dangerous situations, check out these resources:

- [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=livewith.moose](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=livewith.moose)
- [www.muni.org/Departments/parks/Pages/Wildlife.aspx](http://www.muni.org/Departments/parks/Pages/Wildlife.aspx)

## ALASKA STATE PARKS POSITIONS CAN INCLUDE TRAIL WORK

Alaska State Parks has a variety of seasonal positions through its the Alaska Conservation Corps (ACC), which are paid jobs, and its volunteer program. Tasks will vary and may include trail work, maintenance, fee station, or office work. Most positions begin in late May or early June. Some offices will start recruitment as early as March. You may wish to call the office in the area you wish to work in, to find out what positions they are offering this year and when applications are being accepted. For more information see:



- ACC: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/misc/accinstr.htm>
- Volunteer Program: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/vip/index.htm>

## STATEWIDE LINKS

- Alaska State Parks Trail Reports & Park Conditions: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/curevnts.htm>
- Skiing from McGrath to Nulato on the Iditarod Trail (Luc Mehl): <https://tinyurl.com/3m6mfp5c>
- Skiing from Koyuk to Kotzebue: Arctic Contrasts (Luc Mehl): <https://tinyurl.com/3h9pmahh>
- Nigu, Etivlik, and Colville Rivers Presentation on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlkESBSE-10](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlkESBSE-10)
- Spring Fatbiking at Its Best! (Denali area): <https://tinyurl.com/4d9fyucc>
- Alaska trail would link city, wilderness (ADN): <https://tinyurl.com/4cysxt7a>
- Land Use Permit for Off-Road Travel on Dry Creek and Stampede Trail near Healy (comments due May 4): <http://notice.alaska.gov/206519>
- OPINION: The Alaska Long Trail is a route to outdoor recreation and economic prosperity (ADN): <https://tinyurl.com/y69ujuy7>

### SLIGHTLY OFF TRAIL

- OPINION: Alaska has changed. It's time for trapping regulations to change too (ADN): <https://tinyurl.com/3rvxuc63>
- Climate change in Alaska (and its effects on recreation): <https://tinyurl.com/5n6ns2hw>
- Bridge plan moves forward as Denali Park Road landslide speeds up: <https://tinyurl.com/yck3r2k5>
- Driving and Hiking the Haul Road / Early June 2021: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jTkRnCU2Lg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jTkRnCU2Lg)
- Dunleavy gets after feds to recognize Alaska's ownership of submerged lands: <https://tinyurl.com/56wyucwm>

## SOUTHCENTRAL NEWS AND NOTICES

### FOUNDATION ASKS ADVOCATES TO WRITE TO ALASKA LEGISLATORS

**WRITE LEGISLATORS** The Anchorage Park Foundation recently put out a call for people to write their legislators:

The Alaska House and Senate are working to prepare a capital budget that could include needed investments in park, trail and Indigenous placemaking projects. The proposed projects supported by



the Anchorage Park Foundation create jobs, promote tourism, connect communities across the state, improve wayfinding, and encourage cultural storytelling. Please let Alaska legislators know you support park and trail infrastructure projects in the capital budget.

The foundation suggests that advocates asks the legislators to support the following projects:

1. Alaska Long Trail –including funding for wayfinding to our existing 33-mile “Moose Loop” trail infrastructure to the Alaska Long Trail. (CAPSIS 66548)
2. The Tikahtnu – Cook Inlet National Heritage Designation Feasibility Study can bring in millions of dollars and further build community with the stories of our heritage. (CAPSIS 66614)
3. The Alaska Long Trail Anchorage to Mat-Su Reconnaissance Study to connect Anchorage to Eklutna and Palmer and north to Fairbanks by trail. (CAPSIS 66550)
4. The Anchorage Cultural Tourism and Indigenous Placemaking is good for the economy of this region and will enhance the visitor experience. (CAPSIS 66549)

