

# RAISING PLANNING IN THE WEST



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

BUTTE, MT



# ABOUT

THE WESTERN PLANNER



STAN & JAN STEADMAN



On November 29, 1979, Stan Steadman, Art Greenburg, Jim Richard, and Fred Roach, from Montana; Allan Merta from North Dakota; Ben Orsbon from South Dakota; and Dale Pernula from Wyoming met at the office of the Western Coal Planning Assistance project in Billings, Montana, and established The Western Planner (WP). The WP was established in newspaper form as a “journal of information and ideas for planners, their boards and commissions, and their multiple publics.” Although the journal has changed forms, it continues to be written by planners for planners on practical solutions and experiences, covering western planning issues with pragmatism and humor.

State planning associations and tribal representatives share control of the WP by appointing members to the Western Planner Resources (WPR) Board of Directors, which manages the organization while the editorial board vets journal content. The board members serve on the WPR Board with no financial compensation as a service to their planning organizations and to other Western Planners.

Many changes have occurred in the Mountain-Plains region, and in planning in general, since the beginning of the WP in 1979. However, the WP family remains a strong, vibrant collegial group dedicated to its founding principle. We want to help empower all western planners to build up and improve their communities throughout the West.

“

There is great value in being part of a network that transcends formal connections and results in friendships borne of shared experiences, celebrating building better communities.”

Dan Pava, FAICP  
President,  
Western Planner Resources  
2018-2020

**F R O M T H E  
P R E S I D E N T**



**ANGELA PARKER & THE 2021 LESTER AWARD**

Dear Western Planners,

I first want to express a warm and heart-felt thank you to all those who worked so hard during this past year. Many of our communities faced hard challenges on both ends of the spectrum—a flood of new escapees on one hand, and continuing challenges of a pandemic-suppressed economy. At this time, it's a great feeling to have the pandemic mostly in our rear-view mirror and to focus once again on the pre-pandemic challenges...mixed with some "new normal" flavors.

We Western Planners are a tough resilient lot. Although many of us are separated by the vast open spaces that define the West, the pandemic has further isolated some of us. But you are not alone; we are here for you.

We continue in publishing our monthly journal, and are eagerly planning for our 2022 annual conference in Bismarck, North Dakota this Fall.

Our conference theme is about being a bridge, reflecting on the historic Liberty Memorial Bridge connecting Bismarck and Mandan. Similarly, our work connects in various ways: urban and rural, state-to-state, person-to-person. Western Planner remains the planner's network bridging the great spaces and places of the West, and connecting the hardworking people that make those places and spaces great.

Bridging also speaks to how we deal with tough, controversial issues in our communities, and how we

help people pass over what otherwise would be insurmountable chasms or perilous waters. As Western Planners, we serve as bridges in our communities, helping them pass over and overcome community challenges. Again, thank you for being a bridge.

The Western Planner could not survive and operate without supporting state organizations, non-profits, private firms, and other generous groups. Their partnerships and contributions help expand and sustain our organization. Our goal is to communicate regularly and learn how we can best support the most remote planners. I encourage you to speak up and contribute.

Western Planner depends on the contributions of

individuals — writing articles, providing job postings, engaging with one another online, sponsoring, and donating. Moving forward, we will continue expanding our network and supporting it as described in our strategic plan—all with the focus on strengthening the Western Planner network.

You and I are part of that network. Let us work in the coming year to be a bridge to better things ahead.

Warmly,  
Angela Parker, AICP  
President, Western Planner Resources



We were fortunate to add some new members to our Western Planner Board.

**Alison Tompkins, PLA, AICP, CFM** has replaced **Brittany Skelton**, representing Idaho. Alison is a professional landscape architect and certified planner with over 17 years of experience in regional and local planning, floodplain management, and landscape architecture. Her work includes multi-agency

**Margo Wheeler, FAICP** has stepped up to represent Nevada. Margo was on the faculty of Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ, teaching planning law, design, historical preservation, and ethics from 2014 - 20. She continues to teach courses part-time. For 25 years she was a professional planner in both the public and private sector in the state of CA. She was planning director in 6 cities in northern and southern CA. She was the Planning Director for the

city of Las Vegas, NV, until 2011. She served two terms as the Chair of the City Planning and Management Division of APA and currently serves on the APA-AZ chapter board as NAU's

representative. She was the chair of the city of Flagstaff Planning & Zoning Commission until 2020. She holds a Master's degree from the University of Southern California in Urban and Regional Studies and a Bachelors degree in Economics from Cal State University, Los Angeles. She was inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners in the class of 2014.

**Andrew Bowen** is our new Colorado representative. Andrew is a planner with Community Planning Strategies with 10 years of experience working in the Southeast and the Rocky Mountain West. A native from Western North Carolina, Andrew started his career working with multiple small communities in Appalachia. Andrew's first jobs out West were with Teton County, Wyoming and Colorado Springs, Colorado. Andrew has a passion for rural and small-town community planning and is excited to work with Western Planner to help improve communities across the West

We're excited to have Andrew on our board and look forward to a better connection to Colorado's planners.

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

coordination between local, state, federal, and tribal governments, with an emphasis on sustainable management of water resources. Alison began her career conducting watershed restoration and habitat monitoring for the Nez Perce Tribe followed by private practice in landscape architecture before transitioning to land use planning and consulting. We'll miss Brittany and are happy to have Alison.

