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Sept
 2007



Lester says:
 "We are known
 by the tracks
 we leave"

Welcome to the Alaska Trails statewide newsletter, a compilation of trail news and activities around the state and nation. A copy of this newsletter will also be posted to our web site. Newsletters come out at the beginning of March, June, September, and December. Your contributions and/or membership are always welcome.

STATEWIDE NEWS AND NOTICES

PROJECTS ACROSS THE STATE PLANNED FOR PUBLIC LANDS DAY: The 14th annual National Public Lands Day, a hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance public lands, will be held Saturday, September 29, 2007. Trail projects are planned for Anchorage, Eagle River, and possibly Craig. Other projects are planned for Fairbanks, the Chugach National Forest, the Denali Highway, and Sitka. For more information see: www.publiclandsday.org/

STATE TRAILS COORDINATOR LEAVES, POSITION RECLASSIFIED: The state Trails Coordinator position is being reclassified after the person who held that job, Samantha Carroll, left to take another position in the state Department of Natural Resources. The position is being reclassified as Natural Resources Manager, according to Margaret Brodie, administration manager for the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. However, 90 to 95 percent of the duties of that position will still be dealing with the trails-related programs, Brodie said. The reclassification will allow the person in that position to help with other programs not specifically trail-related, she said. Once the position is reclassified it will be advertised first within the state government. If a qualified person is not found, then the position will be advertised more widely.

DEADLINES APPROACHING FOR RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANT: The deadlines for the state Recreational Trails Grant program are approaching. Public notices for possible grant projects must be posted by September 10. Grant applications must be postmarked by October 1. The Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation administers the program, which is for trail acquisition, trail development and maintenance, and safety and education projects. To get copies of requirements and application forms for the program please visit the division's trails web site at www.alaskatrails.org.

If you have any questions please contact the Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation Grant Administrator at (907) 269-8709 or the State Trails Coordinator at (907) 269-8699, or by mail at 550 W. Seventh Ave., Suite 1380, Anchorage, AK 99501-3561.

STATE SEEKS HELP TO DEVELOP TRAIL GUIDELINES: The state Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation is planning to develop standards, classifications, and construction/maintenance guidelines for planning and designing sustainable Alaska trails. This effort will include input from a variety of trail user groups, agencies, and organizations. The division hopes to get a grant to fund a part-time position to collect and assimilate the information into an attractive and usable format—both electronically and in hard copy. The guidelines will be

modeled after a similar plan done by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. If you wish to be involved or otherwise help with this project, please contact the State Trails Coordinator at (907) 269-8699, or by mail at 550 W. Seventh Ave., Suite 1380, Anchorage, AK 99501-3561.

FORAKER GROUP OFFERS CLASSES FOR NON-PROFITS: Many trail groups and trail user groups in Alaska are non-profit organizations. If you are a member or employee of a non-profit group and would like to learn more about the proper workings of non-profit groups, consider taking a class offered by the Foraker Group, an organization dedicated to strengthening Alaska's non-profits. The group is offering many classes across the state in the next few months. For more information visit the Foraker Group website (www.forakergroup.org/) or call 907/743-1200 or (toll free) 1-877-834-5003.

SOUTHWEST REGION NEWS AND NOTICES

HOOPER BAY GETS NEW SUSTAINABLE TRAIL: Hooper Bay has a new sustainable connector trail thanks to local trail crew volunteers, the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA), and the Sealion Corporation.



The new trail, which leaves the end of the road near the dump, will help protect damaged wetlands while offering Hooper Bay residents access to higher ground and trails that provide access to traditional hunting and gathering grounds. With the new trail the wetlands and surrounding lands, damaged from uncontrolled and unprotected use, will be able to recover and become productive once again. The corporation is hoping to continue educational efforts to help villagers understand the need to stay on the trail to help protect subsistence resources.

RTCA provided technical assistance to Sealion Corporation for the project. For the past two years, the corporation has been working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) out of Bethel to determine the need for a new, sustainable trail, the proper location for such a trail, and the proper engineering design for the trail to cross Native-owned lands. The corporation got the necessary funding for the first part of the trail through an NRCS grant. This past summer, the start of this dream became reality.