Advocates can write to their individual legislators or can write to the House and Senate Finance Committee Members ([Senate.Finance@Akleg.gov](mailto:Senate.Finance@Akleg.gov); [House.Finance@Akleg.gov](mailto:House.Finance@Akleg.gov))

### CHUGACH PARK GROUP LOOKS FOR VOLUNTEERS, SUBSCRIBERS

**JOIN** Have you seen some of the work the Chugach Park Fund has made possible in Chugach State Park? The Chugach Park Fund was established in 2016 to enable Alaskans of all abilities to experience the beauty of Chugach State Park by enhancing trails and facilities. The Fund achieves this mission by helping increase stewardship through philanthropy and partnerships.

Perhaps last summer you’ve heard of or climbed the new Little O’Malley Peak Trail, noticed some trails that were cleared and brushed, saw some new interpretive or directional signs in Chugach State Park or read the avalanche signs in various locations? Much of that work was due to fund raising by the Chugach Park fund. We also partner with Alaska Trails who will have several volunteer trail events during the summer season. If you’d be interested in volunteering and getting on our mailing list, please send your request to [ChugachParkFund@gmail.com](mailto:ChugachParkFund@gmail.com). Take a look at our website as well <https://alaskacf.org/funds/chugach-park-fund/>.



*From What's Up? by Peg Tileston; photo of Alaska Trail Stewards crew*

## ARCTIC VALLEY HOLDING SURVEY TO GATHER PLANNING INPUT

**TAKE SURVEY** Arctic Valley is seeking community input about its future. Besides offering downhill skiing, the Arctic Valley Trailhead is a good jumping off point for backcountry winter recreation. And in summer, the area has several hiking trails. Learn more here: <https://arcticvalley.org/>

Below is a message regarding the community input:

Arctic Valley Master Plan Community Survey

Your input will help guide the master plan and vision for Arctic Valley.

We recently signed a new, 60-year concession agreement with Alaska State Parks and we



are working hard on a master plan for the next generation of Alaskans. We have employed the pros: ski area designers, landscape architects, etc., but we need your input too because it's all about creating community and joy.

There is an option to enter a drawing for some cool prizes at the end of the survey. The survey will be open for a month, and closes on Monday, May 9th.

Thanks for sharing your thoughts and vision for Arctic Valley!

Take the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ArcticValleyMP>

*Graphic: Summer trails at Arctic Valley from Arctic Valley website*

## MAT-SU GROUP FUNDS TWO TRAIL PROJECTS IN SECOND QUARTER

Two of the Mat-Su Trails and Parks Foundation 2022 quarter two grantees are trail projects. Read more in this excerpt from the foundation newsletter:

### Alaska Trails – Pioneer Peak Trail Prescription, \$6,500

Alaska Trails will lead an effort to rehabilitate the first portion of the popular Pioneer Peak Trail. This trail leads users up a steep path to amazing alpine views. It is a gem that is managed by the Mat-Su Borough, but enjoyed by trail enthusiasts from across the state due to its unparalleled vistas of the Matanuska Glacier and the challenge of getting all the way to the top. This project will generate a trail prescription for the first portion of the trail that is often wet, especially during the fall.



*Photo: View from atop Pioneer Peak courtesy of Alaska Trails*

### Meadow Lakes Community Development, Inc - 40 Acre Woods Trails Plan, \$4,800

The project is for funding to obtain a plan for the design and layout of a trail system in the newly acquired, undeveloped, 40-acre parcel adjoining the existing Meadow Lakes Community Park. Meadow



Lakes has very little recreation facilities for its residents. Our existing Community Park provides a soccer field, baseball diamonds, a tennis court, basketball court, children's playground, two picnic pavilions, a walking trail and a woodland trail. There is no other facility like it within a radius of about 10 miles. The Trail Park will provide additional trails for walking, skiing, biking and horseback riding.