## GROWING TOWARDS FAICP

The Western Planner provides unique opportunities for professional development. Two current board members and many of those who have served in the past are part of the College of Fellows of AICP (FAICP). As past board member Dee Caputo, FAICP said, "*Volunteering through the Western Planner organization is like providing planning service from within a FAICP nursery.*" This is from the service opportunities and a rich network of support the Western Planner brings to help planners grow towards this high professional honor.

## 2021 CONFERENCE

This year's conference took place in partnership with Arizona APA, and was supported by multiple western state organizations. It was held at the JW Marriot Camelback Inn Resort & Spa in Scottsdale on August 22-25. The theme of the conference was "Breaking Boundaries, Creating Connections."

According to APA Arizona, the final in-person registration count was around 325, and there were 70 virtual registrations. The conference afforded five concurrent tracks with another 15 panels and both lunch keynote speakers being made for virtual viewing later. The conference was a resounding success, with memorable speakers, events, and connections. And Wyoming won the wiffleball game.



### Why Be a Conference Partner with Western Planner?

Western Planner elevates small town, county, rural and tribal issues. 75% of Western counties are rural and tribal nations are foundational to the fabric of the West. The recognition and integration of these many communities is the way forward for the West.

Western Planner increases the reach and impact of your event. On average, about 50% of Western Planner conference attendees are from out-of-state. This expands professional networks, helps make new connections, and encourages ideas to flourish.

Western Planner has held conferences since 1981. We invite you to be part of history while moving into the future, together.

# WESTERN PLANNER CONFERENCES

# MANY THANKS TO OUR 2021 CONFERENCE SPONSORS

## GOLD



## SILVER



## BRONZE





# 2022 WESTERN PLANNER CONFERENCE

We are proud to announce our upcoming conference will be held in partnership with the North Dakota Planning Association. The conference will be held in Bismarck-Mandan, North Dakota on September 14–16.

[WESTERNPLANNER.ORG/2022-CONFERENCE](http://WESTERNPLANNER.ORG/2022-CONFERENCE)



## WESTERN PLANNER

2022 Conference | Bismarck-Mandan, ND

## SEPTEMBER 14–16, 2022

Please join us for the annual  
Western Planner conference  
in Bismarck, North Dakota





# STATE REPORTS

The Western Planner's focus region is the Western United States encompassing the states seen here. Representatives from each state who liaison between state planning organizations and the Western Planner sit on the Western Planner Resources board and provide direction.

The following pages are reports of activity from each state.





# ALASKA

Alaska joined the Western Planner in 1984.

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

1993 Homer

**RURAL:** 86.2% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 10.7% of state (231 tribes)  
**WP REP:** Shelly Wade, AICP

**CONNECTIONS:** 176 people (Δ 25%)

**WEB VISITS:** 708 (Δ 83%)

“

Being a planning department of five or less, or sometimes one, does not mean you need to be isolated in learning and planning for your community. The Western Planner is an extension of your small, rural planning department.”

Shelly from Anchorage



# ARIZONA

Arizona joined the Western Planner in 1992. In addition to the journal forwarded to the Arizona APA membership, they have the 2nd most WP subscribers of any state.

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

### 2021 Scottsdale

**RURAL:** 26.7% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 27.7% of state (21 tribes)  
**WP REP:** Loras Rauch, AICP

**CONNECTIONS:** 444 people (▽ 19%)

**WEB VISITS:** 2,833 (△ 127%)

“

I'm a Western Planner member because it is a great resource to share planning expertise across the West and network with the region's pioneering planners. I'm relatively early in my planning career, and I like learning from the Western Planner articles and from the other members.”

Genevieve from Flagstaff



# CALIFORNIA

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

None

**RURAL:** 25.9% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 0.6% of state (119 tribes)  
**WP REP:** None

**CONNECTIONS:** 57 people ( $\Delta$  79%)  
**WEB VISITS:** 1515 ( $\Delta$  54%)

“

The Western Planner conference sessions were really great and I hope to have a chance to apply them some day to the work I do.”

Destiny from Arcata



# COLORADO

Colorado joined the Western Planner in 1980. There are more WP subscribers from Colorado than any other state.

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

1986 Fort Collins

**RURAL:** 76.6% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 1.2% of state (2 tribes)  
**WP REP:** Andrew Bowen, AICP

**CONNECTIONS:** 682 people (▽ 19%)

**WEB VISITS:** 3,754 (△ 50%)

“

I think Western Planner is a reality check for stuff that is actually being implemented by peer western communities”

Brandon from Aurora



# IDAHO

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

- 1985 Coeur d'Alene
- 1989 Boise
- 1996 Idaho Falls
- 2006 Boise
- 2018 Fort Hall

**RURAL:** 86.4% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 1.3% of state (5 tribes)  
**WP REP:** Alison Tompkins, AICP  
Sherwin Racehorse (Representing Tribal Interests)

**CONNECTIONS:** 132 people (Δ 31%)  
**WEB VISITS:** 1,620 (Δ 13%)

Idaho joined the Western Planner in 1984. The Western Planner helped form the Idaho Planning Association, which became the Idaho Chapter of the APA.

“

I'm excited to see Western Planner as an organization upping it's online presence with the website and newsletter.”

Brittany from Ketchum



# MONTANA

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

1981 Bozeman

1987 Billings

1990 Bozeman

1997 Red Lodge

2004 Missoula

2012 Billings

2016 Great Falls

RURAL: 89.3% of counties  
TRIBAL: 5.9% of state (8 tribes)  
WP REP: None

CONNECTIONS: 151 people ( $\Delta$  34%)  
WEB VISITS: 970 ( $\Delta$  16%)

Montana was one of the founding states of Western Planner, and it was founded in Montana in 1979. Western Planner also formed the West Central Chapter of the APA, which includes Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota and South Dakota, with their original board officers coming from the Western Planner board.