Sealion Corporation spent the winter getting Geoblock panels, plywood, and other equipment by barge from Seattle to Hooper Bay and coordinating shipments of other equipment by air. RTCA staff arrived in Hooper Bay in July to find 10 Hooper Bay residents ready to become trail crewmembers. The trail crew learned how to put together GeoBlock2 panels and install geothermal connectors and anchors. In five days, the trail crew and RTCA staff spent about 550 hours on panel assembly and installation. With this highly organized crew, 2,300 linear feet of Geoblock 2 (2 meters wide) was installed in five days.

(Submitted by Lisa Holzapfel.)

SOUTHCENTRAL REGION NEWS AND NOTICES

WEB PAGE HIGHLIGHTS ANCHORAGE TRAILS DAY PROJECTS: Several Anchorage area trails got needed projects during National Trails Day this past June. A listing of the work done can be found at the Anchorage parks and recreation Trailwatch website (www.muni.org/trailwatch/). The Anchorage parks and rec website (www.muni.org/parks/index.cfm) has several other good links for trail users including a GIS trails map- per and a link to Anchorage's "Winter Recreation and Sports Plan."

NEW KODIAK TRAILS GROUP HELPS TRAIL RE-ROUTE: In Kodiak, the newly formed Island Trails Network (ITN) has hit the ground running by tackling a much-needed re-route of the Summit Lake trail.

The new trail takes users along the higher, western side of the anadromous lake over firmer soils and avoids wetlands damaged by years of heavy motorized use. The project includes building six ATV bridges and laying 700 linear feet of Geoblock II.

The bridge installation took place August 11. The volunteer workforce consisted of 32 competitors from the Emerald Isle Eco-Challenge, an annual adventure race hosted by the Coast Guard that includes a mandatory service project. In order to minimize the impact on the degraded trail bed, most volunteers mountain-biked the 5.5 miles to Summit Lake, then assembled pre-fabricated bridges that had been airlifted to the site by Coast Guard helicopter. A few ATV riders acted as gofers, shuttling chainsaws, shovels, and spare batteries wherever they were needed.

Sam Christian of the Kodiak Soil & Water Conservation District was on hand to oversee bridge construction, and ITN Executive Director Andy Schroeder helped organize logistics and volunteers. Installation of the Geoblock is slated for September 8-9 and will be performed by ITN members and other motorized users in the community. For more information on ITN see the group's website at: www.islandtrails.org



(Submitted by Andy Schroeder.)

HATCHER PASS TRAILS SEE IMPROVEMENTS: Two trails in Hatcher Pass in the Mat-Su Valley are being improved thanks to funding from the Alaska Trails Initiative and the Recreational Trail grant programs.

Overseen by the Alaska State Parks Mat-Su District Office, two Lower 48 Student Conservation Service trail crews did some major rework on the first two miles of the Gold Mint Trail. Work included brushing, construction of over 60 drainage dips, replacement of dilapidated boardwalks, and construction of three reroutes around wet or eroded sections of trail.

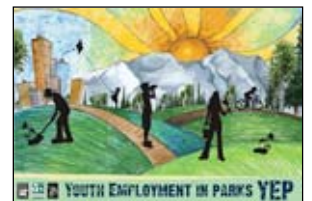
In September, the 0.8-mile Gold Cord Lake Trail near Independence Mine will also be getting improvements. The old, eroded fall-line trail has been closed off and is being revegetated. It will be replaced by a new sustainable rolling contour trail designed by consultant Mike Shields. A SAGA crew will be completing the work.

The projects will continue through the summer of 2008 with the addition of a new trail to April Bowl near the summit of Hatcher Pass. (Submitted by Kimberly Miller)



TEENS HELP IMPROVE ANCHORAGE TRAILS: Trails and parks in Anchorage got some needed maintenance while several diverse teens got valuable experience and education thanks to the Youth Employment in Parks (YEP) program.

The program, a pilot for the Anchorage Parks and Recreation, employed 25 Anchorage teens as crewmembers and seven young adults in leadership roles over the summer. Most of the teens worked in the parks component of the program, which was done in partnership with Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA), a program of the National Wildlife Federation. The 20 teens learned about a variety of community and environmental topics while working three days a week in a total of 37 Anchorage parks and trails, maintaining and improving existing resources. In the recreation component, five teens worked three days a week in a neighborhood play program.



