



Workshop Descriptions

(Subject to change without notice)

Monterey Coastal Trail Hiking and Biking Tour

Tour by bike and by foot the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail and learn from planners and operators how extensive agency and nonprofit collaboration led to the creation of Monterey's hugely popular coastal trail and efforts to complete it. Attendees will tour the City of Monterey and the City of Pacific Grove's portions of the trail and discuss funding, design, permitting, construction, and operation. The final segment of the tour includes a 90 minute walk along the City of Pacific Grove's Coastal Trail to learn what today's challenges are in designing, permitting, and maintaining trails in nearshore environments. Attendees that bring their own bicycle will have to provide their own transportation to and from the tour.

Trish Chapman, Central Coast Program Manager, California State Coastal Conservancy

Virginia Murillo, Transportation Planner, Transportation Agency for Monterey County

Tim Duff, Project Specialist, California State Coastal Conservancy

Flow Trail Hiking and Mountain Biking Tour

The Flow Trail at Soquel Demonstration State Forest was built as a cooperative project between Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz and CALFIRE. This field tour with staff and volunteers from both organizations will share lessons learned about constructing a bicycle-oriented trail on public land in the greater SF Bay Area. The 3.75 mile long Flow Trail, opened in the summer of 2015, is one of the few bicycle oriented trails on public land in California and was constructed with over 7,000 volunteer hours. The field tour will be a walk of a portion of the trail with extensive discussion of design, construction, and management features, and the challenges and lessons learned while implementing and managing this collaborative project. There will an opportunity to ride the trail for those who wish to bring their mountain bikes.

Drew Perkins, Trail Consultant and Board Member, Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz

Matt De Young, Trail and Business Manager, Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz

Angela Bernheisel, Forest Manager for CALFIRE Soquel Demonstration State Forest

Walking Tour of the Proposed Fort Ord Rec Trail and Greenway

This workshop will focus on the biggest trail project underway in Monterey County - Fort Ord Rec Trail and Greenway (FORTAG). Join us for an educational tour of key segments of the proposed 30-mile system of paved loops, connecting people to open space in the former Fort Ord base. The project is in the master planning stage, and \$20 million in funding was recently

approved by County voters in the November election. Participants should be prepared to walk up to two miles.

Fred Watson Ph.D., Advocate, Educator, and Co-Leader of the FORTAG Project

Scott Waltz Ph.D., Advocate, Educator, and Co-Leader of the FORTAG Project

CANCELED

~~The Soberanes Fire at Mill Creek Redwood Preserve Walking Tour~~

~~Mill Creek Redwood Preserve is a beautiful 1,540-acre property situated in the northwest part in the Santa Lucia Mountain Range. The hiking trail built on the preserve provides easy access to experience multiple habitat types and topography typically found in the Big Sur region. The recent Soberanes Fire passed through the entire preserve, exhibiting burns of varying intensity. The fire resulted in a significant loss of natural resources, trail tread, wood bridges, and retaining walls. The purpose of the workshop is to expose participants to the effect that a fire can have on local ecosystems and trails that have been created within them, and the challenges that these effects create for the management of the land. Due to severe winter rains and associated trail damage, participants should be prepared for physically a challenging hike.~~

~~*Ray Trabucco, Park Ranger, Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District*~~

~~*Nico de Paolo, Park Ranger, Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District*~~

Universal Trail Assessment Process & High Efficiency Trail Assessment Process Coordination

The Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP) and the High Efficiency Trail Assessment Process (HETAP) collect objective information about trail conditions such as grade, cross slope, typical and minimum clearance width, surface type, firmness and obstructions. Through classroom and practical, hands-on trail assessment experience, participants will learn how to objectively measure trails using UTAP and HETAP. Participants will also learn the details of UTAP measurements, semi-automated wheeled information sensor package, and HETAP 2.4 Software. This workshop will discuss the benefits of objective information, the application of UTAP and HETAP in diverse environments, how to disseminate Trail Access Information (TAI), and how that dissemination meets the requirements of the new federal accessibility guidelines for outdoor developed areas. Optional certification through American Trails will be available at check-in for \$35.