# NEBRASKA

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

1991 Lincoln

1999 Lincoln

RURAL: 95.7% of counties  
TRIBAL: 4.4% of state (6 tribes)  
WP REP: None

CONNECTIONS: 13 people ( $\Delta$  169%)

WEB VISITS: 208 ( $\Delta$  72%)

Nebraska joined the Western  
Planner in 1981.



# NEVADA

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

2003 Las Vegas

2013 Lake Tahoe

**RURAL:** 70.6% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 1.7% of state (23 tribes)  
**WP REP:** Margo Wheeler, FAICP

**CONNECTIONS:** 96 people (Δ 19%)

**WEB VISITS:** 551 (Δ 22%)

Nevada joined the Western Planner in 1991.

“

The Western Planner is an excellent resource for small town and rural communities in the West and is greatly appreciated.”

Rob from Yerington



# NEW MEXICO

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

2001 Santa Fe

2011 Santa Fe

2019 Santa Fe

RURAL: 63.6% of counties  
TRIBAL: 10.5% of state (23 tribes)  
WP REP: Dan Pava, FAICP  
Brad Stebleton (at large)

CONNECTIONS: 233 people ( $\Delta$  29%)

WEB VISITS: 1,557 ( $\Delta$  84%)

New Mexico joined the Western Planner in 1991.

“

Western Planner stories are relevant to those working west of the 100th meridian because we understand western history, culture and issues pertaining to planning..”

Dan from New Mexico



WILLISTON, ND

# NORTH DAKOTA

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

1988 Bismarck

2007 Dickinson

2022 Bismarck-Mandan

RURAL: 92.5% of counties

TRIBAL: 1.9% of state (4 tribes)

WP REP: Donna Bye

Larry Weil (Representing Western Central APA)

CONNECTIONS: 203 people ( $\Delta$  22%)

WEB VISITS: 1,097 ( $\Delta$  22%)

North Dakota was one of the founding states of the Western Planner. Our conference will be returning there in 2022.

“

Western Planner articles are written by planners for planners and are more relatable than more high level and theoretical approaches.”

Larry from West Fargo



# OREGON

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

None

**RURAL:** 52.8% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 1.3% of state (10 tribes)  
**WP REP:** Allison Platt

**CONNECTIONS:** 121 people ( $\Delta$  102%)  
**WEB VISITS:** 3,744 ( $\Delta$  136%)

Oregon joined the Western Planner in 2007.

“

Western Planner is valuable to me as a connection to a network of talented people tackling similar issues across the West.”

Allison from Bend



# SOUTH DAKOTA

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

1982 Spearfish  
1992 Rapid City  
2000 Spearfish  
2009 Spearfish  
2017 Spearfish

RURAL: 95.5% of counties  
TRIBAL: 9.2% of state (9 tribes)  
WP REP: Kevin Smith, AICP

CONNECTIONS: 129 people ( $\Delta$  1%)  
WEB VISITS: 721 ( $\nabla$  20%)

South Dakota was one of the founding states of Western Planner in 1979. Western Planner assisted in founding the South Dakota Planning Association in 1983.

“

We are in this together. Once your connections are made, you have a plethora of people, topics and information at your fingertips.”

Amber from Deadwood



# UTAH

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

1983 Logan

1995 Park City

2005 Midway

2014 Salt Lake City

RURAL: 72.4% of counties

TRIBAL: 4.3% of state (7 tribes)

WP REP: Brian Carver

CONNECTIONS: 151 people (Δ 8%)

WEB VISITS: 1,751 (Δ 67%)

Utah joined the Western Planner in 1980.

“

Western Planner is more than a journal or conference. If people invest themselves, it is a network of friendship, camaraderie, and professional support.”

Paul from Millcreek



# WASHINGTON

## CONFERENCE HISTORY

1998 Wenatchee

2010 Vancouver

**RURAL:** 46.2% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 5.6% of state (29 tribes)  
**WP REP:** Kerwin Jensen

**CONNECTIONS:** 293 people ( $\Delta$  26%)

**WEB VISITS:** 2,322 ( $\Delta$  72%)

Planning Association of Washington joined the Western Planner 1982. The Washington APA joined in 2003.

“

Western Planner is a great network of professionals who work in both rural and urban settings where open space and relatively small populations are predominant. This is why it is important to belong to an organization where we can discuss common goals with one another.”

Kerwin from Richland



# WYOMING

**CONFERENCE HISTORY**

- 1984 Jackson
- 1994 Cody
- 2002 Evanston
- 2008 Cheyenne
- 2015 Laramie

**RURAL:** 89.3% of counties  
**TRIBAL:** 5.9% of state (2 tribes)  
**WP REP:** Megan Nelms, AICP  
 Angela Parker, AICP (at large)

**CONNECTIONS:** 437 people (Δ 61%)  
**WEB VISITS:** 834 (Δ 44%)

Wyoming was one of the founding states of Western Planner in 1979. They still face off against the rest of the world in the Wyoming vs the World softball (usually) game each conference. And they still always think they win.

“ Many western planners may think we are alone in the issues we deal with, but we're not. Western Planner can help make that connection.”