## KODIAK TRAIL GROUP STARTS ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM

ADOPT Kodiak's Island Trails Network will be running its first year of programming for volunteers to "adopt" a trail or beach. This will allow us to partner with individual members or groups to enhance a specific trail or beach that is meaningful to them and ideally turn it into an annual event.

Trail adoption duties will be unique to meet the current needs of the trail and the ability of the individual or group. Again, beach adoption projects will be individualized based on beach and group. We do hope to get a handful of beach adoption sites that will help collect data for NOAA's marine debris research. **If you are interested in adopting a trail or beach, please contact Travis Cooper ([Travis@islandtrails.org](mailto:Travis@islandtrails.org))** for more information.



## FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT PHASE 2 OF HILLTOP BIKE PARK

The Hilltop Bike Park Fundraiser will be held on May 10 at Hilltop from 6 to 8pm. Find out all about the plans for Phase 2 of bike park construction, while sitting out on the Hilltop Patio in the sun enjoying a beverage. Help launch a challenge grant from Rasmuson Foundation and build Anchorage's lift-assisted mountain bike park. If you like mountain biking and Anchorage parks and trails, you'll love this partnership between the Anchorage Park Foundation and Hilltop. To find out more about the bike park see: <https://www.hilltopskiarea.org/bike-park/support-bike-park/>

*From What's Up? by Peg Tileston*

## SOIL DISTRICT SEEKS HELP WITH INVASIVE PLANTS ON TRAILS

**JOIN** The Anchorage Soil and Water Conservation District is looking for trail hikers to help with an invasive species project.

The Anchorage Soil and Water Conservation District (ASWCD) has been revived! A small team of volunteers with fresh ideas is crafting the group's mission and getting the organization up and running. The ASWCD has launched an Invasive Species Program, focusing on highly invasive plants to start. If you hike beyond the trailheads of Chugach State Park or Chugach National Forest and would like to help find and document locations of a few highly invasive plant species, **join our pilot Hiker-Spotter Project; contact Anne Billman at 907-903-4779 if you are interested.** You do not need to be a plant expert! The ASWCD website is [anchorageawcd.org](http://anchorageawcd.org) and we can be reached at [anchorageawcd@gmail.com](mailto:anchorageawcd@gmail.com). Stay tuned as we get our feet on the ground, and email us if you want more information or would like to help.





## SEEN RECENTLY ON SOUTHCENTRAL FACEBOOK PAGES

### ANCHORAGE PARK FOUNDATION



April 21: Thank you Anchorage voters!

For the 11th year in a row we have successfully voted for nearly \$4 million in park and trail improvements. Can't wait to see new trails at Russian Jack Springs Park, new improvements to ball fields, new inclusive playgrounds and so much more. Yes to parks and trails!

April 11: Interviews were held last week for the 26 teenagers who will be chosen for the coveted Youth Employment in Parks program in conjunction with Anchorage Parks and Recreation. Many thanks to the youth for applying and the volunteers who helped interview them for the job that many say transformed their lives in positive ways. Teamwork, skill building and fun Fridays!



### ANCHORAGE PARKS AND RECREATION



April 9: Rise and shine, Anchor-town! You may "bearly" be awake this Saturday morning, but our bears sure are starting to wake up. There may still be snow on the ground, but we are seeing signs that the bears are emerging from their long winter sleep. So, be sure to be bear aware while out and about this weekend! 🐻

If you need a bear refresher, check out this information provided by our friends at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at

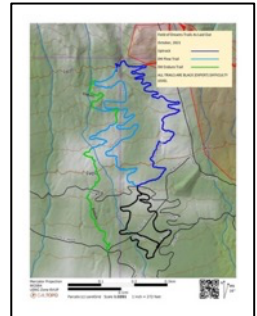
[www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=livingwithbears.main](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=livingwithbears.main)

### VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKERS AND HIKERS

April 18: TRAIL CREW NEWS

Trail building plans, Summer 2022

Work will begin on some new singletrack trails at Government Peak Recreation Area (GPRA) that are designed to compliment the trails we built last year. This summer season we will be adding a climbing trail and the enduro trail. On the map below they are the dark blue and mostly green (with a little of the light blue) trails. We will keep you updated on Trail Work volunteer opportunities. So, stay tuned.