Todd Ackerman, Assessment Coordinator, Beneficial Designs, Inc.

Session Descriptions

(Subject to change without notice)

ALTERNATIVE TRAILS

Lifting Small Boats – The Rise of Water Trails

From urban rivers to meandering sloughs to open water, communities are increasingly embracing their waterways for the numerous recreational opportunities they provide. Water trails create a network of sites that encourage people to enjoy the historic, scenic, cultural, and environmental richness of California's waterways in non-motorized small boats (such as kayaks, stand up paddleboards, kiteboards, etc.) through single- and multi-day trips. As non-motorized small boat use grows in popularity, and as land trails become increasingly crowded, addressing the demand for improved, safe, and accessible water access is a growing priority for regional recreation and open space planners. Water trail programs can provide a cohesive partnership for improving facilities, obtaining grant funds, educating users, driving economic development, and encouraging access, tourism, and environmental stewardship. This panel discussion will describe strategies and tools for planning, funding, and implementing a water trail program, including lessons learned from the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail and its partners.

Ben Botkin, Planner for San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail, Association of Bay Area Governments

Lynn Sadler, Deputy Director, Division of Boating and Waterways, California State Parks

Kevin Takei, Shoreline Unit Manager, East Bay Regional Park District

Pocket Trails: Small Trails, Big Impact

Pocket trails are short trails that often exist in unlikely locations. They're found in the spaces that have been thought unbuildable, unusable, or undesirable. Pocket Trails open up areas to new users - adding a hiking trail around an outdoor entertainment venue, for example. They also enhance connectivity between larger trails and between neighborhoods. Opportunities for pocket trails are often found where perceived barriers are associated with building on a particular stretch of land, due to easements, environmental, geological, or topographic constraints, or, increasingly, a change in perception of what constitutes an appropriate space for a trail. Just as pocket parks have been able to bring open space through an incremental process, pocket trails can be used to provide new public uses around museums, concert halls and cultural institutions, improve local connectivity, and solidify and enhance existing trail networks.

Brian Baldauf, Project Manager, Urban Projects and Watershed, Planning Division, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority

Emily Duchon, Senior Design Associate, Alta Planning + Design

Zachary Likins, Trail Planning Assistant, County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation

James Powell, Design Associate, Alta Planning + Design

Pop-up Trails: Demonstrating Long-Term Value

Feelings of mistrust and suspicion from residents and decision-makers can often delay or completely derail trail projects. Anxieties about noise, privacy, safety, user conflict, and high costs are difficult to overcome during the trail planning phase no matter how many success stories and studies are presented. This session will describe how planners can create a unique outreach experience by developing low-risk, low-cost, and temporary "pop-up trails." Recent

demonstration trails in Palo Alto and Garden Grove have helped residents better understand through first-hand experience the trade-offs and potential benefits of creating trails in their community. Palo Alto's "Greenway for a Day" event attracted over 200 participants to experience a section of potential trail along the Matadero Creek. More than 10,000 pedestrians and bicyclists have participated in "Re:Imagine Garden Grove," an open streets event where nearly three miles of car-free streets are accessible in Garden Grove, including a section of possible trail along Pacific Electric right-of-way. City officials responsible for organizing these temporary trail experiences will provide presentations with details on how each event was organized, how the event has impacted the long-term development of trails in their community, and their lessons learned.

Jeff Knowles, Associate Planner, Alta Planning + Design
Josh Mello, Chief Transportation Official, City of Palo Alto
Erin Webb, Senior Planner, City of Garden Grove

INTERPRETATION

Accessible Flood Zone Trails that Teach with Mobile Amenities

Located in the Santa Clara River watershed, the Hanson site, is 1000-acre property on a former aggregate mining operation where more than the river has shaped the land. Heavy equipment has compacted the soil, mining activity has created shallow quarries, and habitat disturbance has enabled invasive species to take root and spread. The landscape has been altered, but the resolve of The Nature Conservancy has not. Staff are committed to restoring this land and creating opportunities for all visitors to enjoy it and better understand how remarkable the river and the region are. Coupled to the goal of providing access to the site, is the aim to use interpretive signage to educate school groups and other visitors about conserving native habitats, creating open space, and the importance of land stewardship. Sessions attendees will learn about creating accessible and educational trails in flood prone regions.