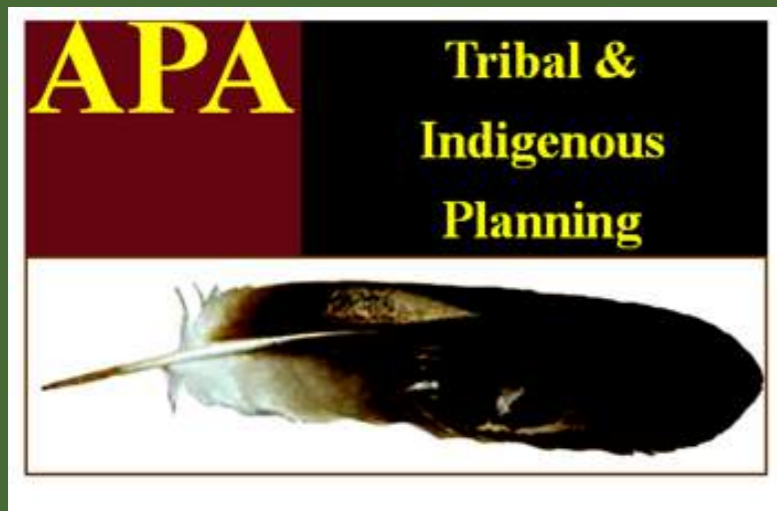
Megan from Casper



GRAND COUNTY, UT







**ALASKA**

Native Village of Afognak (formerly the Village of Afognak)

Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove

Native Village of Akhiok

Akiachak Native Community

Akiak Native Community

Native Village of Akutan

Village of Alakanuk

Alatna Village

Native Village of Aleknagik

Algaaciq Native Village (St. Mary's)

Allakaket Village

Native Village of Ambler

Village of Anaktuvuk Pass

Yupit of Andreafski

Angoon Community Association

Village of Aniak

Anvik Village

Arctic Village (See Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government)

Asa'carsarmiut Tribe

Native Village of Atka

Village of Atmautluak

Atqasuk Village (Atkasook)

Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government

Beaver Village

Native Village of Belkofski

Village of Bill Moore's Slough

Birch Creek Tribe

Native Village of Brevig Mission

Native Village of Buckland

Native Village of Cantwell

Native Village of Chenega (aka Chanega)

Chalkyitsik Village

Cheesh-Na Tribe (formerly the Native Village of Chistochina)

Village of Chefornak

Chevak Native Village

Chickaloon Native Village

Chignik Bay Tribal Council (formerly the Native Village of Chignik)

Native Village of Chignik Lagoon

Chignik Lake Village

Chilkat Indian Village (Klukwan)

Chilkoot Indian Association (Haines)

Chinik Eskimo Community (Golovin)

Native Village of Chitina

Native Village of Chuathbaluk (Russian Mission, Kuskokwim)

Chuloonawick Native Village

Circle Native Community

Village of Clarks Point

Native Village of Council

Craig Community Association

Village of Crooked Creek

Curyung Tribal Council

Native Village of Deering

Native Village of Diomedede (aka Inalik)

Village of Dot Lake

Douglas Indian Association

Native Village of Eagle

Native Village of Eek

Egegik Village

Eklutna Native Village

Native Village of Ekuk

Ekwok Village

Native Village of Elim

Emmonak Village

Evansville Village (aka Bettles Field)

# TRIBAL PLANNING SUPPORT

The Western Planner encourages and supports Tribal planning efforts throughout the West. These efforts include:

- A tribal representative on the Western Planner Resources leadership board
- One month's journal dedicated to tribal planning issues
- Our first tribal conference co-sponsored by the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe in Fort Hall, Idaho in 2018
- Integration of tribal planning issues and perspectives in our conferences
- Western Planner's ongoing support of the Tribal and Indigenous Planning Interest Group of the APA

We acknowledge the lands where we work and live in the West are the traditional and ancestral homeland of many Tribes. The list below contains all the federally recognized Tribes within the Western United States. Western Planning Resources recognizes and respects the enduring relationship that exists between many Indigenous peoples and their traditional homelands. We respect the sovereign relationship between tribes, states, and the federal government.



