

INTERIOR TRAILS NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of trails in interior Alaska

July 2019

SPECIAL STATE BUDGET REPORT

TRAIL PROGRAMS HANGING IN STATE BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS LIMBO

Nothing new has happened with the three state trails programs in regard to the state budget.

The Legislature has passed the state Operating Budget and sent it to Gov. Dunleavy, who is studying it and pondering whether to sign it or veto some or all of it. However, none of the three state trail programs (Recreational Trails Program, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and Snowmobile Trails Program) are in the operating budget. They are all in the FY20 Capital Budget, which has not yet been passed.

A conference committee must be appointed for the FY20 Capital Budget to be negotiated. While the capital budget is not included on the second special session call, legislators and staffers are hoping that it will come up and be passed this July in a special session.

INTERIORWIDE

FAIRBANKS BOROUGH TRAILS CHALLENGE RUNS THROUGH SEPT 30

How many trails can you explore this summer? Take the Fairbanks Trails Challenge!



Scattered around the Fairbanks North Star Borough Trails System are 12 Fairbanks Trails Challenge signs. Challenge yourself, your friends and family to find as many as you can.

This year's Summer Challenge will take place from June 20 to September 30 and is free for anyone who wants to participate. Just find each sign, and photograph yourself with the sign in the background. Then share your "selfie" photo on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram by typing "#FNSBtrails" in your post, OR post your picture on our FNSB Parks & Rec Facebook page, OR email parks@fnsb.us your photos.

To help you find the signs, download the Fairbanks Trail Challenge booklet at: <http://tinyurl.com/yx9buqnm>

If you can prove you made it to at least 10 Summer Challenge Trails you will earn the elusive "Trailblazer Award" and be placed in a drawing for awesome prizes from our sponsors! Questions? Contact Bryant Wright at bwright@fnsb.us or 907-459-7401.

For more info and how to register see:

- Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/334369447465250/>
- Trails Challenge webpage: <http://tinyurl.com/y3lq8rdn>

NEW DENALI HIGHWAY TRAIL CREATES MOUNTAIN BIKING LOOP

Fairbanks Fat Bikers! You should check out this trail!

Last fall a new connector trail was put in on the Denali Highway, linking the McLaren Summit Trail and the Glacier Gap Trail. The new trail runs along Seven Mile Lake making it possible to bike one large loop (~37 miles). Just under 7 miles are on the Denali Hwy, and the other 30 miles are all on trail! My husband and I biked it this week and it was a blast! The trails are built for ATV's so they are wide. Not super challenging as far as elevation gain but lots of rocky terrain (a few places we had to push our bikes) tons of little creek crossings, and 1 legitimate river crossing. The loop took us about 5 hours, but we took a long lunch break and lots of snack and photo breaks. We felt it was perfect terrain for fat bikes or a burly full suspension bike, as the trail has many sections of head-sized cobbles, and some really soft spots/snow that would be a bit much for a hardtail. Highly recommended if you are looking for a new summer adventure ride! We recommend starting at Glacier Gap trailhead and biking the Denali highway portion first, this way the river crossing is right at the end of your ride.

