



Concurrent Session Schedule & Descriptions

(Subject to change without notice)

As of 3.29.14

Wednesday, April 9th

8:00-9:15 AM

Happy Trail Mix: Uniting Volunteers, Staff & Management in Trail Stewardship

How do you integrate diverse, enthusiastic volunteers into the structure of your projects and organization and establish sustainable multiple party stewardship for both urban and rural trails? Learn the successful field-tested techniques used by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the Golden Gate Trails Crew to recruit, retain and motivate volunteers. With these field-tested techniques, no matter what the level of expertise, you will have the tools for uniting the staff, management and volunteers in seeing eye-to-eye on projects.

Brian Stacy Byrnes, Trail Crew Leader, National Park Service

Jaimie Baxter, Trail Stewardship Manager, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

Outdoor Economics -- The Growth Engine for Big Bear Valley

This session will highlight the most unique aspects of the development of a trails open space-oriented Pedestrian, Bicycle and Equestrian Master Plan for Big Bear Valley. Attendees will learn the tools and processes to implement a successful master plan designed to increase economic development and the outdoor economy of communities in a planning area. The session will include handouts, audience participation, and question/answer opportunities throughout.

Siri Eggebraten, Associate Planner, City of Big Bear Lake

Jan Hancock, Principal, Hancock Resources

Jay Renkens, AICP, Northwest Director of Urban Planning Services, MIG, Inc.

Trail Transformation from "Burriss Pit" to "Anaheim Coves"

Learn how a gated Water District recharging "Burriss Pit" along the Santa Ana River was transformed into a public recreational trail, now known as "Anaheim Cove." Explore how perceived barriers among governing agencies were overcome and partnering principles were employed to significantly expand the community benefits of this 24-acre site. The addition of a 1.5-mile multi-use trail, the planting of 1,000 native trees, and construction of a water

observation overlook significantly improved the wildlife habitat, interpretive value and recreational use of this former sand pit.

Steve Lang, Principal, Landscape Architect MIG

Pamela Galera, Senior Community Services Project Manager, City of Anaheim

Oscar Johnson, Senior Project Manager, MIG

Park to Playa Trail: Interpreting Feasibility & Creating Identity

This session will explore a case study on how a feasibility study and Conceptual Design was interpreted and integrated into the reality of stitching together disparate trail segments into the unique 13-mile Park to Playa backbone trail. Building a system of continuous and consistent identity for the trail will be discussed; as will the key challenges of working with extremes in topography, major street crossings, land use rights, multiple jurisdictions and constituents.

Greg Maher, Senior Designer, Alta Planning + Design

Ana Petrljic, Deputy Chief of Urban Projects & Watershed Planning Division, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

James Powell, Designer, Alta Planning + Design

9:30 – 10:30 AM

Tribal Lands & Community Connections

Join in a discussion of three case studies of planning and design for pedestrian and bicycle connectivity with California Native American Tribes. The case studies show the unique challenges and solutions associated with coordination between Tribal governments and local governments in three very different settings: urban, suburban and rural. We will highlight the needs and goals to providing safe, enjoyable transportation alternatives and recreation. We'll also explore how these projects relate to Tribal culture and history.

Randy Anderson, Principal, Alta Planning + Design

Daniel Malcolm, AICP, Senior Planner, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

Interpretive Elements – Adding Interest & Value to Trails

This session will focus on how to add user value by identifying unique interpretive and educational components within a trail's overall environment, and integrating them into the design. We will focus on the processes of discovery, creation and implementation of interpretive trail design, and present three case studies that successfully integrated historical, cultural and environmental elements, within publicly funded trail systems.

Richard Krumwiede, President, Architerra Design Group

John Huber, Graphics and Marketing Director, Architerra Design Group

Tim Millington, Regional Manager, San Bernardino County Special Districts

Help! We Need Somebody...Help! Not Just Anybody

Find out how the City of Glendale partnered with the nonprofit Glendale Parks & Open Space Foundation to provide public trails and open space programs with volunteers. Learn how volunteers can continue your community's programs during tough economic times. The Sonoma County Trails Council has provided trail maintenance at Annadel State Park with volunteers for many years. Learn how to use innovative approaches to recruit new volunteers, how to train volunteers to promote appropriate trail user behavior and improve resource protection of the park.

Jeff Weinstein, President, California Trails & Greenways Foundation

Marc Stirdivant, Senior Administrative Analyst, City of Glendale Community Services & Parks Department

Ken Wells, Executive Director, Sonoma County Trails Council

ParkWatchReport

ParkWatchReport is a web-based service that allows land managers to work smarter, not harder, to monitor park activities, problems, available solutions, and documentation that aids staff in budgeting, deployment and other resource management activities. You'll receive a demonstration of this service, and learn how to respond to issues in a prioritized and methodical way. The service can also be customized to include campgrounds, marina, parking facilities, points of interest, etc.