Native Village of Eyak (Cordova)	Kenaitze Indian Tribe	(aka English Bay)	Pilot Station Traditional Village	South Naknek Village	<b>ARIZONA</b>
Native Village of False Pass	Ketchikan Indian Corporation	Native Village of Napaimute	Native Village of Pitka's Point	Stebbins Community Association	Ak Chin Indian Community of the Maricopa (Ak Chin) Indian Reservation
Native Village of Fort Yukon	Native Village of Kiana	Native Village of Napakiak	Platinum Traditional Village	Native Village of Stevens	Cocopah Tribe of Arizona
Native Village of Gakona	King Island Native Community	Native Village of Napaskiak	Native Village of Point Hope	Village of Stony River	Colorado River Indian Tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation (Arizona and California)
Galena Village (aka Loudon Village)	King Salmon Tribe	Native Village of Nelson Lagoon	Native Village of Point Lay	Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak (formerly the Shoonaq' Tribe of Kodiak)	Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Native Village of Gambell	Native Village of Kipnuk	Nenana Native Association	Native Village of Port Graham	Takotna Village	Fort Mojave Indian Tribe (Arizona, California and Nevada)
Native Village of Georgetown	Native Village of Kivalina	New Koliganek Village Council	Native Village of Port Heiden	Native Village of Tanacross	Gila River Indian Community of the Gila River Indian Reservation
Native Village of Goodnews Bay	Klawock Cooperative Association	New Stuyahok Village	Native Village of Port Lions	Native Village of Tanana	Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation
Organized Village of Grayling (aka Holikachuk)	Native Village of Kluti Kaah (aka Copper Center)	Newhalen Village	Portage Creek Village (aka Ohgsenakale)	Tangirnaq Native Village (formerly Lesnoi Village)	Hopi Tribe
Gulkana Village	Knik Tribe	Newtok Village	Pribilof Islands Aleut Communities of St. Paul & St. George Islands	Native Village of Tatitlek	Hualapai Indian Tribe of the Hualapai Indian Reservation
Native Village of Hamilton	Native Village of Kobuk	Nikolai Village	Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point Village	Native Village of Tazlina	Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Indian Reservation
Healy Lake Village	Kokhanok Village	Native Village of Nikolski	Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska	Telida Village	Navajo Nation (Arizona, New Mexico and Utah)
Holy Cross Village	Native Village of Kongiganak	Ninilchik Village	Rampart Village	Native Village of Teller	Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Hoonah Indian Association	Village of Kotlik	Native Village of Noatak	Village of Red Devil	Native Village of Tetlin	Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation (Arizona and California)
Native Village of Hooper Bay	Native Village of Kotzebue	Nondalton Village	Native Village of Ruby	Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes	Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community of the Salt River Reservation
Hughes Village	Native Village of Koyuk	Noorvik Native Community	Saint George Island (See Pribilof Islands Aleut Communities of St. Paul & St. George Islands)	Traditional Village of Togiak	San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San Carlos Reservation
Huslia Village	Koyukuk Native Village	Northway Village	Native Village of Saint Michael	Tuluksak Native Community	San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe of Arizona
Hydaburg Cooperative Association	Organized Village of Kwethluk	Native Village of Nuiqsut (aka Nooiksut)	Saint Paul Island (See Pribilof Islands Aleut Communities of St. Paul & St. George Islands)	Native Village of Tuntutuliak	Tohono O'odham Nation
Igiugig Village	Native Village of Kwinhagak (aka Quinhagak)	Nulato Village	Native Village of Saint Paul Island (See Pribilof Islands Aleut Communities of St. Paul & St. George Islands)	Native Village of Tununak	Tonto Apache Tribe
Village of Iliamna	Native Village of Larsen Bay	Nunakauyarmiut Tribe (formerly the Native Village of Toksook Bay)	Village of Salamatoff	Twin Hills Village	White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation
Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope	Levelock Village	Native Village of Nunam Iqua (formerly the Native Village of Sheldon's Point)	Native Village of Savoonga	Ugashik Village	Yavapai-Apache Nation of the Camp Verde Indian Reservation
Iqurmuit Traditional Council (formerly the Native Village of Russian Mission)	Lime Village	Native Village of Nunapitchuk	Organized Village of Saxman	Umkumiute Native Village	Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe
Ivanoff Bay Village	Village of Lower Kalskag	Village of Ohogamiut	Native Village of Scammon Bay	Native Village of Unalakleet	
Kaguyak Village	Manley Hot Springs Village	Village of Old Harbor	Native Village of Selawik	Native Village of Unga	
Organized Village of Kake	Manokotak Village	Orutsararmiut Native Village (aka Bethel)	Seldovia Village Tribe	Village of Venetie (See Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government)	
Kaktovik Village (aka Barter Island)	Native Village of Marshall (aka Fortuna Ledge)	Oscarville Traditional Village	Shageluk Native Village	Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government (Arctic Village and Village of Venetie)	
Village of Kalskag	Native Village of Mary's Igloo	Native Village of Ouzinkie	Native Village of Shaktoolik	Village of Wainwright	
Village of Kaltag	McGrath Native Village	Native Village of Paimiut	Native Village of Shishmaref	Native Village of Wales	
Native Village of Kanatak	Native Village of Mekoryuk	Pauloff Harbor Village	Native Village of Shungnak	Native Village of White Mountain	
Native Village of Karluk	Mentasta Traditional Council	Pedro Bay Village	Sitka Tribe of Alaska	Wrangell Cooperative Association	
Organized Village of Kasaan	Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve	Native Village of Perryville	Skagway Village	Yakutat Tlingit Tribe	
Kasigluk Traditional Elders Council (formerly the Native Village of Kasigluk)	Native Village of Minto	Petersburg Indian Association	Village of Sleetmute		
	Naknek Native Village	Native Village of Pilot Point	Village of Solomon		
	Native Village of Nanwalek				



**CALIFORNIA**

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation

Alturas Indian Rancheria

Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians

Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria

Berry Creek Rancheria of Maidu Indians

Big Lagoon Rancheria

Big Pine Band Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley

Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians

Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians of the Big Valley Rancheria

Bishop Paiute Tribe (previously listed as Paiute-Shoshone Indians of the Bishop Community of the Bishop Colony)

Blue Lake Rancheria

Bridgeport Indian Colony

Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians

Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community of the Colusa Rancheria

Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians of the Cahuilla Reservation

Cahto Indian Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria

California Valley Miwok Tribe

Campo Band of Diegueño Mission Indians of the Campo Indian Reservation

Capitan Grande Band of Diegueño Mission Indians of California:Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians of the Barona Reservation; Viejas (Baron Long) Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission

Indians of the Viejas Reservation

Cedarville Rancheria

Chemehuevi Indian Tribe of the Chemehuevi Reservation

Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria

Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians

Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians

Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians

Colorado River Indian Tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation (Arizona and California)

Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians

Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians

Death Valley Timbi-Sha Shoshone Tribe

Dry Creek Rancheria of Pomo Indians

Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulphur Bank Rancheria

Elk Valley Rancheria

Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians

Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians

Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria

Fort Bidwell Indian Community of the Fort Bidwell Reservation, California

Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiute Indians of the Fort Independence Reservation

Fort Mojave Indian Tribe (Arizona, California and Nevada)