Perry Cardoza, Executive Vice President, NUVIS Landscape Architects
Jenny Rigby, Director, The Acorn Group

Interpreting a Watershed: The Watershed Explorer Program

This presentation will showcase an established and successful program that teaches youth about the environment through field studies throughout the San Dieguito River Watershed. The purpose of the Watershed Explorer Program is to provide an opportunity for under-served students to get outdoors and learn what a watershed is and why its health is important for preserving wildlife and plants, supplying water, and keeping water clean. As they experience the outdoors, traveling 55 miles from Volcan Mountain west to the San Dieguito Lagoon, students develop a "sense of place" and appreciation for the environment - recognizing they play a role in keeping the natural community a thriving ecosystem. Attendees will learn how to create and maintain an educational program focused on environmental education and stewardship.

Leana Bulay, Manager of Interpretation and Outreach, San Dieguito River Park
David Vidal, Interpretive Ranger, San Dieguito River Park

You Can Get There: Wayfinding Within and Beyond the Standards

Wayfinding systems are essential tools for legible trail systems, clarifying routes and helping users comfortably reach destinations. Navigational elements also enhance awareness, economic investment, and environmental benefits, all while contributing to community pride. This session will focus on wayfinding best practices for bicycle, pedestrian, and trail networks in urban and rural areas. Funding for guide signs can require adherence to federal standards in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD). Numerous municipalities, however, are pushing the boundaries of the technical requirements to achieve effective wayfinding systems that include local community character. Specific examples of how communities are working within and beyond the CAMUTCD to achieve compelling wayfinding systems will be shared. The session will also explore existing and emerging wayfinding technologies that enhance onsite wayfinding elements to help you take wayfinding beyond the standards.

Emily Duchon, Senior Design Associate, Alta Planning + Design
Deven Young, Design Associate, Alta Planning + Design

PARTNERSHIPS

The Annadel Trail Project: Partnering with Youth

Faced with reduced budgets, trails in many state parks have experienced significant degradation – including the trails in Trione-Annadel State Park. To take action on this challenge, a coalition of six high school cross-country running teams have partnered with the Sonoma County Trails Council to form the Annadel Trail Project. Under the guidance of state park staff and the Trails Council, volunteers are donating their time and energy toward the repair of park trails and restoration of park resources. The Annadel Trail Project gives teens exposure to systematic volunteerism. While we are repairing trails, we are also countering apathy, demonstrating that there is time in busy lives for volunteerism, and instilling confidence to solve complex problems. Through volunteering to repair the trails, the young adults experience personal responsibility for their state parks and learn about resource stewardship practices. The process gives an understanding of the importance of maintaining the heritage of the park and volunteers gain new information, skills, and knowledge that can shape lifelong learning. The presentation by Trails Council Executive Director Ken Wells will describe the process for activating this segment of new stewards for the future.

Ken Wells, Executive Director, Sonoma County Trails Council

Antonelli Pond: A Nonprofits Quest for Security of an Open-Space

It is important to keep trails safe by managing recreational use and preventing illegal activity, trail managers are having increased issues tackling these problems due to overwhelmed staff time and increased illegal activity. This session will explain how a Land Trust has been managing access on an open-space without the ability to have Peace Officers (Rangers) present. Attendees will learn partnerships they can make with neighbors and the community that encompasses their trail networks to engage in “on the ground” security, maximizing staff time and focus on priority issues. The presentation will start off with a brief history of Antonelli Pond, the open space of topic, and the extensive issues this area faces. Then we will explain the process of engaging law enforcement and the community to prevent unwanted activity. With tips on how to manage trail vegetation, permits obtained, and where to tap into resources in your community. There will be a conclusion on how the pond is today and goals for the future. The session will end with a 15 minute chair lead discussion with the audience on what the security issues are in their areas and what they or others have done to solve them.