The YEP program was made possible through the help of more than 67 outside organizations and individuals. The program plans to employ 50 Anchorage youth for the summer of 2008. If you are interested in providing support or learning more about the YEP program and its partners, visit the following websites: Alaska Youth For Environmental Action (www.ayea.org); National Wildlife Federation (www.nwf.org); Anchorage Parks & Recreation (www.muni.org/parks/YEP.cfm); and Anchorage Park Foundation (www.anchorageparkfoundation.org/projects/YouthEmploymentInParks.htm)

(Submitted by Sarah Kinderknecht)

KODIAK TRAIL WORK FEATURED ON WEBSITE: An article about a 2006 trail project in Kodiak's Fort Abercrombie State Park is featured on an American Trails website titled "Cool Trail Solutions." The article, written by Lisa Holzapfel, describes how Piedmont Trail got an upgrade from 25 trail volunteers after they were trained in basic sustainable trail techniques for National Trails Day. The project was organized by the National Park Service-Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, Alaska State Parks, and Alaska Trails. The web page is "devoted to photos and graphics of solutions to a wide array of trail-related problems."

For a full article on the trail see: www.americantrails.org/resources/ManageMaintain/FortAbercrombie-AK.html To check out the "Cool Trail Solutions" site see: www.americantrails.org/resources/cool/index.html

(Submitted by Lisa Holzapfel.)

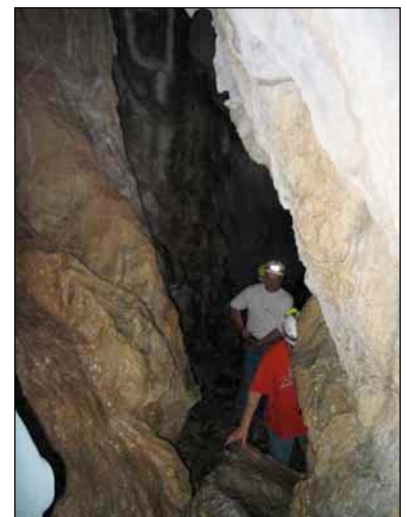
SOUTHEAST REGION NEWS AND NOTICES

JUNEAU BLOG FEATURES ATV DISCUSSION: Here's an web address to a page in a Juneau Empire-related blog. This page started as a discussion about where ATV users can find room to ride in Juneau, but the discussion expanded to include the pros and cons of ATV riding in the Juneau area and other parts of the state. The discussion is sometimes heated, often informative, and quite entertaining:
<http://juneaublogger.com/naturalresources/?p=142>

TRAIL OFFERS CAVING EXPERIENCE ON PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND: Though fairly short, the El Capitan Cave Trail on Prince of Wales Island offers an education in Southeast caves.

Commonly known as El Cap, the trail winds through shady forest with stops and narratives along the way from a Forest Service guide. Upon reaching the cave entrance, participants don supplied caving hardhats, put on a jacket or sweatshirt (the cave temperature is a constant 40 degrees), and enter the cave for a guided exploration of the largest-known cave in Alaska. In addition to learning about the cave, the more adventuresome have a couple of opportunities to scramble into smaller cave rooms and explore.

Cave tours are limited to six people, which makes for a great caving experience. Because tour sizes are small, make sure to reserve with the Thorne Bay Ranger district, (907) 828-3304. The trail and cave are part of the Southeast Alaska Trail System (SEATrails). For more information on SEATrails see the group's website at: www.seatrails.org/ (Submitted by Karen Smith)