### ALASKA STATE PARKS

April 14: Looking to fill your summer? We are too!! Sometimes trips take a little planning, prep time, and know-how...

Being in the Alaska backcountry is an experience like no other, and Crow Pass Trail is no different. Trails like this have both dangers and delights. This brief trail guide video highlights a bit of both so you can best prepare for this trip - or others like it - and its technical challenges. Experts recommend planning your excursion across Crow Pass after spring avalanche season is long cleared!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roEK4M8K3bc>

Reach out to Chugach State Park partners at Eagle River Nature Center (in Eagle River) and the Chugach National Forest-Glacier Ranger District (in Girdwood) for up-to-date trail conditions, rentals, parking, and trail information.

## SOUTHCENTRAL LINKS

- Thriving Winter Communities in the Susitna Valley, and the Dedicated Trail Grooming Organizations that Support Them: <https://tinyurl.com/4nchh84w>
- OPINION: Anchorage-area trails need love. We're helping, and you can too (ADN): <https://tinyurl.com/5e3jtrw7>
- What's Happening in Our Parks, Trails, & Playgrounds (Anch Park Found): <https://tinyurl.com/4epffwae>
- Backpacking Resurrection Pass Trail: <https://tinyurl.com/f9ykt48m>
- Top 3 Hikes in Arctic Valley: <https://andreakuuipoabroad.com/best-hikes-arctic-valley-alaska/>

### SLIGHTLY OFF-TRAIL

- New transmission line for Little Su corridor raises concerns: <https://tinyurl.com/y6heaxfc>
- Hatcher Pass Road reopens after avalanches: <https://tinyurl.com/4mtanhh4>

## INTERIORWIDE NEWS AND NOTICES

### SEEN RECENTLY ON INTERIOR FACEBOOK PAGES

#### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - ALASKA

April 28: It's official! The winter trail season in the White Mountains National Recreation Area has come to a close. ❄️👏☀️

The trail crew made one last push for trail maintenance duties on Colorado Creek trail and found themselves on soft trails and on the wrong side of now flowing creeks!

View the full trail report here: <https://edit.blm.gov/visit/white-mountains/trail-update>

**VOLUNTEER** April 15: Celebrate #NationalTrailsDay on Saturday, June 4 by working on one of Alaska's premiere hiking trails! 🛠️🇺🇸

Join BLM staff at the Steese Highway Eagle Summit Wayside to maintain the Pinnell Mountain National Recreation Trail by improving the boardwalk and assisting with tundra restoration.

To help with planning and preparations, please sign up early by contacting the BLM at [PinnellMountainTrail@blm.gov](mailto:PinnellMountainTrail@blm.gov) or 907-474-2368.

More details and registration information are available at the BLM Events page: <http://ow.ly/Wz3q50I1b0g>



📷BLM staff and volunteers build a boardwalk on the Pinnell Mountain National Recreation Trail. BLM photo by Teri Balsler

#### DELTA JUNCTION TRAILS ASSOCIATION

**TREAD LIGHTLY** April 27: Breakup is finally here! Please take to the trails responsibly. With a little thought, mud season problems can be greatly reduced.

- \*Try to be patient. Stay off the trails if you can.
- \*Choose low impact.
- \*Pick your trails carefully.
- \*Time your adventure - trails may still be frozen in the morning hours.
- \*Enjoy a water trail such as paddling or floating the Clearwater River.

Be responsible - let's help keep our outdoor recreation areas beautiful, healthy and accessible.