Bryan Largay, Stewardship Director, Land Trust of Santa Cruz County

Ginger Wojciechowski, Access Coordinator, Land Trust of Santa Cruz County

Core Concepts for Successful Federal Partnerships

Examples of how to create and grow a partnership on National Forest Trails and on trails in Chapada Dos Veadeiros National Park, Brazil will be presented. I will discuss the mechanisms and insights to successfully engage with federal partners and build upon that success. We will look at examples from National Forests in California and National Parks in Brazil to provide a basis for engagement with participants to dive more deeply into their opportunities within their communities. We will discuss how to establish common interests, communication, prioritization, collaboration, partnership instruments, types of partnerships and provide examples of what is possible with partnerships. The Tahoe Mountain Biking Association and U.S. Forest Service will share the 6-year story of how we worked together to create great trails which in turn provided a catalyst to reshape the community and inspire widespread support for trails and land stewardship.

Ben Fish, President, Tahoe Area Mountain Biking Association

Garrett Villanueva, Regional Trail and Travel Management Program Manager, US Forest Service

Public-Private Partnerships: The Napa Valley Vine Trail

The session will focus on what the Napa Valley Vine Trail has learned about what makes a good public-private partnership. This includes ways in which the private sector can help accomplish the trail goals of a public agency. How the private sector, through nonprofits, can assist in fund raising and act as a catalyst to strategically position projects for federal and state funding. Finally how to involve the private business sector in the long term stewardship of trails.

Catherine Heywood, Director of Operations, Visit Napa Valley

Kate Miller, Executive Director, Napa Valley Transportation Authority

Becky Peterson, Member and Community Relations Director, Napa Valley Vintners

Philip Sales, Executive Director, Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition

What is the Teen Trail Corps?

This session will present a brief history of the development of the Teen Trail Corps program, a partnership between the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA), the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) and their respective leagues, teams and chapters. The program encourages and recognizes student-athletes' civic participation and volunteerism, and is structured to help foster a sense of trail stewardship in our younger generation. Session participants will learn what the Teen Trail Corps is, its four "pillars" of Ride, Respect, Dig, Speak, how the program works, and real-world examples of how the program is already benefiting trails and increasing youth civic engagement.

Laurel Harkness, California/Hawaii Region Director, IMBA

Austin McInerney, Executive Director, National Interscholastic Cycling Association

Steve Messer, President, Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association

PLANNING

Community Led Trail Planning with Land Manager Agencies

This presentation will illustrate a community led volunteer partnership for trail planning with land management agencies. The program uses volunteers to inventory currently used public trails and develop a comprehensive report. Incline Village and Carson City communities will be shown as examples of this process. The volunteer group first establishes a mission, goals, and objectives for a clear vision of this trail planning effort. Support is obtained from all the land managers in the planning area. Volunteers then GIS all the trails and developed a DRAFT trail inventory map for review by the partners. These trails are then evaluated for sustainability. Private property trespass trails were mapped and letters sent to ask permission for that section of trail to be allowed for the DRAFT map. After the agency review, the community group then held public workshops and did surveys for public input. A report was done with the results of the mapping, surveys, and workshops. The report makes recommendations for priorities for trails, trailheads, and property concerns. It also details other important recommendations to build a good trail plan for the community. The final goal was to develop MOUs with the land managers to support trails in the community.

Mark Kimbrough, Senior Associate, Alta Planning + Design

Key Planning Questions to address for Complex Projects

Often trail planning jumps right to the technical aspects of the project addressing questions like what should the trail alignment look like? Will the trail be 8' or 10' wide? Will the project include interpretive signage? Or how will the trail alignment accommodate multiple users? Although these are key questions for many projects, they are sometimes posed before a critical step in the planning process. Planning for regional bike and pedestrian trails has become more sophisticated and requires consideration of critical funding, management, land ownership,

easements, and active stakeholder groups before technical planning and design can begin. Addressing these questions early on in the process will prevent cost overruns, schedule delays, and ensure your project is built. This is particularly true for high profile, large or complex trail projects. This presentation will be an interactive case study of a high profile segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail. We will use situations from this trail project, figures, and examples to engage the audience in a discussion about the types of key questions that must be asked and answered up front in the planning process of trail projects.