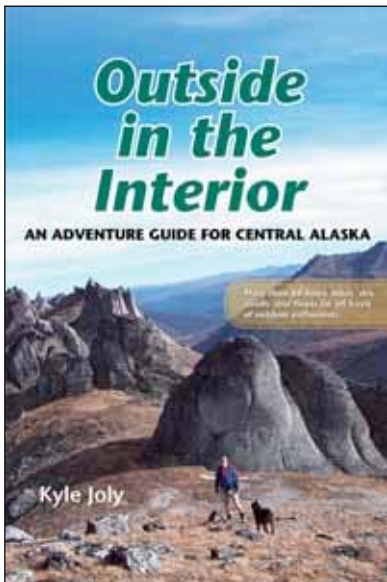
SITKA-AREA TRAIL REBUILT FOR BICYCLE USE: Originally an unmaintained hiking trail, the Thimbleberry to Heart Lake Trail has been redesigned to accommodate bicycle use and is now also used in the winter by skiers. The reconstruction involved widening the trail as well as modifying the grade and location of certain sec-

tions to make it safe for bicycles.

The trail has plenty of berry picking opportunities and views of the surrounding mountains. Bring your fishing gear because both lakes are stocked with trout. Heart Lake also has a dock and free use of a small boat. The gravel trail is 1.7 miles long and ends at Blue Lake Road, a U.S. Forest Service Road. Parking for the trail is at the trailhead on Sawmill Creek Road. Limited parking is also at Blue Lake Road.

This was a cooperative project between Sitka Trail Works, the Sitka Ranger District, and the City and Borough of Sitka.
(Submitted by Karen Smith)

INTERIOR REGION NEWS AND NOTICES



TWO NEW INTERIOR TRAIL GUIDES COMING OUT SOON: A book and a map, both having heavy emphasis on trails in interior Alaska, will be coming out in the next month.

“Outside in Alaska: An Adventure Guide for Central Alaska,” written by Kyle Joly, a long-time biologist and Interior trail user, is being released in October.

The book includes more than 50 road-accessible trails and float trips from the Tok area west to Denali National Park area and from the Brooks Range south to the Alaska Range. Included are well-known areas, such as Fairbanks’ Birch Hill Recreation Area, and lesser-known trips, such as Mount Fairplay in the Fortymile region.

The focus of the book is non-motorized recreation, including hiking, cross-country skiing, and float trips. Joly even includes some trips that combine hiking and rafting using lightweight packrafts.

The book, priced at \$19.95, will be available from the University of Alaska Press (www.uaf.edu/uapress) and from local bookstores.

The other guide is a map. The Arctic Audubon Hiking and Birding Guide for the Fairbanks area should be out in the next month or so. The full-color map and guide has descriptions and locations of 35 interior Alaska trails, and includes color photos, a list of birds commonly found in the area, and a note on bird watching etiquette. It will also include additional sources for those interested in learning more about the birds of the Fairbanks area.

The guide will be available at the Alaska Bird Observatory, the Farmhouse Visitor Center at Creamer’s Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, as well as other venues. For more information contact Arctic Audubon (arcticaudubon@netscape.net).

BOROUGH VETERAN HIRED AS FAIRBANKS TRAILS COORDINATOR: Tom Hancock, a long-time borough employee, was hired as the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) trails coordinator in late July.

Hancock has worked at the borough for more than 20 years. Most recently he was a platting officer in the Community Planning Department, but he has spent most of his time at the borough in the Land Management Department. He has worked on trails issues in both departments.

The job was created earlier this year as a half-time position by Borough Mayor Jim Whitaker and then expanded to full time by the Borough Assembly. The position is part of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Hancock believes the two most important things he needs to work on are to make it easier for the borough to accept title to trail easements and to update the Comprehensive Recreational Trail Plan. The borough can and does accept title to trail easements but has no easy, formal process. The comprehensive trail plan is more than 20 years old and needs many changes.

Hancock and others in the Parks and Recreation Department will also be working on the 100 Mile Loop Trail project, which had been handled by the planning department before the creation of the trails coordinator.

TRAILS IMPROVED AT TETLIN WILDLIFE REFUGE: Two trails at Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge were improved this summer to protect them from damage and make them more hiker-friendly.

The work is part of an effort to improve existing trails and create new hiking opportunities on the refuge, which is located on the Alaska Highway near the Alaska-Canada border. In recent years national wildlife refuges across the country have received more money from Congress to provide wildlife-compatible recreation for the public on refuges.