Jaede Miloslavich, President, Emigrant Trail Conservancy

10:45 – 11:45 AM

Rails-with-Trails: National Trends & SMART Project

The first part of the session is presented by the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy with surveys from over 100 trail managers regarding the development of trails adjacent to rail lines, highlighting project types and design treatments. The second part of the session focuses on the longest rail with trail project – the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) – a proposed 70-mile long corridor. The challenges and lessons learned are unique to this project, which will provide critical north-south connectivity for commuter train service and a bikeway.

Barry Bergman, Manager of Trail Development, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Gary Helfrich, Executive Director, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition

Creating Self-guided Interpretive Walks

Learn how to design, plan, fund, implement and maintain various self-guided interpretive walks. Examples will include the San Dieguito Lagoon Interpretive Walk. Learn ways you can engage the community and trail users to create a worthwhile experience for all ages and levels. Topics covered will include the design and planning process, funding sources, and pros/cons of different types of programs, including maintenance and use of technology.

Bryan Ward, Park Ranger, San Dieguito River Park

Leana Bulay, Interpretive Ranger, San Dieguito River Park

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

This session explores the 25-year effort to complete the Amanda Trail from Oregon's Siuslaw National Forest to the City of Yachats, Oregon; and how a trail's creation came to symbolize the historic truth, and galvanized collaboration among private, governmental and tribal entities; building awareness and appreciation for our First Nation's history. Learn how any community with a passion for trails can use historical research to place and name a trail, foster collaboration, and build lasting relationships that enhance appreciation of both trails and local history.

Joanne Kittel, Trails Development Leader, Yachats Trails Committee

Jesse Beers, Cultural Department & Tribal Member, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians

Practical California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA compliance for recreation trails can bring a variety of challenges especially when there are controversial concerns stemming from private property issues, trails use conflict, sensitive resource effects, and regulatory concerns. The panel will share practical lessons learned during trail planning and implementation in California, including strategies for sensitive issues, techniques for streamlining efficiency, and approaches for CEQA legal advocacy.

Kathryn Tobias, Environmental Attorney, California State Parks

Patricia DuMont, Environmental Coordinator, California State Parks

1:00 – 2:00 PM

Incorporating Diverse User Group Experience in a Trail Network

How do you design a trail that offers the experiences different user groups seek, while allowing them to recreate cooperatively? In this session we'll discuss the different reasons for being on a trail, and how to incorporate much of what each user group desires into a specific trail or network of trails. Features to be discussed include sustainable trail design and construction, managing "control points," and incorporating educational and interpretative opportunities into a trail system.

Patrick Kell, Southwest Regional Director, International Mountain Bicycling Association

Interpreting & Planning Around Broad Community Visions

This session focuses on creating a vision for regional trail planning projects and provides tools for creating a vision implementation plan. Drawing from the three panelists' regional trail planning backgrounds, the session will help attendees understand the importance of gathering broad stakeholder input, strategies to accomplish this, and methods to interpret and synthesize diverse data. Following the stakeholder portion of the session, attendees will be introduced to strategies for creating logical, stand-alone and implementable trail projects within the regional framework to ensure the vision developed through stakeholder input is realized.

Cory Caletti, Senior Transportation Planner, Santa Cruz County Regional

Brian Hannegan, ASLA, Senior Designer, RRM Design Group

Mike Sherrod, Principal, RRM Design Group

Preserving Your Trail's History Electronically

This session will show you how to collect your organization's history; how to find the resources in your community to put that history on DVD; how that DVD can be used to showcase your organization to trail advocacy groups, elected officials, funding organizations and non-trail users alike. A DVD of the 40-year history of the La Canada Flintridge Trails Council utilizing a variety of media will exemplify this presentation.

John Newcombe, Member of the La Canada Flintridge Trails Council

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulatory Trends & Strategies

The environmental regulatory process is complex and can delay project implementation for many years. This session will provide an overview of the federal and state environmental regulatory processes in California for trail projects. Panelists will describe the NEPA processes, review the latest legal developments, discuss issues pertaining to trail and bikeway projects, and discuss strategies for efficiently managing the environmental compliance process and avoiding delays.

LeGrand Velez, Associate, LSA Associates
Judith Malamut, Principal, LSA Associates

2:15 – 3:15 PM

Utility Corridors – Expanding the Meaning of Multi-Use

Utility corridors – whether flood control, water supply, power lines or other uses – present unique challenges and opportunities for providing multi-use trails. This session will explore the range of design and management strategies employed by agencies to provide trail recreation with public works. The presentation will also consider aging infrastructure repairs, replacement projects and how to plan for cross-discipline, cross-department and cross-agency opportunities. The days of single use are over. Diminishing lands, funds and staff require us to look more holistically at our problems and solutions as a means of providing greater community benefits.