Greenville Rancheria

Grindstone Indian Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki Indians

Guidiville Rancheria

Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake

Hoopa Valley Tribe

Hopland Band of Pomo Indians

Inaja Band of Diegueño Mission Indians of the Inaja and Cosmit Reservation

Ione Band of Miwok Indians

Jackson Band of Miwuk Indians

Jamul Indian Village

Karuk Tribe

Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewart's Point Rancheria

Koi Nation

La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians

La Posta Band of Diegueño Mission Indians of the La Posta Indian Reservation

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe

Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla & Cupeno Indians

Lytton Rancheria

Manchester Band of Pomo Indians of the Manchester Rancheria

Manzanita Band of Diegueño Mission Indians of the Manzanita Reservation

Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria

Mesa Grande Band of Diegueño Mission Indians of the Mesa Grande Reservation

Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians

Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians

Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians

Northfork Rancheria of Mono Indians

Pala Band of Luiseño Mission Indians of the Pala Reservation

Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians

Pauma Band of Luiseño Mission Indians of the Pauma & Yuima Reservation

Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians of the Pechanga Reservation

Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians

Pinoleville Pomo Nation (formerly the Pinoleville Rancheria of Pomo Indians)

Pit River Tribe (includes XL Ranch, Big Bend, Likely, Lookout, Montgomery Creek and Roaring Creek Rancherias)

Potter Valley Tribe (formerly the Potter Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians)

Quartz Valley Indian Community of the Quartz Valley Reservation

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation (Arizona and California)

Ramona Band of Cahuilla

Redding Rancheria

Redwood Valley or Little River Band of Pomo Indians of the Redwood Valley Rancheria California

Resighini Rancheria

Rincon Band of Luiseño Mission Indians of the Rincon Reservation

Robinson Rancheria

Round Valley Indian Tribes, Round Valley Reservation

San Manual Band of Serrano Mission Indians of the San Maual Reservation

San Pasqual Band of Diegueño Mission Indians

Santa Rosa Indian Community of the Santa Rosa Rancheria

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians (formerly the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians of the Santa Rosa Reservation)

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Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians

Sheep Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians

Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria (Verona Tract)

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

Susanville Indian Rancheria

Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation (formerly the Sycuan Band of Diegueno Mission Indians)

Table Mountain Rancheria

Tejon Indian Tribe

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Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

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Shoshone-Paiute Tribes, Duck Valley Indian Reservation

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Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

Crow Tribe

Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation, Montana

Little Shell

Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation



**NEVADA**

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Duckwater Shoshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation

Ely Shoshone Tribe

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Fort Mojave Indian Tribe (Arizona, California and Nevada)

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Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe

Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (Four constituent bands: Battle Mountain Band; Elko Band; South Fork Band; Wells Band)

Walker River Paiute Tribe of the Walker River Reservation

Washoe Tribe (Nevada and California) (Carson Colony, Dresslerville Colony, Woodfords Community, Stewart Community and Washoe Ranches)

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*by Cole Grisham, AICP*
3. The PEL Study Advantage  
*by Jason Longsdorf, AICP, and Gina McAfee*
4. Overcoming Objections to Zoning Reform: A Primer for Planners  
*by Jamin Kimmell, AICP; Lydia Ness; and Rachel Cotton, AICP*
5. Inclusive and Equitable Engagement: Case Studies, Lessons Learned and Best Practice  
*by Allison Platt and BreAnne Gale*

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MONTH	TOPIC	ARTICLE DEADLINE
January	Conservation	December 1
February	Land Use & Zoning	January 1
March	Environmental Planning	February 1
April	Community Engagement	March 1
May	Public Lands	April 1
June	Code & Ordinances	May 1
July	Hazard Mitigation & Recovery	June 1
August	Housing Affordability	July 1
September	Conference Issue	Post-Conference
October	Tribal Planning	Sept 1
November	Economic Development	Oct 1
December	Planning Law & Legal Issues	Nov 1

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# 2022 EDITORIAL CALENDAR

MONTH	TOPIC	ARTICLE DEADLINE
January	Retrospective	n/a
February	Land Use & Zoning	Feb 5
March	Community Engagement	February 15
April	Water Management	March 15
May	Growth & Development	April 15
June	Economic Development	May 15
July	Infrastructure Planning & Management	June 15
August	Housing Issues	July 15
September	Housing Affordability	August 15
October	Conference Issue / Career Dev.	Sept 15
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# FIVE PLANNING IDEAS FOR THE OREGON COAST TRAIL

by Cole Grisham, AICP

This article was the top read content article in 2021, first published in the May 2021 Issue.

The Oregon Coast Trail (OCT) parallels all 362-miles of the Oregon coast. Sections of the trail are on federal lands or connect to federal trails. While maps depict a complete route and the OCT was declared “hikeable” in 1988, to make connections between accessible beaches and developed trails, portions of the OCT follow the shoulder of US 101 or follow local roads. Indeed, some portions may not be accessible at high tide either. Some of these portions are unsafe and many hikers opt for a car, shuttle, or public transportation to make connections instead; other hikers skip these sections entirely. So, calling the trail as hikeable throughout is not exactly accurate.

To address the OCT gaps, a project team composed of local, state, and federal agencies are partnering to develop a long-term action plan for the entirety of the OCT. As of Spring 2021, the project is still in its infancy so there are still considerable opportunities to craft what such an Action Plan might look like. In this article, I describe the project’s history followed by five planning ideas for the development and long-term management of the OCT based on the local, state, and federal project team’s work.