One trail on recently acquired property near the Tetlin refuge visitor center was too steep for average visitors. National Park Service staff helped lay out a new route, and the trail work crew constructed a short trail, just under a half-mile, that winds through an open forest and ends at a trapper's homestead. The refuge plans to develop a self-guided trail brochure and have guided interpretive walks.

Another, longer, trail received two re-routes around steep and muddy sections. The 7- to 8-mile Airs Hill Trail, located in one of the few upland areas on the refuge, meanders through a forest and leads to a cabin on Mirror Lake.

The trail has been used primarily by snowmachines and ATV users for hunting and trapping. However, the new sections were designed to make it less conducive for use by ATVs. Unlike snowmachines, ATVs are not authorized on the refuge since they were not an established means of transportation for subsistence activities at the time the refuge was created in 1980.

Also as part of the effort to improve trails, the refuge in 2004 installed elevated planks over wet, rutted portions of the one-mile Hidden Lake Trail off MP1264 Alaska Highway.

For more information about the hiking trails at Tetlin Refuge contact the refuge office at 883-5312 or Heather Johnson at 883-9417.



FAIRBANKS HOTELIER BUYS WILDLAND, PLANS TRAIL: Trails at Creamer's Field will be getting a bit longer thanks to Fairbanks' biggest hotelier. Fountainhead Development, Inc., recently bought just over 100 acres of prime real estate behind Wedgewood Resort, one of the company's four Fairbanks hotels, and intends to turn it into a wildlife sanctuary for its guests and the public.

The business plans to build a 1.5-mile wheelchair-accessible trail around one of the two ponds on the property. Access to the trail will be from the resort or from the trails in Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge. In winter, the trail will be open for walking and skiing, and it may be lighted in the future. Plans call for work on the sanctuary—which also include a viewing deck, interpretive signs, and pond habitat improvements—to be completed by next fall.

For more information on the sanctuary see the recent story in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner at: <http://newsminer.com/2007/08/26/8600>

QUARTZ CREEK TRAIL UPGRADED AND REROUTED: A reroute of the multi-use Quartz Creek Trail in the White Mountains National Recreation Area was completed and opened to the public this summer.

The work was part of a multi-year project to improve the trail by the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The reroute avoids some boggy portions and includes about four miles of new trail.

BLM, with the help of Trails Unlimited, has been working on the trail for the past four years. In addition to the reroute, work has included improving sections of trail that have long been erosion problems. A bit more work is planned for next summer and the agency is considering adding some spur trails to the main Quartz Creek Trail.

The work has received some mixed reviews, but Chuck Johnson and some friends traveled the new portion of the trail on their ATVs earlier this year and gave it a big thumbs up. Check out Johnson's map and photos by visiting his website at www.clearysummit.com/ and clicking on "Quartz Ck. Trail."

NEW ANGEL CREEK VALLEY TRAIL ROUTE FLAGGED: A route for a new trail to the Lower Angel Creek cabin in the Chena River State Recreation Area was marked this summer. Alaska State Parks hopes to build the trail next year to sustainable, multi-use standards. Once built, the new trail will provide year-round access to the cabin.

Alaska State Parks, with help from the National Park Service-Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (NPS-RTCA), flagged a realignment of 5.5 miles of the Angel Creek Valley Trail. The old trail winds through the wetland complex in the bottom of the valley. It was closed earlier this year to motorized use so that it is able to heal and regenerate.

Several people and organizations have worked on this project including Kevin Meyer, Blain Anderson, Lisa Holzapfel, and Heather Rice of the NPS, Samantha Carroll of Alaska State Parks, Jon Underwood of Happy Trails, and trail consultant Mike Shields. (Submitted by Lisa Holzapfel.)



ALASKA TRAILS NEWS AND NOTICES

ALASKA TRAILS LOOKS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Alaska Trails will soon be hiring an executive director. Our group has grown over the years and will grow even more in the future. We have finally reached a point where we need an executive director to oversee the group's operations. Advertising for the position will officially start after Labor Day.

Qualifications for the position include experience in management, grant administration, media relations, multi-use trail projects, and fundraising. Also required are an ability to work in the field and, of course, a love of trails.

