



## California Trails & Greenways Conference Purpose, Vision & History Statements

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### **Purpose Statement:**

The purpose of the California Trails & Greenways Conference is to present a forum for education about strategies, planning, design, construction, networking and advocacy of improvements to non-motorized recreational trails in California.

### **Vision:**

To achieve this purpose, the conference will:

- ❖ Host a California Recreational Trails Committee public meeting
- ❖ Offer educational opportunities on a variety of trail subjects including current issues facing the trails community
- ❖ Conduct workshops providing hands-on training on a variety of trail topics
- ❖ Provide opportunities for California's growing trails community to network
- ❖ Showcase innovative trail-related products available in the marketplace

All activities are designed to increase the knowledge of trail and recreational land management professionals which will support improvement of trail systems and programs located in the state of California.

### **Brief History & Information:**

The conference was developed in 1984 to meet the needs of trails professionals in the state of California. The goal was to provide an opportunity for non-motorized trail professionals and users to meet in an educational environment and learn about different aspects, people and activities within the trails community. In 1995, the Recreational Trails Conference 501(c)(3) organization was formed to carry out the goals of the conference. The volunteer governing board is made up of two members that meet annually and one paid coordinator. The conference has traditionally been funded by sponsorships, donations and support from its constituents. California State Parks is one major, longstanding sponsor that aids with organization of conference activities and hosts the web site.

### **About the 2008 Conference:**

This year's conference will be held Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup> through Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Bahia Resort on Mission Bay in San Diego, California. We expect the participation of about 200 trail professionals and enthusiasts. Registration will begin in March!!

### **Theme Ideas:**

This year's theme is Building Partnerships for Trails. The conference will host several workshops and sessions covering many aspects of this theme lead by experts within the California recreational trails community.