Marcy Kamerath, Project Scientist, NCE
Suzanne Wilson, Senior Planner, Trails Development

Master Plans & Strategic Plan: Outreach Leads to Results

Trail developers need great master plans to deliver award-winning trail systems and strategic plans to stay focused on long-term goals. Both planning require outreach. Careful advance work can get you solid public input that answer important questions. For a Strategic Plan, we need input from a broader audience and experts because it may address staffing, project development, marketing, programming and quality objectives. San Jose's Trail Master Plans capture and address details that could otherwise derail a budget. San Jose's Trail Program Strategic Plan presents the risks, rewards, wants and needs that can support more rapid trail development to meet recreational and active transportation needs.

Yves Zsutty, Trail Manager, City of San Jose, Department of Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Services

Planning the La Brea Corridor Greenway Trail

Attendees will learn how to plan, build partnerships, and gather support for an urban trail project. The session will focus on the holistic approach of the trail planning process, which includes combining various outreach methods, and an extensive GIS data analysis. I will discuss the planning process in detail and will share some of the methods we utilized that enabled us to create a holistic planning document and allowed us to gather extensive support for the project from the surrounding communities, stakeholders, and government agencies. In addition, we will share lessons learned, valuable tools we used, and partnership tips.

Michelle Montano, Project Manager/Landscape Designer, North East Trees

The Trail to Successful Community Trail Planning

This session will navigate agencies, community members, and trail advocates through the development of a successful community trails plan. The goal of the session is to educate and empower the attendees with the necessary knowledge, skills, and strategies to establish milestones and timelines for long term success of their trails program. This session will map out the "trail" to success—defining what is known and what is needed to move the planning process forward. Starting with understanding of the politics behind trails, the importance of not underestimating the value and power of community outreach, defining your stakeholders early in the planning process, and who and what groups/organizations to bring into the mix—think

out of the “box” of the typical supporters. The more diverse the stakeholders, the better chances for success. Attendees will realize there are many obstacles to overcome; many days of rejection and defeat. But they will be able to find their way through their community’s NIMBYism, opposition groups, and the local politics and be guided toward success. Also included will be documents, policies, and ordinances necessary to acquire trails, manage, enforce, and protect the trails program.

Robin Rierdan, Executive Director, Lakeside’s River Park Conservancy

Maryanne Vancio, Board Member, California Trails Conference Foundation

PROMOTING TRAILS

A Vision for Outdoor Recreation in California

Across the country, the outdoor recreation movement has been gaining momentum at the federal, state and local levels. In 2013, Utah’s Governor Herbert commissioned a task force to develop a vision for the outdoor recreation industry in his state with a focus on economic growth and sustainability. The task force identified the need for an Office of Outdoor Recreation Industry that would serve as a coordinator between the industry, land management agencies and local governments on issues related to access, maintenance, management and growth. The Office was established in 2014, with Colorado following suit in 2015, and Montana, Wyoming and Oregon currently in various stages to form such offices in their respective states. What about California? This session will feature a discussion about recently introduced state legislation AB 907, which will establish the formation an Outdoor Recreation Office in California, and what areas the office would focus on to benefit the outdoor recreation industry, stakeholders, agencies, and local governments throughout the state.

Danna Stroud, Area Representative, Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Kenji Haroutunian, Director, TeccSociety

Kevin Tatsugawa, Assistant Professor, Westfield State University

Alex Logemann, State and Local Policy Analyst, PeopleForBikes

Creating Inspiration and Tools to Fulfill a Vision

This session will tell two stories: that of the San Francisco Bay Trail vision and implementation; and that of the collaboration underpinning the crafting of the 2016 comprehensive guideline package that explains the nature of the Bay Trail, the Bay Trail’s socio-cultural value, and the diversity of variables that should go into the planning and design of the Bay Trail . . . all the while keeping in mind the core challenge of appealing and being useful to a very diverse audience. Perspectives involved with how to devise a publication that engages this audience of elected officials, agency staff, trail advocates, private developers, funding partners, and a myriad of design specialists will be center stage at the session. This session will use an interactive, facilitated discussion format to encourage audience participation.