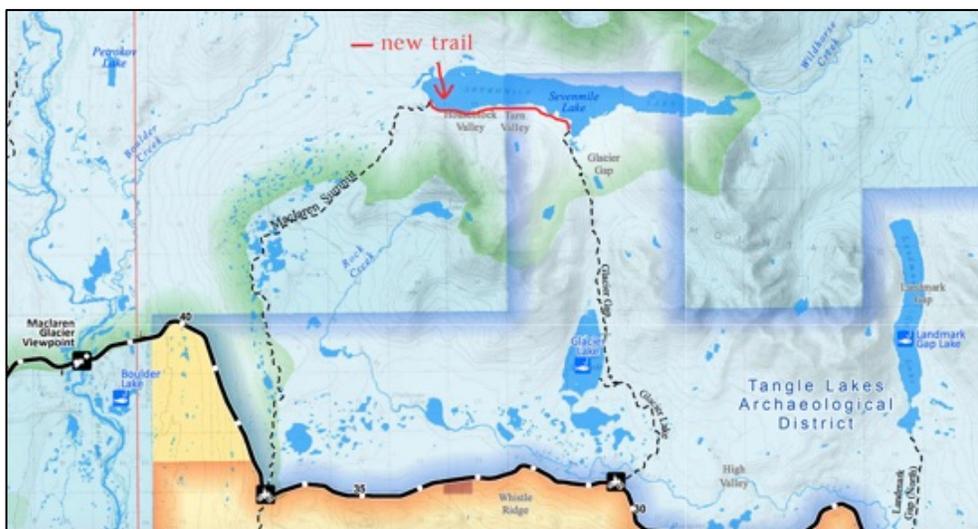


(From Beaver Sports Facebook post by Christina Turman)

MORE BIKING DETAILS ON THIS BIKE/HIKE/ATV ROUTE FROM A SUBSEQUENT FACEBOOK POST

The whole loop, including the highway portion, is actually about 27 miles.

The trail from McLaren Summit to the edge of the Sevenmile Lake is the easiest, a mostly bikeable trail over rolling hills with a few rough sections. This is a hoot! Gorgeous scenery and easily bikeable for anyone with moderate offroad



skills. No major stream crossings. Do this section as an out-and-back if you don't want to take on the whole thing.

The most challenging section is along the south shore of Sevenmile Lake and through Glacier Gap toward Glacier Lake (aka Glacier Gap Lake). Quite a few rocky sections, some short, steep climbs, and some deeper stream crossings (the kind where you get wet feet even if you stay on your bike). We walked our bikes several places along here.

The second most challenging section is between the turnoff to Glacier Lake and Glacier Gap Trailhead. One long (but not too deep) water crossing and some rocky but bikeable trail.

Be aware: The loop has three side trails. One at the western end of Sevenmile Lake takes you down to the



lake. It looks to be about a half-mile long or so with a bit of elevation loss. A much shorter one takes you to Sevenmile Lake right where you turn into the valley toward Glacier Gap. The third is toward the southern end of Glacier Lake and takes you to the lake. This is about a half-mile long. Almost no signage along the trail.

Finding information about all these trails isn't easy. There's a webpage about them, but it has no links to

maps. There are maps, but they are hard to find and none that show the connector on the shore of Sevenmile Lake. Well, no official ones. The map included with this post is courtesy of Christina Turman. Thanks, Christina!

- Trails webpage: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/tlad/#trails>
- McLaren Summit to Sevenmile Lake: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/tlad/pdf/tlad9.pdf>
- Glacier Gap Lake to Sevenmile Lake: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/tlad/pdf/gg27.pdf>
- Fairbanks Cycle Club Facebook photo album of route: <http://tinyurl.com/yy23y7nk>

(From Fairbanks Cycle Club Facebook post: <http://tinyurl.com/y36w8ob5>)

DENALI HIGHWAY TRAILS OFFER A VARIETY OF EXPERIENCES

If you're looking for a place to get out of town when the smoke gets bad, the Denali Highway is a good choice. It was a bit hazy this past weekend, but not too bad. Here are some fun trail opportunities:

- Tangle Ridge Hiking Trail: This starts at Tangle Lakes Campground and rises gently to the ridge with 360-degree views of the area, including Lower Tangle Lake. Once on the ridge, the trail stays high and basically ends at a gravelly part of one ridge. Someone has built a spiral path out of rocks there. (Actually, two. There's a smaller one earlier on.) A trail extends further and slowly peters out and splits up, but you can hike quite a ways on ridge tops. This is a great hike for anyone, but especially for families with young kids. They'll love the rock spiral! <https://www.blm.gov/visit/tangle-lakes-foot-trail>
- Landmark Gap Trail: Starts at Mile 24.6 Denali Highway. It's an easy 3-mile hike on a 4WD trail. Little elevation gain or drop. Ends at the southern end of gorgeous Landmark Gap Lake, a great place to go fishing or wading. (There is a side trail there, but please don't follow it as it leads to a sensitive archeological area.) This is another great hike for families. It's open to motorized use, but on a beautiful Saturday afternoon I met only one other person, a woman walking her dog. <http://www.alaska.org/detail/landmark-gap-trail-north>



- Maclaren Summit Trail: This is also an easy-to-hike ATV trail that extends just over 8 miles to Sevenmile Lake. You can go all the way to the lake or just do an out-and-back as far as you want. The trail passes several small lakes. We biked it on Sunday and saw just one other pair of bikers on this section. We also saw lots of wildflowers and birds, including some golden plovers!