The position's salary will be based on education, experience, and skills. The position will start with a 30-hour workweek with the potential to increase to full time. Interested individuals should familiarize themselves with Alaska Trails by studying our website (www.alaska-trails.org). For more information contact Board President Geoffrey Orth via office@alaska-trails.org. Screening of candidates will begin on September 25, 2007 and continue until a qualified pool is identified.

TWO BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED: Alaska Trails is pleased to welcome Erin Whipple and Ken Pendleton as the organization's two newest board members. Elections for the board were held earlier this year. Lindsay Winkler, of Homer, resigned from the board to pursue an education out of state. Lindsay had been co-president with Geoffrey Orth, of Ester, who is now president of the board. Thank you Lindsay for your service to the board and good luck.

Alaska Trails is always looking for board candidates. If you have a passion for trails and believe in the need for a statewide, nonprofit trail steward, consider running for the board of Alaska Trails. Our organization is particularly interested in having a wide range of trail users sitting on the board, including both motorized and non-motorized users, as well as people in government agencies and those outside of government. If you are at all interested in serving on the board of Alaska Trails please contact Board President Geoffrey Orth via office@alaska-trails.org.

MEMBERS HELP ALASKA TRAILS MAXIMIZE REI GRANT: REI and members of Alaska Trails helped raise \$10,000 earlier this year to be used toward our mission of sustainable trails. REI promised to match up to \$5,000 of funds raised in 2007 and our members pitched in to meet the full match. Alaska Trails thanks REI for this generous contribution. Funds from REI will be invested in our Sustainable Trails Training Curriculum in 2007 and 2008. We also thank all Alaska Trails members who helped us reach this goal. We couldn't continue our mission without your support.

TRAIL TOOL TRAILERS DONATIONS SOUGHT: Alaska Trails is seeking funds and donations to acquire two mobile trail tool caches in the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas. If you have a small enclosed (~5' x 8') trailer, hand tools, sharpening implements, chains and locks, etc., that you would be willing to donate, we have a great use for them. Money for the trail tool trailer project is also welcome. By next summer, we plan to have two trail tool caches available for up to one-week loan to the membership for onsite trail work. Contact us at office@alaska-trails.org to find out more.

INTERNET SEARCHES CAN PROVIDE FUNDS TO ALASKA TRAILS: What if Alaska Trails earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Well, now we can! GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo! so you get great results.

Just go to <http://www.goodsearch.com> and be sure to enter Alaska Trails as the charity you want to support. Just 50 of us searching four times a day will raise about \$730 in a year without anyone spending a dime! And, be sure to spread the word!

This is a ridiculously easy way to support Alaska Trails. Please do it right now, and help make our trails great.
Submitted by Blain Anderson, VP Alaska Trails

INTERESTING WEBSITES ABOUT TRAILS IN ALASKA

Below are addresses to websites with information about trails and activities in Alaska:

- The July issue of the Fairbanks' Goldstream Sports newsletter has a great story about the "Hot Springs 100" wilderness trek. The recently revived trek connects Chena Hot Springs and Circle Hot Springs. The article is a first-person narrative written by Andy Seitz, who tied with Jim Lokken for first place after catching him in the last few miles. Read the story at: <http://goldstreamsports.com/newsletter/2006%20Newsletter/07-07-Vol1.htm>
- Here's a site advertising a self-published book about several trails in Alaska. Most of the trails included are in Southcentral, but the book includes a few off the Denali Highway: www.alaskawildernesstrails.com/

NATIONWIDE AND GENERAL INTEREST NEWS AND NOTICES

Below are addresses to websites with information about trails nationwide:

- Website on places to go paddling. Includes many trips from across Alaska: www.paddling.net/places/
- Article in the Christian Science Monitor on a new group of former public land managers and rangers who claim off-road vehicles pose the single biggest threat to America's public lands and represent a fast-growing law enforcement problem: www.csmonitor.com:80/2007/0703/p02s01-ussc.html