Isabelle Minn, Associate Principal, Placeworks

Lorrie Bradley, Project Manager, Supervisorial District 5 Special Trails Program

Armond Ghazarian, P.E., Sr. Civil Engineer, Watershed Management Division, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

Claire Robinson, Managing Director, Emerald Necklace Group – Amigos de los Rios

Funding Trails in California -- It's a New Ball Game!

Come hear how advocates saved the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) in California, and learn how to navigate the newly configured funding landscape. We'll provide an overview of the RTP, the new Active Transportation Program (ATP), which has a call for projects out on March 21, and talk about new funding opportunities on the horizon, including bond measures and cap-and-trade funding. You'll also learn how a broad spectrum of trail advocacy groups galvanized to fight for the RTP and ATP; to identify potential new funding opportunities for trails – in state bond measures, cap & trade auction revenue, and in the next federal transportation bill, and; how to apply for funding from the newly configured RTP as well as the new Active Transportation Program.

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

Jean Lacher, Chief, Office of Grants & Local Assistance, California State Parks

Developing a Program to Address Trail Conflicts

In the developmental stage, Trail Partners is a joint effort of the Marin County Bicycle Coalition, the Marin Conservation League and the Marin Horse Council. Their goal is ambitious -- promote consistent, positive messages within all user groups that promote respect for the resources and other trail users. An educational component called “Tails to Tires” is designed to teach high school mountain bike teams about horses and how to interact with them. A related workshop teaches equestrians safe practices when encountering bike. Learn how the partnership was created, why land managers are in strong support, and why Trail Partners expects to solve an issue that has divided user groups for too long.

Curt Kruger, Chair, Trail Partners, Marin Horse Council

Tom Boss, Off Road Programs Director, Marin County Bicycle Coalition

Coachella Valley Link -- A New Paradigm in Trail Design

The Coachella Valley Link (CV Link) will connect eight cities, and the lands of two federally recognized tribes, with an alternate transportation route to the busiest corridor in the Valley, and provide access for pedestrians, bicyclists and low speed-electric vehicles. This unique, first of its

kind, multiuse alternative transportation corridor is currently in the design phase with 52-miles of pathway construction estimated to begin in 2016. This session will address a variety of topics essential to this project, including: safety, security and privacy concerns; developing design guidelines where no state or national standards currently exist; facility parameters; and how CV Association of Governments secured \$60 million (of the estimated \$77 million needed) within 18 months.

George Hudson, Principal, Alta Planning + Design

Michael Shoberg, Project Manager, Coachella Valley Association of Governments

Karen Vitkay, Associate, Alta Planning + Design

3:30 – 4:45 PM

NIMBY to YIMBY -- A Path to Successfully Addressing Trail Opposition

Interpreting the project environment and understanding public sentiment are necessary precursors to project launch. NIMBYism (Not In My Back Yard) is an organized form of localist engagement and opposition toward trail facilities that can impede project approval, increase costs, limit trail use and even ruin reputations. Contiguous landowners can perceive trails as threats to personal safety, privacy and property values; while the general public is highly concerned about habitat protection, user safety, public access and responsible use of public funds. Three unique cases studies in the Los Angeles, Bay Area and Ventura County regions will draw on trail users and bicyclists surveys, and landowner interactions, to provide a primer on the public perceptions shaping trail development and use. This information will be put in a framework to help understand the NIMBY phenomena, segment associated causes and issues of opposition and develop alternative strategies to build understanding, increase community and political support and reduce project opposition that may keep your trail project from going from “Done Deal” to “Dead Deal.

Jonathan Berlin, Associate Environmental Planner, Rincon Consultants

Greg Maher, Landscape Architect, Alta Planning + Design

Jeff Peters, Owner/Principal, Questa Engineering Corporation

Scott Reese, (Retired) Assistant Director, City of San Diego

Data–Driven Collaborative Decision-Making: Working Together to Map the System

This session will focus on how to use a data-driven Decision Making Tool (DMT) in a collaborative process that engages the public and stakeholders to implement a Road & Trail Management Plan. The DMT takes into consideration biological, physical and social criteria, assigning a weight to each, and providing a means for developing a relative comparison among potential road and trail projects, including new trails, as well as decommission, reroute and other types of improvement projects. The goal is to use DMT to engage stakeholders, to help identify priorities, to create a much more transparent decision-making process, and a means for more effective communications.

