



**National Trails System
50th Anniversary
Media Kit**

About the National Trails System Act

In his 1965 “Natural Beauty Message” to Congress, President Lyndon B. Johnson inspired a national “system of trails” for the American people. Congress passed the National Trails System Act, signed into law by President Johnson, on October 2, 1968.

Today, the National Trails System (NTS) includes 11 National Scenic Trails and 19 National Historic Trails authorized by Congress, and more than 1,200 National Recreation Trails (including 21 National Water Trails). Preservation and development of Rail Trails is also fostered in this act.

These trails provide outdoor recreation opportunities, promote resource preservation and public access, and encourage the appreciation of the great outdoors and America’s history and cultural diversity.

Facts

National Scenic and Historic Trails

- 11 National Scenic Trails and 19 National Historic Trails authorized by Congress
- More than 55,000 miles through 49 States in wild, rural, suburban, and urban areas
- Connect and travel through 70 wildlife refuges, 80 national parks, 90 national forests, 100 Bureau of Land Management field office areas, more than 120 Wilderness areas, numerous State and local parks, trails, other protected areas, and 100 major urban areas
- More than 1 million hours of volunteer labor to build and maintain annually

National Recreation Trails

- More than 1,200 trails, including 21 National Water Trails designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture through regional foresters to recognize exemplary trails of local and regional significance
- Total more than 26,000 miles
- Run through all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico

Rail Trails

- 22,000 miles of completed rail-trails and 8,000 miles of projects in progress

- More than 2,000 rail-trails exist in 50 states, crossing rural, suburban, and urban communities
- 1983 amendment to National Trails System Act allowed unused rail corridors to be preserved for future use by converting them to trails
- Enjoyed by millions of people for recreation, physical activity, and active transportation each year

About the 50th Anniversary Celebration

In 2018, America will celebrate the 50th anniversary of our National Trails System. But the party has already started!

With the 1968 passage of the National Trails System Act, America was given a gift – the creation and protection of some of our favorite places to discover and engage with the great outdoors. National Scenic trails, such as the Appalachian and Pacific Crest trails, celebrate outdoor adventure; and National Historic trails, such as the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail, allow us to walk through history.

This anniversary is a golden opportunity for all Americans to not just celebrate trails – all trails – but to learn about them, enjoy them, and protect them. For the next two years, the anniversary celebration, Trails50, will engage the American public with lively and interactive social media campaigns and events in their local communities, and spur a new level of awareness and engagement for all generations.

Signature Events

- [Hike the Hill Advocacy Events](#): February 11-15, 2018
- [Opening Day for Trails](#): April 7, 2018
- [National Trails Day](#): June 2, 2018
- National Trails Act 50th Anniversary: October 2, 2018
- [National Trails System Conference](#): October 22-25, 2018

Partners

Non-profit

American Hiking Society

American Trails

Partnership for the National Trails System

Rails to Trails Conservancy

Federal Agency

Bureau of Land Management

National Park Service

US Forest Service

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Logos



Photos

Available via the trails50 website.

Trail(s)	Organization	Contact Title	First Name	Last Name	Email	Phone
National Scenic and Historic Trails						
Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Aric	Arakaki	Aric_Arakaki@nps.gov	808-326-6012
Non-profit	E Mau Na Ala Hele	Director	Marcie	Davis	marciedd@yahoo.com	916-847-2186
	Ala Kahakai Trail Association	President	Dennis	Hart	dennishart47@yahoo.com	808-937-6039
Appalachian National Scenic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Wendy	Janssen	appa_park_office@nps.gov	304-535-6278
Non-profit	Appalachian Trail Conservancy	Public Relations and Social Media Specialist	Jordan	Bowman	jbowman@appalachiantrail.org	304.885.0794
Arizona National Scenic Trail						
Agency	US Forest Service	Trail Administrator	Laura	White	laurawhite@fs.fed.us	520-388-8328
Non-profit	Arizona Trail Association	Executive Director	Matt	Nelson	ata@aztrail.org	602-252-4794
California National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
Non-profit	Oregon-California Trails Association	Association Manager	Travis	Boley	octa@indepmo.org	816-252-2276
Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Cultural Anthropologist	Cindy	Chance	cindy_chance@nps.gov	410-260-2492
Non-profit	Chesapeake Conservancy	Director of Communications	Jody	Couser	jcouser@chesapeakeconservancy.org	443-261-2388
Continental Divide National Scenic Trail						
Agency	US Forest Service	Trail Administrator	Brenda	Yankoviak	byankoviak@fs.fed.us	303-275-5322
Non-profit	Continental Divide Trail Coalition	Executive Director	Teresa	Martinez	info@continentaldividetrail.org	303-996-2759
	Continental Divide Trail Society	Director	Jim	Wolf	mail@cdtsociety.org	410-235-9610
El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
Non-profit	El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association	Executive Director	Steven	Gonzales	steven@elcaminorealdelostejas.org	512-850-9073
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail						
Agency	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	Trail Administrator	Terry	Heslin	terry_heslin@blm.gov	
	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
Non-profit	El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association (CARTA)					
Florida National Scenic Trail						
Agency	US Forest Service	Trail Administrator	Shawn	Thomas	shawnthomas@fs.fed.us	
Non-profit	Florida Trail Association	Trail Program Director	Alex	Stigliano	alexs@floridatrail.org	
Ice Age National Scenic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	John	Madden	john_madden@nps.gov	
Non-profit	Ice Age Trail Alliance	Communications Coordinator	Lysianne	Unruh	Lysianne@iceagetrail.org	
Iditarod National Historic Trail						
Agency	Bureau of Land Management	Trail Administrator	Kevin	Keeler	kkeeler@blm.gov	
Non-profit	Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance	President	Judy	Bittner	judy.bittner@gmail.com	907-269-8715
Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Naomi	Torres	naomi_torres@nps.gov	415-623-2340
Non-profit	Anza Trail Foundation	Chair	Richard	Rojos	ricro77@hotmail.com	805-896-9083
	Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona	President	Karol	Stubbs	Karols@msn.com	520-841-6944
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Mark	Weekley	mark_weekley@nps.gov	402-661-1804
Non-profit	Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation	Executive Director	Lindy	Hatcher	Lindy@lewisandclark.org	406-454-1234