- National Park Service will be launching a website sometime in September that will list handicapped-accessible trails, programs, and other accessible sites. Most national parks have some accessible facilities, but now people have to check with individual parks for details. Keep checking with the main NPS website for more details: www.nps.gov.
- Trail managers and other supporters have a chance to comment on accessible trail guidelines for federal lands. While this proposal does not include federally funded projects or grants, a future version will ultimately affect all new trails. The deadline for comment is October 18, 2007. A public hearing will be held on September 6, 2007, in Washington, DC. Electronic comments will also be accepted. For more information see the American Trails website at: www.americantrails.org/resources/accessible/index
- Here's a great website hosted by the Duluth (Minnesota) Area Trails Alliance. The recently organized group is "dedicated to conserving open green corridors for trail use, developing and maintaining sustainable trails to promote healthy recreational opportunities and encouraging citizens and visitors to explore the natural world right out their back doors." The group appears well organized and is dealing with issues similar to ones trail advocates are dealing with in Alaska. <http://datadirt.wordpress.com/>
- American Trails is a national, nonprofit organization working on behalf of all trail interests, motorized and non-motorized. The group works to create and protect America's network of interconnected trails. Consider becoming a member. The group's website has lots of good information about trails. It is currently holding a contest for photographs of National Recreation Trails across the country. The deadline for entries is October 31, 2007. For more information about the contest and the group see: www.americantrails.org/
- Alaska doesn't have a lot of old, unused railroad lines, but this website by the Rails-To-Trails Conservancy is still interesting: www.railstotrails.org/index.html
- This web address has updated information from the Federal Highway Administration regarding the Recreational Trails Program. The FHA had posted statutory legislation for three sections of law that *may* affect the Recreational Trails Program, but the legislation conflicts with other sections of Title 23. This link includes an explanation: www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/guidance.htm
- A web address for the new Image Library of the National Transportation Enhancements Clearinghouse (NTEC). Images include subject areas such as "Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities" and "Preservation of Railway Corridors": www.enhancements.org/library/index.asp
- Another image library can be found on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center website at: www.pedbikeimages.org/

The Alaska Trails board meets via teleconference on the second Tuesday of each month from noon to 1:00PM. If you want to hear more about Alaska trail topics, share trail information, or propose a trail project, join us for an hour. Members and the public are welcome. More info: office@alaska-trails.org

Our next newsletter will be December 1, 2007. Deadline for articles: Monday Noon November 26 to Eric Troyer at etcl@acsalaska.net

Enjoy your fall-winter trail activities safely and be an Alaskan trail steward!



Southeast Alaska Trail System

It's **the** journey



Community grant projects completed

Community	What was done	Awarded
Skagway	Trail improvements to the switchbacks on Lower Dewey Lake. This included adding steps, decreasing angles and rebuilding of two retaining walls.	\$15,595
Craig	Trail improvements to the upper level of the Sunnahae Mountain trail. This included building bridges and stairs and improving trail tread.	\$14,500
Haines	Trail improvements to stop erosion and slide hills on the Battery Point trail. This included adding gravel to the first mile of the trail along with stairs/log steps to steeper sections and culverts/waterbars to wet areas.	\$14,500
Juneau/Auke Bay	Trail improvements to the Ski-to-Sea Corridor. This included constructing a hardened, .7-km-long trail on top of the existing Nordic lower-loop trail and trail access.	\$14,500
Petersburg	Sign improvements in and around Petersburg. This included adding signage at various locations and erecting interpretive signs.	\$14,500
Wrangell	Trail improvements and sign improvements to Volunteer Park trail. This included adding 4" of crushed rock and compact on the .5-mile Volunteer Park trail and replacing 10 interpretive signs that were vandalized or stolen.	\$14,500
Sitka	Trail improvements to the Sea Lion Point trail. This included replacing part of the trail boardwalk with single-plank, treated lumber and rebuilding steps.	\$14,500
Coffman Cove	Planning and design of the Grassy Flats trail. This included building an 8-mile trail bordering the grass flats south of town with several side access points. Grant funds paid for consultant work to identify land ownership and mapping.	\$8,000
Thorne Bay	Trail construction and improvement to the Davidson's Landing trail and picnic area. This included constructing a trail and several picnic areas along an old roadbed that was previously a log transfer facility.	\$5,000
Juneau/Auke Bay	Trail improvements to the Auke Rec Artificial Reef and Dive Park. This included adding an underwater navigation course and signage.	\$3,822