

**California Recreational Trails Plan
Program Goal - Progress as of August 12, 2008**

GOAL FOR TRAIL ACCESSIBILITY

Provide trail users with easily accessible trails and accurate information on trail locations and conditions.

Action	Progress to Date
<p>1. Design and implement or support assessment surveys and research projects that will help determine trail user information needs. Develop a methodology and implement a program to collect data on the number of trail users, the type of use, reasons for choosing the trail, and the benefits users received. The results should be publicized and used to promote individual trails and general trail benefits, and to determine public information needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Bay Regional Park District has survey results on line http://www.ebparks.org/files/EBRPD_files/planning/trail_use_survey_findings.pdf • US Forest Service National Survey on Recreation and the Environment also has several studies on line http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/trends/ • Potential future California Recreational Trails Committee template survey will be made available to the public
<p>2. Provide barrier-free or fully accessible trails that offer a variety of features and experiences. They should include trails which access unique natural, historical and cultural features, or other unique experiences, and should be accessible via a barrier-free or fully accessible trail whenever possible. Also, every effort should be made to provide accessible, continuous loop trails and/or trails that connect with other features that are accessible to people with disabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California State Parks (CSP) Accessible Trail Program within the Accessibility Unit has removed barriers from over 40 miles of CSP system trails. • CSP continues to be the front-runner in development and management of fully accessible trails in the nation • Coastwalk offers a <u>Wheelchair Rider's Guide</u>
<p>3. Assist communities and trail managers with trail assessment and design. Trail assessment, using such recognized programs as the Universal Trails Assessment Program (UTAP), would include assistance in determining a trail's specific usage possibilities, including evaluation of its entry and use obstacles and in analyzing all possible alternatives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UTAP training available through the developer of the program, Beneficial Designs of Nevada • CSP is signing accessible trails with trail condition information for users and will be posting information on the Department's website
<p>4. Establish a technical assistance program for accessibility guidelines, including educational materials and training programs, to help trail managers design, construct and maintain the most accessible trails possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An accessibility design and construction class is being developed by CSP to be included in the established Trail Training Program • CSP is currently revising the Department's Trail Handbook to include accessible design throughout the document
<p>5. Establish and implement a universally recognized trail accessibility designation program that will identify the intended use, the difficulty and the suitability of each trail.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is currently being developed by the Federal Access Board. Once drafted into law, this will be required by all trail managers and agencies.

More information about this report is available at: www.parks.ca.gov/trails/trailsplan