**JOIN, RENEW** April 16: Renew your membership with DJTA and support your local community trails for year-round outdoor recreational opportunities. For new and renewing members we will hold a drawing for \$25 gift certificates to local Delta Junction businesses at our Annual meeting to be held at the Sullivan Roadhouse May 26th at 5:30 p.m. <http://www.deltajunctiontrails.com/>

## INTERIORWIDE LINKS

- Delta trails group seeks easement for Leiwier Community Trail: <http://notice.alaska.gov/206102>
- The Curse of Richard's Cabin (White Mountains fatbike trip): <https://tinyurl.com/mvznjv5u>

## SLIGHTLY OFF-TRAIL

- Public urged not to drive on Fairbanks forestry roads, April 18-May 23: <https://tinyurl.com/5n6e44ks>
- Boat Swap at Beaver Sports – May 7: <https://tinyurl.com/2e9hdab4>
- River Trip Packing Workshop at Beaver Sports – May 12: <https://tinyurl.com/59r52s9w>

## SOUTHEAST NEWS AND NOTICES

### SEEN RECENTLY ON SOUTHEAST FACEBOOK PAGES

#### TRAIL MIX, INC.

April 29: Today we're taking a look back on one of our favorite holidays here at Trail Mix – National Trails Day!

Back in 2014 we hosted National Trails Day with SAIL at the Outer Point Trail. 45 people attended the event and made a big impact on the trail! Volunteers helped widen the trail, fill in new turnpikes with gravel, and create an even, well-drained trail.

We love National Trails Day and can't wait to host another event like this in June! Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements about this year's National Trails Day event.



April 28: Biiiiig smiles all around for the start of the trail season! 🥰

After completing their Wilderness Advanced First Aid training last week, our crews were ready to hit the ground running this week. 🏃♀️ With 11 returning staff and 3 incredible new additions to our crew, we have a fantastic group of folks who will transform Juneau's trails this summer. 💪

This week, we completed hands-on training at the Jordan Creek sediment trap and at Rainforest Trail. Crew members learned how to properly care for and use chainsaws, operate trail building machinery, and how to effectively use hand tools. 🛠️🪚



April 14: Let the trail season begin! 🎉

Today, we welcomed into our new shop our 2022 trail crew to kick off the season. 🛠️ All crew members will spend the next week completing a NOLS Wilderness Advanced First Aid certification before hopping into trail work.

A huge welcome to our new crew members Mary, Cael, and Toni. Welcome back Julio, Jesse, Laib, Hunter, Sam, Ambrose, Sarah, Garrett, Liam, Sage, and Dane.



April 6: We are proud to be partnering with Sealaska Heritage Institute to transform the Juneau trail system into an experience that acknowledges Tlingit history, culture, and values through new interpretive signage.

<https://tinyurl.com/ys89y9yb>

April 4: 🌲 Trail work is beginning! 🛠️

Last weekend we hosted an amazing group of volunteers for the UAS Day of Service. UAS Day of Service connects University of Alaska Southeast faculty, staff, students, and community members with local nonprofits to complete a day of impactful work.



Our volunteers headed out to the Lena Point trail on Saturday to make upgrades to the trail and help us prep for the start of the season. 🌲 While on the trail, volunteers hauled out old, rotting boardwalk. After that, they began removing large roots and rocks from a hilly section of the trail. Once the large obstacles were removed, volunteers were able to regrade the trail to make the slope less steep.

Trail Mix will be working out on Lena Point this upcoming field season. Thanks to our hardworking volunteers, we'll be able to hop right into the larger-scale trail construction, such as the construction of staircases and bridge repair. 🛠️

🌟 Thank you UAS! We loved getting out on the trail with you!

## JUNEAU PARKS & RECREATION

April 18: Avalanches and landslides occurred over the winter along Basin Road and near the Perseverance Trailhead. The stability of these areas remains unknown and additional slide activity may occur at any time. Existing hazards include unstable trail that is undercut by landslide, and avalanche debris on trails and the road, including trees, dirt, and rocks.