Lee Chien Huo, Bay Trail Planner, Association of Bay Area Governments

Patrick Miller, Partner, FASLA

Tools for Strengthening Rural Communities through Trail Development

This session will share professional tips focused on developing a replicable model for non-profits operating within Western rural communities. Learn how to engage federal, state and private land managers to create recreational opportunities focused on economic and community development. You can use multiple fundraising techniques to maximize and leverage grant funding opportunities, and create local employment and allow for the retention and attraction of quality residents and businesses. Together, these techniques will ultimately shape the future for a strong, sustainable, and vibrant community.

Greg Williams, Executive Director, Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship

REGIONAL TRAILS

Implementing the Santa Cruz County Coastal Rail Trail

This session focuses on developing cross-jurisdictional trail projects and provides tools for moving from vision to implementation. Drawing from our panelist's regional trail planning backgrounds, the session will help attendees understand the importance of developing a well-supported master plan, gathering broad political and community support, and selecting key stand-alone projects. Following the stage-setting portion of the session, attendees will be introduced to design techniques for creating visionary trail projects that move beyond functionality and into enticing active transportation corridors.

*Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner and Rail Trail Program Manager, Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission*

Mike Sherrod, Principal, RRM Design Group

50 Years of National Trails in California

The National Trails System is the network of scenic, historic, and recreational trails created by the National Trails System Act of 1968. These trails provide for outdoor recreation; promote the enjoyment, appreciation, and preservation of open-air, outdoor areas and historic resources; and, encourage public access and citizen involvement in the community. Learn more about National Trails in California and how to partner with us to extend the network in your area! Local trail administrators will be on hand to introduce the NTS, share our plans for the celebration 50 years of National Trails, and answer questions in order to connect you to your local National Trail.

*BriAnna Weldon, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail,
National Park Service*

More Than a Dream: 20 miles in 20 years

Attendees will learn the nitty-gritty behind Santa Barbara County Trails Council's plan to build 20 miles of coastal bluff top trail along the Gaviota Coast over the next 20 years. This longrange endeavor is designed to fulfill a coastal trail plan initiated by the Trails Council with support from California State Parks 44 years ago. The trail plan made by the founders of the Trails Council preceded the California Coastal Act by four years. Beyond the millions of dollars needed to complete the project, the real challenge is to increase the number of people who self-identify as active supporters of trails, parks, and open spaces in general, and more specifically, willing to work collaboratively to fund and establish what was only a dream decades ago.

Curt Cragg, Board Member, Santa Barbara County Trails Council

Mark Wilkinson, Executive Director, Santa Barbara County Trails Council

Point Piños – Trail Access vs. the Relentless Sea

The Point Piños Coastal Trail Project will construct approximately one mile of the California Coastal Trail in the City of Pacific Grove at the southern end of Monterey Bay, connecting segments of very popular trail at each end. This scenic, rugged, rocky shoreline was formed by frequent pounding by storm-driven waves. The trail would connect between a series of existing informal parking areas that are very popular with local residents and visitors for their free all-day access right on the shore. But the coast is experiencing significant erosion from waves, runoff, sea level rise, compaction by cars and people, and tunneling ground squirrels. Most of the existing parking lots and the prospective trail routes are in the current wave impact zone and the area estimated to erode into the sea within 30 years. So rather than adding a simple trail, the project involves adaptive retreat to remove or move the existing parking, restore coastal habitat, plan for the gradual relocation of the trail, and even the eventual relocation or closure of all or portions of the coastside road. Through a brief presentation, interactive planning exercise, and panel discussion, attendees will learn about the technical considerations and trade-offs between coastal access and protection, and alternatives for responding to sea level rise and coastal erosion.