## Project History

The OCT recent project history can be thought of in three acts. The first is the Oregon Coast Trail Connections Strategy, developed by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department in 2011. This project divided the entirety of the coast into ten high-level sections for analysis, including stakeholder workshops and identifying possible future trail alignments. As Figure 1 shows for one trail section, the Strategy



Image 1: Oswald West State Park. Source: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

provides possible short-term and long-term primary or secondary alignments. The Strategy was a great first step at getting stakeholders together and identifying possible futures, but seems to not have had legs after completion.

The second is a mixture of Oregon’s Governor and Legislative prioritizing completion of the OCT. In 2017, the Oregon Legislature directed OPRD to complete an Action Plan in collaboration with the Oregon Department of Transportation, state and local agencies, nonprofits, and other stakeholders. The Action Plan must address:

Preferred options for the development, maintenance, and operation of each new trail gap, including related costs that:

Accounts for existing uses of the land where trail segments are to be constructed, including public highway right-of-way, private or public ownership and active rail use

Ensures that the designation of trail segments will not conflict with surrounding private property rights, including rights of way and easements

Considers the concerns of the public and other interested parties

Prioritization of new trail segment construction based on resulting improved safety, immediacy of implementation, potential project sponsors, and sources of funding

Potential sources of funding for implementation of the plan, including but not limited to federal, state and private sources

Options for designation of final state agency or other responsible entities for the development, maintenance, and operation of the trail and trail facilities as identified in the plan.

From there, Governor Kate Brown designated the Oregon Coast Trail as an Oregon Solutions priority project that would develop a long-term governance structure for the OCT. This designation allows for (1) a State Representative and Parks Commissioner to co-convene stakeholders from along the coast to (2) work with the Oregon Solutions staff out of Portland State University on a long-term governance system. The Connections Strategy, coupled with Legislative and Governor direction, has elevated the OCT completion in the eyes of Oregon planners, which the final act may be able to address.



The final (and current act) is the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) project to develop an Action Plan. In 2018, a collection of Oregon agencies led by the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) applied to FHWA's Western Federal Lands office for funding to support collaborative governance work and Action Plan development. FLAP funding is meant for projects on or adjacent to federal lands such as the OCT, which ribbons near and through US Forest Service and US Fish and Wildlife lands throughout the length of the coast. OPRD was ultimately awarded the FLAP grant as one of the primary trail facility owners, with AOC, Oregon Solutions, and Western Federal Lands partnering. While some work started in 2019, the pandemic stalled nearly all work for a variety of reasons. In late 2020, Western Federal Lands, OPRD, AOC, and Oregon Solutions jointly reinitiated the OCT Action Plan work. In the remaining sections, I therefore outline five ideas this multi-agency team are focusing on going forward (not necessarily in order).

## Five Planning Ideas

### 1. Start with Collaboration

Both the planning for and actual construction of the OCT includes multiple, often overlapping jurisdictions. Coordinating actions between these jurisdictions is necessary to complete a cohesive trail network. This means that the Action Plan must begin from a foundation of working together rather than any one agency developing policy for the OCT entirety. To that end, the project scope was jointly developed and is managed by Western Federal Lands, OPRD, AOC, and Oregon Solutions together. The collaboration between these four groups combines the outside perspective of Western Federal Lands with the land owner's perspective of OPRD and local agencies as well as the governance facilitation of Oregon Solutions.

From there, stakeholder collaboration will occur at several levels. First, the project team is forming a technical advisory group composed of state and local agency staff to guide the scope and direction of the Action Plan. Second, AOC will lead specific trail connection group discussions. Lastly, Oregon Solutions will facilitate long term trail governance discussions with the OCT land owners. These engagements are in addition to a broader public involvement strategy to be managed by OPRD.

### 2. Map the Connections with the Community

The OCT Action Plan must include trail alignments that meet the needs and interests of the communities they serve. To ensure this outcome, the project team will use a variety of dynamic mapping tools for each connection discussion. In a way, readers can think of the project team's role as moving the mouse while the

community discusses and decides where the best trail alignment should be in their community. To help these discussion, the project team will use innovative mapping tools like the National Digital Trails tool, which allows for on-the-spot weighting and mapping of trail segments based on community preferences. Using tools like this, the project team can learn what communities value in for their trail network, quickly visualize what those preferences would look like during the discussion, and continue refining and adjusting in-meeting.

### 3. Remember: A Trail is not just for Recreation...

When most people think of the OCT, they think of its recreation uses. Indeed, I have hiked portions of the OCT on vacation most of my life. But at its most basic level, a trail system is a transportation facility, which means its use is a derived demand for reaching a destination. While that may be accessing a scenic view point in one trail segment, it may also be a part of the local road network within a coastal town in another. The Action Plan must therefore address how portions of the OCT form and support the wider transportation system within and between the coastal communities they serve. This ensures any future trail segment recognizes its multiple users and how they vary across the OCT entirety.

### 4. Who will Manage the Trail Long-Term?

A central motivation for Oregon's Governor designating the OCT an Oregon Solutions priority was to ensure the trail is managed as a regional asset long term. The OCT Action Plan should provide a set of trail alignments and actionable strategies for future construction, but the trail should also have clear segment owners and managers in perpetuity. While one response may be 'if it runs through city land, it's the cities responsibility (or through county land, the counties responsibility, and so on), right?'