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/tlad/pdf/tlad9.pdf>

No really good sources of information for these trails. Check out the Fairbanks Cycling Club post (above) which shows how the Maclaren Summit and Glacier Gap trails connect: <http://tinyurl.com/y36w8ob5>

(From Fairbanks Area Hiking Club Facebook page)

PLAN THAT WOULD AFFECT NORTH POLE TRAILS MOVING FORWARD

The tentative adoption schedule for the Salcha-Badger Road Area Plan has been released. While this plan is not trails-specific, it would affect land that has trails north of Peede Road that have no legal protections.

A group is trying to save some of that land from being sold. The lots nominated for sale are part of a larger area that is laced with trails and is used by a variety of motorized and non-motorized trail users. There are several actions you can take, so if you use trails in that area, please check out the website:

<http://peedetrails4all.org/>

The schedule for adoption of the Salcha-Badger Road Area Plan is:

- July 9th – FNSB Planning Commission work session (confirmed)
- July 23rd – FNSB Planning Commission public hearing (confirmed)
- August 22nd – FNSB Assembly first reading of resolution to adopt the plan (tentative)
- September 5th – FNSB Assembly work session (tentative)
- September 12th – FNSB Assembly public hearing (tentative)

To learn more about the plan see: <http://salchabadgerplan.com/>

FACEBOOK POSTS FULL OF INTERIOR TRAIL NEWS

BLM-WHITE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA



June 27: The White Mountains trail crew has been busy this week repairing eroded sections of the Quartz Creek Trail. Most of the trail work is happening on the first half-mile of the trail, where it climbs steeply from the Nome Creek Road. Please watch out for our equipment and workers if you ride the Quartz Creek Trail. In coming weeks the crew will move to the Summit Trail for additional repair work.

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH PARKS & RECREATION

June 14: Check out the improved Eagle Trail! Newly resurfaced with recycled asphalt product (RAP) which is great for biking, strollers, and is ADA accessible! Weekend plans anybody?

ALASKA STATE PARKS FACEBOOK

June 24: Fire alert in Northern Region (near Fairbanks): Nugget Creek Cabin will be closed through July 3 and Mastadon Trail and Trailhead is closed until further notice due to the Nugget Creek fire.

The video was taken at mile 36 Chena Hot springs Road within the Chena River State Recreation Area. The fire is approximately 2 miles south of the highway and a mile from the Nugget Creek Public use Cabin. Stay posted here or check our website for updates: www.alaskastateparks.org

June 5: Design & Construction, DPOR is hard at work in the Northern Region. Construction was completed at the Compeau Trailhead, Upper Chena Dome Trailhead, and the Mastodon Trailhead located in the Chena River State Recreation Area. The before, during and after photos are of the Mastadon Trailhead.

The intent of the project was to expand existing trailheads (Compeau, Upper Chena Dome) and develop one new trailhead area (Mastodon). The project was completed in conjunction with the Department of Fish and Game, specifically the Pittman Robertson Hunter Access Program.

INTERIOR ALASKA LAND TRUST FACEBOOK

June 3: 2019 Trails Day was a huge success! Thanks to REI and a group of dedicated volunteers, we were able to make some serious headway on the new Chinook Conservation Park trail. It is our goal to continue improving this trail for future use and enjoyment within our Cripple Creek parcel. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and didn't mind getting a bit wet in the process!

ALASKA ENDURANCE TRAIL RUN

I'm very happy to report that the AETR is making a \$572 donation to the UAF trails fund! That includes the \$109 you donated (we received another \$23 in donations since I made the last post).

