



**CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS**  
**Proposals due by January 8, 2010**  
**25<sup>th</sup> California Trails & Greenways Conference**  
[www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference](http://www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference)

**April 21<sup>st</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010**  
Cambria Pines Lodge, Cambria

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Dear Trail Advocates and Professionals:

Planning for the 25<sup>th</sup> California Trails & Greenways Conference is well underway. We are **now actively seeking session proposals** on the full range of trail & greenway topics and current issues, and are requesting proposals on relevant subjects about which you have **proven expertise**. Your contribution of knowledge and information will help ensure that dedicated professionals and advocates continue to receive the high quality, up-to-date trail management guidance they have come to expect from the Trails & Greenways Conference, and that **your leadership will be recognized** within California's trails community.

As we face the current economic and environmental challenges, the success of all our trail endeavors depends strongly on our **working together** to creatively and efficiently meet the increasing demand for new trails while preserving the integrity of existing trails. Both expert and newly emerging trail leaders attend the Trails Conference to learn basic skills as well as practical, cutting-edge approaches. Your willingness to provide that expertise will go a long way toward **inspiring a positive outlook** for the entire trails community in California.

Conference sessions are from 1 hour to 1 ¼ hours in length. Listed below are some trail & greenway topics to assist your creative thinking. Also listed are general guidelines for planning a conference session. **Many of the suggested trail topics and guidelines are the result of survey comments by last April's conference attendees.** Sessions presented at past conferences can be reviewed at: [www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference](http://www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference).

To submit a session proposal, simply complete the attached form and return via mail, email or fax as directed at the bottom of the form. If you have any questions regarding your proposal, please feel free to contact me at 916-653-3545 or [wbreece@parks.ca.gov](mailto:wbreece@parks.ca.gov).

This year's Conference will take place at **Cambria Pines Lodge** in Cambria from Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> through Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Both sleeping room and registration fees will be reduced from last year. While the registration fee has yet to be determined, sleeping rooms have been secured at a rate of only \$84 (plus tax) per night.

I hope you will contribute to the success of the **25<sup>th</sup> Trails & Greenways Conference** by sharing your knowledge and expertise with California's trail advocates and professionals.

Sincerely,

*Wayne Breece*

Wayne Breece  
Conference Co-Chair

## 25th California Trails & Greenways Conference

### Trail & Greenway Topics for Consideration

- Trail & Greenway Basics or Trails 101
  - Planning, lay-out and design
  - Construction and maintenance basics
    - Retaining walls, and small and large bridges (a specific request from last year's survey)
  - Developing trail management plans
  - Basic signage and interpretation
  - Understanding permits and other regulatory requirements
  
- Sustainability and Resource Management
  - Enhancing trails' compatibility with nature
  - Wild fire awareness, prevention and restoration
  - Overuse Issues
  - Environmental Management
  
- Economy
  - Grants, partnerships and working with volunteers
  - Cost management and cost avoidance
  - Trails as tools for community economic development
  
- Community
  - Keeping trails interesting -- enhancing the nature connection
  - Issues and solutions to trails through residential areas
  - Engaging youth in using and caring for trails
  - Volunteers, boards and commissions as advocates
  - Conveying trails and greenways' relevance to today's Californians
  
- Trails in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
  - Trails and greenways as transportation
  - Mobility access issues
  - Connecting trails to transit
  - Today's technology
  - Trail's role in physical and spiritual well-being

## 25th California Trails & Greenways Conference

### Conference Session Guidelines

Following is general information about conference sessions. Additional questions regarding equipment and how the sessions are managed can be directed to Lauralee at 877.776.3619 or lsvn@peak.org.

- The following equipment is provided in each session room: PowerPoint projector, screen and laptop with a **Windows** operating system. Additional equipment **may** be provided upon advance request.
- In order to keep the conference as affordable as possible, we are very fortunate that previous presenters have provided their services without compensation. We do allow presenters to attend all concurrent sessions on the day of their presentation at no cost, and provide a complimentary meal ticket for lunch (for Thursday sessions) or breakfast (for Friday sessions).
- Audiences of approximately 60 for concurrent sessions and 200 for plenary sessions are expected. If you are preparing handouts, please bring enough for your session. Please include your contact information in the document. Any copies remaining from the session will be made available to other conference attendees. For a greener conference, please consider recycled paper, double-sided copying and web citations instead of extensive text.
- We ask that your presentation and handouts be delivered to us electronically during or following the conference so they may be posted on our website. Please include your contact information in the document.

### Tips for Successful Sessions

- Set clear learning outcomes for your presentation.
- Consider interactive discussions or activities to engage the group in problem solving.
- Coordinate with the on-site A/V staff at least 4 hours in advance of your session to ensure that your PowerPoint presentation is loaded properly. The registration desk (or any conference staff member) can direct you to the A/V staff.
- Limit *the number of* slides and projected text, and do NOT read your PowerPoint presentation.
- Define terminology and acronyms.
- Limit the size of panels to enable reasonable time for each panelist to present their segment of the session. *We suggest not more than three panel members for any of the 1 to 1¼ hour sessions.*
- Clarify the roles and coordinate panel members (*including how much time is allocated to each speaker*) BEFORE the session begins.
- Stay on topic, provide relevant information about trails; and do NOT focus the presentation on yourself or your organization. *Please emphasize teachable skills that will help others.*
- Allow *10 to 15 minutes* at the end of the session for questions. Prepare a 45-minute presentation (split among your panel) for an hour-long session.



**SESSION PROPOSAL FORM**  
25<sup>th</sup> California Trails & Greenways Conference  
[www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference](http://www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference)

Proposals must be received by January 8, 2010  
If needed, additional information can be provided on a second page.

**Session Title**

[Limit titles to 8 words.]

**Session Description**

[Limit session description to 100 words. A more detailed outline will be requested for sessions selected.]

**Educational Objectives**

[What will attendees learn from your presentation? List 2-3 specific points that will help them in their trails work.]

**Audience Level**

[Will your session be geared toward an introductory, intermediate or advanced trails audience?]

**Session Structure**

[Panel discussion, demonstration, audience interaction, etc.]

**Session Chair**

[Name, title, affiliation, address, phone, email, short 3-4 sentence biography that establishes credibility.]

**Additional Session Presenters**

[Name, title, affiliation, address, phone, email, short 3-4 sentence biography that establishes credibility.]

**Proposed Length of Session** [The longer the session the fewer available times.]

1 Hour

1 ¼ Hours

**Please submit proposals to:**

Wayne Breece, Conference Co-Chair  
California State Parks Statewide Trails Section  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001  
Fax: 916.653.4458 or e-mail: [wbreece@parks.ca.gov](mailto:wbreece@parks.ca.gov)