The City and Borough of Juneau will evaluate the situation as conditions permit to develop a plan for repairs.

For more information, contact CBJ Emergency Programs Manager Tom Mattice at 907-586-0419 or [Tom.Mattice@juneau.org](mailto:Tom.Mattice@juneau.org).



## SITKA TRAIL WORKS, INC.

April 19: Local outdoor enthusiast Starling Birch is excited about shaping the future of our trails and wants you to be involved too! Check out the full length video for some more spectacular footage:

<https://youtu.be/GQdYtBPBXDA>

**TAKE SURVEY** April 8: Today we are launching the first phase of creating a new trail plan built for and by Sitkans. It's been 20 years since Sitka Trail Works finalized the landmark Trail Plan that brought us the trail system that we have today - now it's time for a new vision and we need your input to shape the future of our trails!

Everyone who completes the survey will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 cash prize. **Take the survey today!** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/sitkatrails>

## SOUTHEAST LINKS

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- Sitka Trail Works seeks community input on the future of local trails: <https://tinyurl.com/382zaurn>
  - Trail Works Seeks Your Ideas for Projects: <https://tinyurl.com/5fr6cs83>

## SLIGHTLY OFF TRAIL

- On Fridays in the Forest, Juneau teacher makes outdoors his classroom: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8fe7bx>
- Gov. Dunleavy says Alaskans can use motorized boats on Mendenhall: <https://tinyurl.com/234zawu7>

## NATIONWIDE NEWS AND NOTICES

### NATIONAL TRAILS DAY EVENT REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Join in on celebrating the 30th annual National Trails Day on June 4, 2022, by hosting an event on your favorite local trail. By registering an official National Trails Day event on our website your event can be found by the community, you'll receive an event toolkit as well as the opportunity to request free swag from some of our sponsors.

Create community and connect with the people in your area who share your love of being outside. Join the nationwide movement to give back to the trails and make sure everyone can enjoy the outdoors.

Register your event here: <https://americanhiking.org/national-trails-day/host-information/>

*From "Paperless Trail," the American Hiking Society newsletter*

## NATIONWIDE / INTERNATIONAL LINKS

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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](http://www.americantrails.org/training/calendar)

## TRAILS-RELATED NEWSLETTERS

- American Trails "Trail Tracks": [www.americantrails.org/newsletter](http://www.americantrails.org/newsletter)

## VOLUNTEER

- Conservation Volunteers International Program newsletter (April): <https://tinyurl.com/2bk3afb7>
- American Hiking Society Volunteer Vacations: <https://americanhiking.org/volunteer-vacation-trips/>

## FUNDING

- National Forest Foundation awards (deadline Jun 22): <http://tinyurl.com/px7y6ke>
- FOX Factory Trail Trust (applications reviewed quarterly): <https://tinyurl.com/bdfjevrd>

- Yamaha Outdoor Access Initiative (OHVs, quarterly deadlines): <https://yamahaoai.com/>
- Clif Bar Family Foundation grants (for groups, projects; ddline June 1): <http://tinyurl.com/y5es3wjc>

*OTHER NATIONAL LINKS:*

- 4 Wins For The Outdoors In The President's Budget: <https://tinyurl.com/4np8np92>
- 20 of the best bike trails in the U.S.: <https://tinyurl.com/2wzxdbbt>
- Trails Hub: Positive impact of trails on health, economics, more: <https://tinyurl.com/982ph4ny>
- The Best Overnight Hiking Trails in National Parks, For Every Skill Level: <https://tinyurl.com/2y6c29s5>

*INTERNATIONAL LINKS:*

- Building the First Long-Distance Hiking Trail in Kurdistan: <https://tinyurl.com/4v9htm9c>

*SLIGHTLY OFF-TRAIL*

- Program Keeps 20,000 Boots On Trail, Out of Landfill: <https://www.lowaboos.com/boot-repair-resole>

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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](mailto:fbxtrails@gmail.com)