Thank you, everyone!

FAIRBANKS AREA HIKING CLUB FAN PAGE

June 22: A new guidebook is available at Beaver Sports for \$10.95. It covers access routes suitable for hiking in the Delta Mountains. This is the 3rd edition. It is a volunteer project of the Alaska Alpine Club. (Book title: Delta Range: A Mountaineering Playground)

ALASKA TRAILS HAS TOOL TRAILER READY FOR PROJECTS



As you start planning trail building and maintenance projects, remember that Alaska Trails has a mobile tool cache available in the Fairbanks area to loan to organized trail groups in the Interior. The trailers were upgraded recently and have many trail tools including mcleods, pulaskis, rakes, gloves, and much, much more. If you would like to borrow one of the caches, please contact Geoffrey Orth (gcorth@straydogs.us).

INTERIORWIDE LINKS

- Lots of planning creates enjoyable trip down Beaver Creek: <http://tinyurl.com/y63z4442>

SLIGHTLY OFF-TRAIL

- NSCF Gets REI Grant to Improve Terrain Park: <http://tinyurl.com/y4ekx88j>

LINKS TO INTERIOR TRAIL INFORMATION

The web and other sources have lots of information about trails in Interior Alaska (and statewide), but it's often hard to find. Here is a collection of trail-related resources: <https://www.interioralaskatrails.org/resources/>

(If you find any broken links or other problems please send an email to fbxtrails@gmail.com)

STATEWIDE

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE IN JULY

Gov. Mike Dunleavy's budget directed all Recreational Trail Program funding to state parks, but the Legislature has so far directed about half the funding to community organizations. (See Special State Budget Report, page 3.) If the Legislature's mandate survives the budget process, then community organizations will be able to apply for RTP funds. Therefore, the following notice is currently valid.

It's time to get your Recreational Trails Program grant application started.

RTP grants provide reimbursable, matching funds to develop and repair recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. Grants are also available for trail-related environmental protection, safety, and educational projects. The grants are administered through the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. The timeline is below. Questions? Contact the State Trails Coordinator at (907) 269-8699.

- All application and informational documents will be available or before July 15 at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/grants/trails.htm>;
- Applicants must begin public outreach on their proposed projects by September 15;
- Grant applications must be submitted by October 15.

KEEP TRACK OF STATE LAND USE PLANS FOR IMPACT ON TRAILS



The state Department of Natural Resources has several plans and studies underway across the state that affect how the state deals with its lands. Often this includes land and water trails. These plans and studies have opportunities for public comment.

Take a look at the planning web page for the Division of Land, Water, and Mining (<http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/>). If you see a plan or study that affects trails important to you, please look into opportunities for public comment.

FORAKER GROUP OFFERS CLASSES FOR NON-PROFITS STATEWIDE

The Foraker Group, which is dedicated to strengthening Alaska's non-profits, offers classes about the proper workings of non-profit groups, which include many trail and trail user groups. If you are a member or employee of a non-profit group consider taking one of the classes, which are offered in several communities and statewide by teleconference. For more information visit the Foraker Group website (www.forakergroup.org/) or call 907/743-1200 or (toll free) 877/834-5003.



STATEWIDE LINKS

- Denali National Park officials ask for help finding trail vandals: <http://tinyurl.com/y4ppf2hy>