Randy Anderson, Principal, TrailPeople Landscape Architects and Planners

Daniel Gho, Director of Public Works, City of Pacific Grove

Bill Peake, Council Member, City of Pacific Grove

Statewide Hike & Bike Trail: Trails and Transportation Together

"Caltrans developed Toward an Active California, its first bicycle and pedestrian plan, to continue progress toward a sustainable multimodal transportation system. With a unique vision that focuses on walking and bicycling, this Plan seeks to fulfill the six goals outlined in the California Transportation Plan 2040. Objectives and strategies developed to meet these goals focus on policies or actions that Caltrans can undertake to support active transportation, including initiatives that will require collaboration with key agency partners. Toward an Active California complements local and regional active transportation plans being developed across the state, supporting agencies as they undertake their own efforts to improve the walking and bicycling environment in California. While Caltrans has the greatest control over state transportation facilities, it exerts considerable influence on bicycling and walking facilities on

local roads through funding programs, design, and design guidance. Only through partnerships, coordination, and funding can the state achieve the goals set in the California Transportation Plan 2040 and the Caltrans Strategic Management Plan. The presentation will be a powerpoint given by Caltrans staff to describe the plan and identify linkages to trails and greenways along with a question and answer session afterwards.

Scott Forsythe, Associate Transportation Planner, Caltrans
Scott Sauer, Chief, Multimodal System Planning Office, Caltrans
Scott Williams, Senior Environmental Planner, Caltrans

TRAIL MANAGER TOOL BOX

Creating a Safety Culture for Trail Volunteers, Employees and the Public

In this interactive session, we will discuss strategies and tools to keep our trail volunteers, employees, and the public safe while working in the field. Through a group discussion, guided by a PowerPoint, we will utilize past experiences (both good and bad) to collectively discuss ways to improve upon on safety habits through a positive safety culture.

Patrick Parsel, National Trails Coordinator and Trainer, American Conservation Experience

Designing Sustainable, Fun Trails - The "String Theory" Method

Contemporary sustainable trail design practices challenge older conventional trail building methods still in use in many open spaces that often result in excessively steep trails that rely on visually obtrusive features that users dislike, frequently fail over time, and require repeated rebuilding. Yet many newer trails also suffer from unsustainable segments, and truly sustainable, appealing trails are rarely flat or straight. What's the key to success? How do you consistently avoid exceeding sustainable slope and instead confidently design trails your users will love? Learn how using simple tools like a ruler, some push pins and a piece of string. This session will begin with an informative presentation, but the bulk of it will be a hands-on, interactive, fun exercise.

John Eric Holloway, Principal, KTU+A Planning + Landscape Architecture
Diana Smith, Associate Planner, KTU+A Planning + Landscape Architecture

Harness Visitor Use Data to Empower Outdoor Experiences

Using data the right way can increase the efficiency and effectiveness of land management agencies as well as the overall visitors satisfaction. We will answer the 4 main questions agencies are faced with when trying to integrate data into their work process: what are the benefits of using data, what kind of data should we collect, how should we collect the data, and how should we analyze the data. We'll cover real case studies of how to integrate data to some of your working processes.

Uri Bar, Co-founder & CEO, Easy2Hike

Erez Talgam, Co-founder & CTO, Easy2Hike

Increasing Connectivity for Humans and Wildlife in an Urban Environment

Urbanized areas now cover more than 106,000 square miles of the United States, and are home to more than 80 percent of the U.S. population. Although these heavily modified landscapes are often thought of as impeding ecological health, urban infrastructure presents unique opportunities for enhancing connectivity for both humans and wildlife. Urban systems—from public transportation to transmission lines—can be designed to provide essential stepping-stones and corridors that help animals navigate human-dominated landscapes. Such “interventions” counter the effects of fragmentation and climate change, while simultaneously enhancing livability and connectivity for humans. Enhancing biodiversity and connectivity in an urban context is a budding field of focus, and requires collaboration among a diverse group of stakeholders. Learn how designers, scientists, advocates, and politicians are working together in Los Angeles, California—the second largest metropolitan region in the United States—to enhance connectivity for both humans and wildlife. Panelists will include an ecological designer from Mia Lehrer + Associates, a senior scientist from The Nature Conservancy, and staff from the California Director of the National Wildlife Federation who are researching, planning, and implementing projects that build biodiversity and increase wildlife connectivity in urban areas.

