Telling the Story –

How a Trail Brought Truth, Reconciliation and Collaboration to a Divided People
Telling the Story

Joanne Kittel
Trails Development Leader
Yachats Trails Committee
City of Yachats, Oregon

Jesse Beers
Member, Cultural Department and Tribal Member
since its restoration in 1984
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and
Siuslaw Indians
The Oregon Coast

Yachats
City of Yachats
Cape Perpetua from Yachats
The Amanda Trail
Ancestral Lands
What we will cover...

- Naming a trail is having knowledge of and telling the true story
- Education
  - Educating the community and public at large
  - Educating the hiker
- Collaboration and acknowledgements
- Beneficial outcomes
Researching Historical Truths

- Tribal archives under the supervision of the Tribal Cultural Dept.
- Learn the correct pronunciation of the name – dialect and language
- When not initiated by tribes, receive permission from local tribes to use their name(s)
Researching Historical Truths

Additional Resources:

- Local libraries
- Local historical societies and museums
- State historical societies and museums
- Colleges and university libraries and archives
- Oral histories

Any information from these sources should be verified and approved by Tribal Cultural Departments.
Educating the community at large:
Tell the story through written word, via Web site and hard copy either written by, or reviewed by Tribal Cultural Department for accuracy (newspaper, magazine)
Educating the community at large: Community talks, preferably by or with tribal members to service clubs, business organizations, events, religious institutions, schools, governmental departments
Education

• Media – Web page, radio, TV, YouTube, Facebook (GoYachats.com and yachats.info)
Education

- Informal networking
Education

• Music

Local native music, e.g. workshop on the native flute, CD of original music titled *Amanda*
Education

• Recruit support from the business community about trails and their historical significance
Education

- Encourage community members to become ambassadors telling historical truths
Educate the Hiker

• Kiosk, trail cards or other information board at the site of the trail (content written or reviewed by Tribal Cultural Dept.)
Educate the Hiker
Educate the Hiker

Guided interpretive tours
Educate the Hiker

Dedicated or annual events that hallmark the trail, its name and historical truths

- Amanda Trail dedication
- Amanda Bridge dedication
- National Trails Day
- Annual Yachats New Year’s Day Peace Hike
- CTCLUSI Restoration day
Educate the Hiker

Symbol that speaks to the name and its story

The Amanda Statue
Educate the Hiker

Naming other natural sites with similar or same name that further depicts the significance of the historical truths (e.g. Amanda Creek, Bears statue, benches along the trail)
Collaboration and Acknowledgements

Collaboration is key – local Tribes, governmental entities, museums, non-profits and other interested and knowledgeable individuals.
Collaboration and Acknowledgements

Acknowledge, both verbally and in writing, those whose story this is and who has helped with the naming and trail building process

(e.g. speeches, ceremonies, during educational and interpretive talks, in written programs, in documents and through the media)
Collaboration and Acknowledgements
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• As happened with the Amanda Trail, it can help First Nations’ People in the healing process from historical trauma
• It can inspire and unite a community as it has in Yachats
• Knowing, understanding and appreciating the First Nations’ history by the local community and the public at large can help heal the wounds and bring reconciliation and collaboration to a divided people
Beneficial Outcomes

It is through the Tribes and Yachats community endeavors with the Amanda Trail and more recently the completion of the Ya’Xaik Trail that many have become more aware of the great need to acknowledge the wrongs of the past; and to be more conscious of the need to treat people of all cultures throughout the world with honor, dignity and respect.
The Amanda Trail

Amanda Trail is a solemn and spiritual path that remembers in perpetuity.