SOUTHCENTRAL LINKS

- Dipnetters should avoid unstable rockslide near Copper River, state says: <http://tinyurl.com/y2u9zyhs>
- Anchorage mayor defends trail safety, city efforts on homeless camps: <http://tinyurl.com/yxsqovvt>
- Municipal trapping restrictions expand in Anchorage: <http://tinyurl.com/y2ubdhck>
- Best Hiking Trails in Every State (incl. Winner Creek Trail near Girdwood): <http://tinyurl.com/y3mp6v5d>
- Point Woronzof bluff is eroding an average of 2 feet a year, UAA researchers find: <http://tinyurl.com/y5e93el7>
- Volunteers clear brush to help make Chester Creek Trail safer: <http://tinyurl.com/y2wqs7mk>
- The Glacier Discovery Hut-to-Hut System: <http://tinyurl.com/yy6mzlhk>
- Incredible new singletrack on the Hillside: <http://tinyurl.com/y6yymzj6>
- Grant Series: Fat Biking In Valdez (grant used for a fatbike trail groomer): <http://tinyurl.com/y4e2ztfn>
- Kachemak Bay State Park trails report (June 19): <http://tinyurl.com/y38ge58j>
- Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Announces Closures Of Campgrounds, Trails: <http://tinyurl.com/y66zelwo>
- Residents are asking DOT to improve safety along the Girdwood bike path: <http://tinyurl.com/y27nob6g>
- Volunteers hit the trails (editorial): <http://tinyurl.com/y644mxps>

SOUTHEAST LINKS

- Juneau scores \$1.8 million grant for Brotherhood Bridge Trail: <http://tinyurl.com/yxolwxbh>
- Work helps volunteers develop connection to trails (Juneau): <http://tinyurl.com/yyvkbafh>
- Trail Mix, Inc. (Juneau) 2019 Spring Newsletter: <https://trailmixinc.org/2019/06/2019-spring-newsletter/>

SLIGHTLY OFF-TRAIL

- A stretch of the Denali Park Road sits atop a creeping landslide. And it's picking up speed: <http://tinyurl.com/yxgow3p5>
- Luc Mehl trip report: Melozi Hot Springs: Tanana to Ruby, Yukon River: <http://tinyurl.com/y5fhusrf>
- Taking the plunge: Glacier skiing and camping in the shadow of the Moose's Tooth: <http://tinyurl.com/yxantbma>
- Trekking into the storm-battered, golden beauty of Adak Island: <http://tinyurl.com/yyrwhdzt>
- Going on a hike? A short glossary to get you from here to there: <http://tinyurl.com/yx9oqame>
- Wildfire Smoke Prediction for Alaska: <http://tinyurl.com/y4msevrr>
- 2018-2021 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Amendment 3 Approved: <http://notice.alaska.gov/194730>
- BLM lifts Alaska land withdrawals, opening 1.3 million acres: <http://tinyurl.com/y4b5j2rl>
- Alaska Mental Health Trust considers \$500 land-use fee for snowmachining: <http://tinyurl.com/y6xmjb3c>
 - Winter SAD (Medred post on the issue): <https://craigmedred.news/2019/06/25/winter-sad/>
 - Trust Lands and Maps page: <http://tinyurl.com/y6kr5hvv>
- Outdoor Explorer radio show: Formidable women of Alaska: <http://tinyurl.com/y3crm6fk>
- Can Chugach State Park be a music venue? Backcountry concert prompts officials to rethink event permitting: <http://tinyurl.com/yxt85wjc>
- Wolverine Walks By Biker, Carrying Goat Head (30 sec Anchorage-area video): <http://tinyurl.com/y2mc8yaz>

NATIONWIDE/WORLDWIDE

SENATE BILL REQUESTS UPDATED INFO FOR REC TRAILS PROGRAM

The Recreational Trails Program received a boost with the introduction of legislation by Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) who has been a long time advocate of RTP. This was discussed at the ACSA Fly-In in April and was a topic of discussion at our legislative meetings.

Senate Bill 1527 requests the Federal Highway Administration to conduct an updated fuel use study on non-highway vehicles. The RTP program is funded by federal gas taxes paid each time a non-highway vehicle is filled with gas. Currently it is estimated that 1/3 of the monies (\$84 M) are captured by the RTP program and reinvested in the trails programs across the U.S. Even with this new legislation, Congress will still have to determine how much money will be dedicated to the RTP fund.

Co-sponsoring this legislation are long time supporters and former sponsors of RTP legislation, Jim Risch (R-ID), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Richard Burr (R-NC) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD). S.1527 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

This is a good time for advocates of the RTP program to contact their Senators and request their co-sponsorship of S 1527. If your Senator is one of the current sponsors -- send them a thank you!