Jeff Hutchins, Principal, Mia Lehrer and Associates

Sophie Parker, Senior Scientist, The Nature Conservancy

Beth Pratt-Bergstrom, California Director, National Wildlife Federation

Kat Superfisky, Ecological Designer, Mia Lehrer and Associates

The Latest Trail Technology - Crowdsourcing, Maps, and Apps

Americans are increasingly recognizing the health, quality of life, environmental, and economic benefits that trails and active transportation offer. As a result, now more than ever it’s important to connect people to your trails, improve the planning of new trails, and better understand how visitors use trails. For this session, we’ll explore what role technology plays in how people engage with trails. How can land managers utilize technology to publish better information for their visitor and also understand who is engaging with their parks and trails. Learn how to reach and understand new audiences, using everything from apps that get people outdoors to crowdsourced data. Specifically, we’ll talk about two exciting new tools for public agencies and non-profits. First, a Visitor Analytics Tool that enable park managers to view data from Strava and the crowd to better understand trail visitors and how open trail data can enable better interactive maps and mobile applications for engaging your visitors. Second, a mobile app specifically designed for public agencies to publish their trails, events, and other content to visitors while also enabling visitors to contribute back to the parks. Slide presentation with live demo, facilitated discussion.

Ryan Branciforte, CEO, Trailhead Labs

Old Money, New Money & How to Get Some!

Bringing your trail vision to life requires enthusiasm, public support, technical expertise, and MONEY! Our session will give you the 411 on key trail funding opportunities, covering both continuing programs as well as new funding sources. We'll fill you in on what's eligible, how and when to apply, and what projects are most competitive. Our panel will discuss continuing statewide programs like the Active Transportation Program and Recreational Trails Program; new programs getting underway like the Urban Greening Program; and efforts to create new funding, like the proposed state park bond, and how to get involved in advocating for this measure. We'll also highlight some regional trail funding measures from around the state, including the Bay Area's unique multi-county Measure AA—the "Clean and Healthy Bay" ballot measure --funding wetland restoration and public access to the shoreline, and the transportation and park bond measures in LA County. These examples may inspire new possibilities in your region. This will be a panel discussion with plenty of time for your questions and comments.

Laura Cohen, Western Region Director, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Maureen Gaffney, Senior Bay Trail Planner, Association of Bay Area Governments

Doug Houston, President, Houston Magnani & Associates

Practical Lessons in Defensible Trail Project CEQA Compliance

CEQA compliance for recreational trails certainly can bring challenges to state, regional, and local agencies seeking to implement a project. Controversy surrounding a proposed trail may complicate, lengthen, and put at legal risk the project's environmental review process. Controversial concerns can originate from private property issues, trail use conflict, sensitive resource effects, and regulatory requirements. Also, CEQA compliance can be costly and time-consuming for agencies on limited budgets. An experienced environmental planner and attorney will share their practical CEQA lessons from relevant court decisions and leading-edge environmental practice strategies, including techniques for environmental process streamlining and efficiency, feasible, and effective environmental mitigation approaches, and tips for CEQA legal adequacy. Real world project examples and recent court decisions will be the sources of guidance.

Curtis Alling, Principal, Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Sabrina Teller, Partner, Remy Moose Manley LLP

Trail Watch/Patrol Volunteers – Training (Visitor Contact Scenarios)

Providing Visitor Contact Scenarios during your Volunteer Patrol Training Program is extremely important. Live scenarios provide a "near real life atmosphere", where trainees are provided an opportunity to use the skills they've learned in engaging park visitors during a patrol. We will discuss the benefits of hands on scenarios along with getting your staff involved and will get the audience to participate in some fun "real life" scenarios.

Heather Gilfillan, Volunteer Coordinator, East Bay Regional Park District

Paul McKowan, Volunteer Program Manager, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District