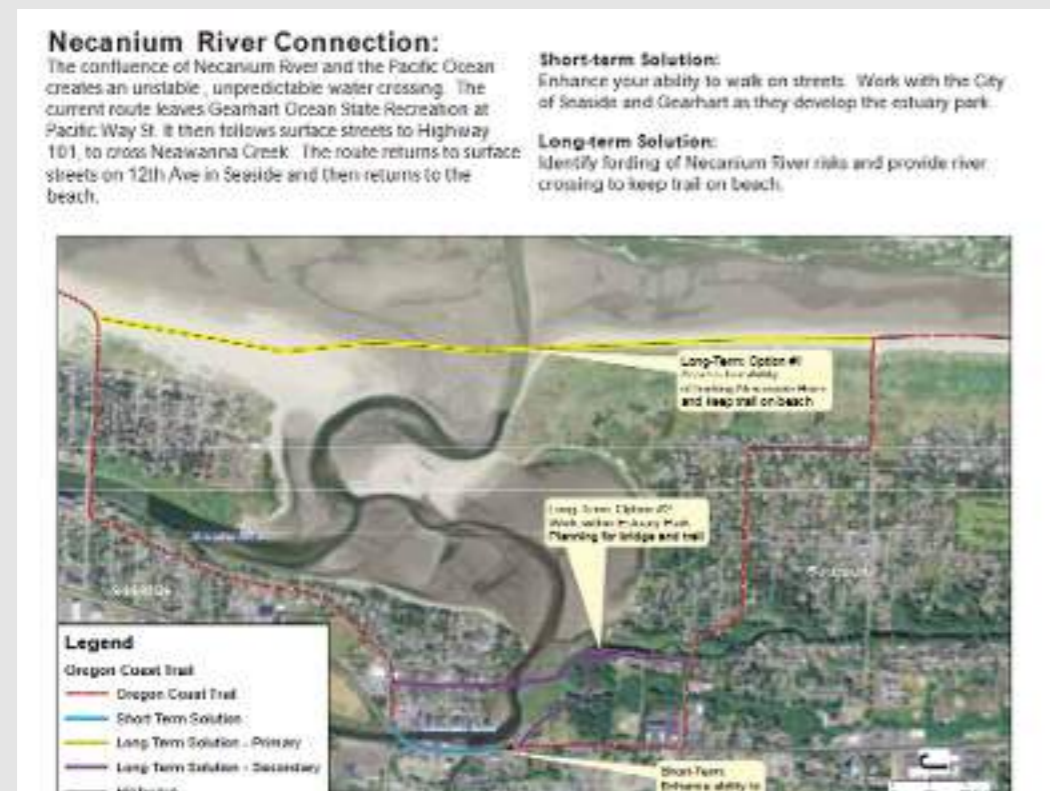


Figure 1. Example Connections Strategy recommendation for one section of the Oregon Coast Trail. Oregon Coast Trail: Connections Strategy (2011)





Image 2. View from Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor. Source: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Not exactly. It's possible for one agency to have title to the trail segment (own it) and another have maintenance responsibility. It's also possible for an existing or future private or non-profit group to maintain portions of the trail. So, it's imperative that these long-term governance questions are addressed up front and with the entire trail system in mind. To that end, Oregon Solutions will lead this portion of the Action Plan, bringing together the trail land owners throughout to discuss ownership and management issues. The result will be a formal agreement between members on long term governance, consistent with Oregon Solutions collaborative governance process.

##### 5. Focus on a Trail that gets Built

The last idea may seem obvious, but it should be emphasized over and over: focus on a trail that gets built. A common challenge in planning generally is developing very nice plans that end up on a shelf and are never touched again. Indeed, planners themselves

often beat their heads against a wall trying to get their colleagues to learn from and implement the recommendations found in the adopted plans. I think the problem is less about whether people are referencing the plan or not and more about whether the plan has anything to say about the post-plan decisions communities and policy makers need to make.

To address this, the OCT Action Plan recommendations should provide a clear hand off to post-plan decision makers. That means providing final trail alignments, conceptual drawings for trail segments, identifying environmental, right of way, and geological issues that will need to be addressed, and future design and construction cost estimates. This information should also be packaged in such a way that the individual land owners can quickly move the information from the Action Plan into a project funding application without doing additional work. This enables the Action Plan to be an actual tool for what comes after plan development: project funding, design, and construction.

##### Conclusion

None of these ideas or approaches are revolutionary, I don't think, but that's also not the point. Instead, the challenge of developing a coordinated plan for completing the OCT has been in those two qualifying words: coordination and completion. How can a diverse set of land owners and interested groups coordinate their actions in a way that leads to a single set of strategies for an entire trail system? How do those

strategies move from ideas on paper to a constructed facility in the communities they serve? To address these two questions, I believe we must start with collaboration, map the new trails with and in the communities, they serve, ensure the meets the transportation needs of its communities, and ensure the trail has clear ownership over the long term. If we can address these issues through the Action Plan, I believe we will be well positioned complete the Oregon Coast Trail.

##### Resources

FHWA's Oregon Coast Trail Action Plan website:  
<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/projects/or/oregon-coast-trail-action-plan>

Oregon Solutions Oregon Coast Trail website:  
<https://orsolutions.org/osproject/oregon-coast-trail>

##### About the Author

Cole Grisham, AICP is a Transportation Systems Planner for the Western Federal Lands Highway Division.





Image 3. View from Cape Sebastian, Looking South. Source: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department







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Donations	\$2,882	Administration	\$3,460
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Western Planner brings together communities from across the Western U.S. to create and share unique planning solutions that improve life in the West.

## OUR GOAL

Stronger, better connected Western communities, states, and Tribes, united through partnerships and collaborative planning.





**GREEN RIVER, WY**

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