(From the American Council of Snowmobile Associations newsletter)

CRT ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR 2019 ANNOUNCED

The awards ceremony hosted by CRT member organizations was held in Washington, DC on Tuesday - June 11 at the U.S. House of Representatives Rayburn Office Building.

The Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) is pleased to announce the winners for the 2019 Tom Petri Annual Achievement Awards in recognition of outstanding use of Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds. The awards ceremony hosted by CRT member organizations was held in Washington, DC on Tuesday - June 11, 2019 at the U.S. House of Representatives Rayburn Office Building.

The awards are part of annual efforts by national trails and outdoor recreation organizations to promote the importance of RTP funding to States across America.

See the awards here: www.americantrails.org/communications/awards/crt-annual-achievement-awards-2019

(From American Trails website)

TRAILSNEXT™ SERIES PRESENTED BY AMERICAN TRAILS

In the style of TEDx, the TRAILSNext™ Series brings you cutting edge information from leading experts in the trails world on today's hottest trail topics. These high-energy 18-minute presentations were recorded to be made available to folks who were unable to attend this year's International Trails Symposium.

Each month we will be featuring one of these talks in our monthly eNews, and you can purchase the entire series on our website at this link. Please enjoy this presentation, "Programming Trail Experiences for All: Our One Shot at Building a Trail Culture" by Amy Camp: <https://vimeo.com/335228688>

About this presentation: "Trail communities around North America have come to appreciate (and clamor for) the economic benefits of trails. In fact, a model for community development—"trail towns"—has emerged to aid struggling communities in leveraging their trails. But we've got it mostly wrong. While economic gain contributes to community vitality, too heavy of a focus on any one trail benefit lacks balance...and heart. Those places that value trails simply for the dollars brought into town miss out on the "trail magic" that can touch communities. If we flip our focus from visitor transactions to truly engaging both visitors and locals, culture shift is possible. One concrete way of doing so is through programming immersive, memorable, joyful trail experiences. This talk will share programming examples and make a case for how these connections can transform communities from a culture of indifference to a culture of "yes," of hospitality, of inclusion, and stewardship."

(From American Trails email)

BILL WOULD STREAMLINE FEDERAL RECREATION PERMIT PROCESS

June is Great Outdoors Month, so we're calling attention to legislation that makes it easier for people to enjoy our beautiful public lands.

The Simplifying Outdoor Access for Recreation Act (SOAR, S. 1665), introduced in May by Sens. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) and Martin Heinrich (D-NM), is the answer to streamlining convoluted federal permitting processes for recreation on our public lands.

This Great Outdoors Month, we're asking you to help move this important, bipartisan legislation by urging your U.S. senators to add their name as cosponsors. We've made things easy by drafting a letter for you. Click the link below, complete the form on this page and hit send – your letter will be delivered directly to your senator's office.

Link for letter: <https://peopleforbikes.org/take-action-great-outdoors/>

(From People for Bikes email)

DEBATE BREWS OVER WHETHER TO HAVE A BACKPACK TAX

The "Backpack Tax" debate has been brewing for some time. The debate focuses on whether there should be a tax on outdoor gear, such as backpacks, hiking boots, and tents that would then go to protecting natural lands and improving outdoor recreation. Here are a few articles covering the debate:

- The Backpack Tax Debate: www.blueridgeoutdoors.com/politics/the-backpack-tax-debate/
- Outdoor Industry Association's position on an excise tax on outdoor products: <http://tinyurl.com/y22pfw8l>
- Put Your Money Where Your Fun Is: www.outsideonline.com/2156701/put-your-money-where-your-fun

SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED FOR OUTDOOR PROFESSIONALS

The application period for the Christopher K. Jarvi Scholarship to Advance Partnerships will open May 1 and close on July 31.

This scholarship was created to help dedicated professionals explore ways to enrich existing and integrate more partnerships into their work to benefit and bring value to parks, public lands and the communities that host them.

Learning about partnerships and developing skills is an iterative process. The more one learns and practices, the greater the innovation and partner engagement in all aspects of recreation and parks.