Trail(s)	Organization	Contact Title	First Name	Last Name	Email	Phone
	Lewis and Clark Trust	Vice Chairman	Jim	Mallory	pmjlmallory@windstream.net	859-278-7723
Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
Non-profit	Mormon Trails Association	President	Ron	Anderson	ron_anderson@comcast.net	801-969-4698
Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Mary	Risser	mary_risser@nps.gov	662-680-4014
Non-profit	Natchez Trace Parkway Association	President	Tony	Turnbow	tonylturnbow@gmail.com	615-418-2105
New England National Scenic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Trail Administrator	Charles	Tracy	charles_tracy@nps.gov	617-223-5210
Non-profit	Appalachian Mountain Club	Trail Coordinator	Bridget	Likely	blikely@outdoors.org	413-835-4591
Non-profit	Connecticut Forest and Park Association	Trail Stewardship Director	Clare	Cain	ccain@ctwoodlands.org	860-346-2372
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail						
Agency	US Forest Service	Trail Administrator	Sandra	Broncheau-McFarland	smcfarland01@fs.fed.us	208-476-8334
Non-profit	Nez Perce Trail Foundation	President	Jim	Zimmerman	jzcobra@aol.com	502-241-4025
North Country National Scenic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Mark	Weaver	mark_weaver@nps.gov	616-340-2004
Non-profit	North Country Trail Association	Marketing/Communications Coordinator	Amelia	Rhodes	arhodes@northcountrytrail.org	616-897-5987
Old Spanish National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
	Bureau of Land Management	Trail Administrator	Rob	Sweeten	rsweeten@blm.gov	801-539-4075
Non-profit	Old Spanish Trail Association	Association Manager	John	Hiscock	ostamgr@gmail.com	435-689-1620
Oregon National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
Non-profit	Oregon-California Trails Association	Association Manager	Travis	Boley	octa@indepmo.org	816-252-2276
Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Group Superintendent	John	Slaughter	john_slaughter	864-461-2828
Non-profit	Overmountain Victory Trail Association	President	R.G.	Absher	rg.absher@ovta.org	276-525-1050
Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail						
Agency	US Forest Service	Program Manager	Beth	Boyst	bboyst@fs.fed.us	707-562-8881
Non-profit	Pacific Crest Trail Association	Director of Communications and Marketing	Scott	Wilkinson	SWilkinson@pcta.org	916-285-1841
Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail						
Agency	US Forest Service	Trail Administrator	Matt	McGrath	mtmcgrath@fs.fed.us	425-783-6199
Non-profit	Pacific Northwest Trail Association	Communications Manager	Eric	Wollborg	ericwollborg@pnt.org	
Pony Express National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
Non-profit	National Pony Express Association	President	Dean	Atkin		435-241-2246
Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Don	Briggs	don_briggs@nps.gov	304-535-4014
	National Park Service	Office of Communications	Jenny	Anzelmo-Sarles	jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov	202-619-7177
Sante Fe National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
Non-profit	Santa Fe Trail Association	Manager	Joanne	VanCoevern	manager@santafetrail.org	785-643-7515
Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail						

Trail(s)	Organization	Contact Title	First Name	Last Name	Email	Phone
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Sandy	Taylor	sandy_taylor@nps.gov	334-877-1984
Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Superintendent	Tina	Cappetta	tina_cappetta@nps.gov	410-962-4290
Trail of Tears National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Chief of Interpretation	Carole	Wendler	carole_wendler@nps.gov	505-988-6092
Non-profit	Trail of Tears Association	Executive Director	Troy Wayne	Poteete	totaadmin@arindianctr.org	918-708-5597
Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail						
Agency	National Park Service	Acting Superintendent	Paul	Kenney	paul_kenney@nps.gov	215-597-5823
Non-profit	W3R-US®					
Federal Agency National Programs						
	National Park Service	National Trails System Program Leader	Rita	Hennessy	rita_hennessy@nps.gov	202-354-6900
	US Forest Forest	Program Manager, Trails	Jaime	Schmidt	jtschmidt@fs.fed.us	202-360-6119
	Bureau of Land Management	National Trails Coordinator	Deb	Salt	debsalt@blm.gov	406-862-2630
	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Assistant Program Manager Transportation Program	Nathan	Caldwell	nathan_caldwell@fws.gov	703-358-2205
Non-profit National Groups						
Hiking trails	American Hiking Society	VP Programs & Government Relations	Kim	Lyons	klyons@americanhiking.org	301-565-6704
National Recreation Trails	American Trails	Executive Director	Mike	Passo	mikepasso@americantrails.org	530-605-4395
National Scenic and Historic Trails	Partnership for the National Trails System	Executive Director	Gary	Werner	gary@pntrails.org	608-249-7870
Rail Trails	Rails-to-Trails Conservancy	Vice President of Communications	Brandi	Horton	brandi@railstotrails.org	202-974-5155
Multi-use trails	Back Country Horsemen of America	Director, Public Lands & Recreation	Randy	Rasmussen	WildernessAdvisor@bcha.org	541-602-0713
Source: https://www.nps.gov/nts/nts_contact.html						