The concept and practice of partnering will change as the needs of parks and recreation professionals evolve. This scholarship encourages applications to take the practice of partnerships to the next level.

To learn more about the scholarship, including eligibility and expectations of the applicants, see: <https://www.recpro.org/christopher-k-jarvi-scholarship>

(From the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals website)

NATIONWIDE / INTERNATIONAL LINKS

WEBINARS, MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, TRAINING, ETC.

- For a listing of upcoming trail webinars workshops, conferences, and other meetings, see the American Trails calendar at: www.americantrails.org/Calendar.html

TRAILS-RELATED NEWSLETTERS

- American Trails news publications: <http://www.americantrails.org/trailtracks/index.html>

TRAIL GUIDES

- The Best Long-Distance Bike Trails Across America: <http://tinyurl.com/y6lmmnay>
- 5 Family-Friendly Trails to Explore Hawaii's Natural Beauty: <http://tinyurl.com/y389ytwm>

FUNDING

- Horseback riding trails grant (application due August 1): <https://www.aqha.com/step>

VOLUNTEERING

- American Hiking Society's Volunteer Vacations: <http://tinyurl.com/ydh95kp8>
- Conservation Volunteers International (June newsletter): <http://tinyurl.com/yx9t9j25>
- Volunteer Stewardship Tools: www.americantrails.org/resources/volunteer-stewardship-tools
- American Trails
 - Trail Ambassadors program for National Recreation Trails: <http://tinyurl.com/y5sgnukn>
 - Volunteer Portal: www.americantrails.org/connect/volunteer

ADVOCACY

- American Hiking Society sign-on letter: <http://tinyurl.com/y5lc3wq6>

STUDIES

- How Exercise Affects Our Memory: <http://tinyurl.com/yf5yzo9>
- A two-hour dose of nature each week could make you happier and healthier: <http://tinyurl.com/y6yc3c2l>

OTHER NATIONAL LINKS:

- Eight Ways To Practice Mindfulness On The Trails: <http://tinyurl.com/y56mo2ht>
- Longest hiking trail in the nation connects Minnesota, Wisconsin trails: Path across North Dakota still being planned: <http://tinyurl.com/y2y6kkwo>
- Learning by Doing: Teaching my Son to Bikepack: <http://tinyurl.com/y4h5aouf>

- What Should Runners and Cyclists Do About People Who Use Trails as Photo Backdrops? <http://tinyurl.com/yxud76s5>
- Why Coos Bay, Oregon, Is Building Trails (3-min video): <http://tinyurl.com/y6ma2abs>

INTERNATIONAL LINKS:

- Hiking Trails Unite the World: 'One Trail' Video: <https://gearjunkie.com/merrell-one-trail-hiking>
- New hiking trails in Korean DMZ offer rare access to forbidden areas: <http://tinyurl.com/yxl7kf73>
- Documenting Hiking Trails Around The World 2019 (Kickstarter): <http://tinyurl.com/y35rglkd>

SLIGHTLY OFF-TRAIL

- US House bill seeks to standardize outdoor recreation as a treatment for veteran PTSD: <http://tinyurl.com/y3estru6>
- Trump Tariffs Could 'Devastate' Outdoor Gear Companies, Warns Industry Group: <http://tinyurl.com/y2qnrncp>
- Parks of the Future May Include Elevated Walkways Through Trees: <http://tinyurl.com/y2orpjnh>
- Group questions USFS permits for long-distance trail runs in grizzly country: <http://tinyurl.com/y3hzb3g5>

Interior Trails Newsletter is a free monthly email newsletter written and distributed by Eric Troyer, a lifelong Alaskan and trail user. To submit items, get on or off the mailing list, report problems, or anything else email Eric at fbxtrails@gmail.com. Note: submissions may be also be used in the statewide Alaska Trails newsletter.

DISCLAIMER: Interior Trails Newsletter is not a product of any organization. However, I am a board member of the Interior Trails Preservation Coalition, a member of several Interior trail user groups, and a member of Alaska Trails and editor of its newsletter.