Linda Dahl, Director and General Manager, Marin County Parks

Carl Somers, Chief of Planning and Acquisition, Marin County Parks

The Multiple Identity of Trails – Trails as Urban Parks

This session will expand on the conference themes of trail values and how trails themselves are a destination, and explore how trails increasingly function as “parks” or as destinations themselves. By thinking beyond the traditional concept of a trail, we will consider how and why a trail or trail system can provide the attributes, functions and benefits normally associated with

parks. We'll also explore case study examples that demonstrate how trails are meeting broader user needs and are attracting non-traditional park users.

Moira McEnespy, South Coast Deputy Program Manager, State Coastal Conservancy

Pamela Galera, City of Anaheim

Jose González, Founder and Lead, Latino Outdoors

Melissa Guerrero, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

Trails are Where the Magic Happens!

Trails open a variety of opportunities, from memorable experiences to teachable moments no textbook can reveal. Trails are more than pathways through nature; trails serve to develop access, enlighten the mind, and foster a connection with the land. Get re-inspired in the work that makes this magic possible for all visitors, from all walks of life. Embark on a visual journey and explore elements in trail design that shape an interpretive program, create audience comfort, and keep the magic of the trail alive.

Ian Griffith, Interpretive Naturalist, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

Judy Perez Soto, Interpretive Naturalist, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

Lisa Soghor, Deputy Executive Officer, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

Thursday, April 10th

8:30 – 9:30 AM

Partnerships, Joint Land Management & Cooperative Relationships

Partnerships on trail projects are critical to success. Find out what you need to know about your partnering agency, their mission, regulatory requirements, and the authority and infrastructure involved. Partnering with Federal, State, non-profit staff and volunteers that cross agency and regulatory borders will be the topics of this panel discussion.

Victor Bjelajac, Park Maintenance Chief, California State Parks

Kirsten Holder, Landscape Architect/Trail Planner, Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Rob Laporte, Project Coordinator, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

Trail Watch & Patrol Volunteers – Training Essentials

Trail Watch Volunteers are ambassadors for your agency, and often are the first agency representative a visitor meets. Volunteers often meet the same challenges Ranger do, so it is essential that they receive thorough training and refresher trainings. In this session you will learn how to set up a training program using the new recommendations, how to set up effective Visitor Contact Scenarios using roll playing, and the importance of continuing refresher training for veteran volunteers.

Heather Gilfillan, Membership Coordinator, East Bay Regional Park District

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

Preserving Urban Equestrian Trails

In the heart of South Los Angeles there exists an active agricultural community that includes over 200 family owned horses that ride local streets and the Compton Creek Trail. With little improvement over the last decade, this session will explore the challenges and opportunities of preserving safe access, including trail access, surface options, crossings, signage and water quality improvements.

MaLisa Martin, Outdoor Recreation Planner, National Park Service

Mary Benson, Founder & CEO, Los Angeles Trails Project, National Heritage Foundation

BriAnna Weldon, AmeriCorps Fellow; River, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program

Ten Innovative Trail Practices -- Development & Deployment

Learn about the development and deployment of 10 innovative practices used in San Jose as part of its Trail Program's operation and development. Find out how you can pursue innovative practices for a range of service areas, infrastructure, communication, public safety and aesthetic design.

Yves Zsutty, Trail Manager, City of San Jose

9:45 – 10:45 AM

User Capacity – Art or Science?

The main topic of this session is balancing preservation of natural wild areas with seemingly increasing recreational trail use. We'll explore overuse issues with trails, data collection, enforcement and education using case studies about other areas that have addressed these issues while providing you with a toolbox of ideas and tactics for your own trail issues.

Andera Gullo, Executive Director, Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

Melanie Beck, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Santa Monica National Recreation Area, NPS

Rachael, Collins, PhD, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Yosemite National Parks

National Association for Interpretation Certification - What & Why You Need It

Are you interested in interpretation but aren't quite sure how to do it? Then this session is for you! Given by the National Association for Interpretation (NAI), discover the six levels of certification and how the program helps build interpretive skills. NAI will also highlight the Certified Interpretive Host (CIH) two-day curriculum, the most relevant to the trails community. Over 30,000 interpreters have received NAI certification worldwide.

Emily Jacobs, Certification & Training Program Manager, National Association for Interpretation

Get More Done with AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps

If your organization's to-do list is overwhelming, come learn how AmeriCorps' National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) can help. NCCC strengthens communities and nurtures young leaders through direct, team-based community service. Drawn from the successful model of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s, this full-time program for people aged 18 to 24 is a fully funded service of the federal government. Teams are able to do a variety of tasks, including trail construction, trail maintenance and leading volunteer groups. Learn about a variety of trail projects, the benefits of hosting a team, and about the application process.

Larry Thomas Meade, Assistant Program Director, AmeriCorps NCCC Pacific Region

2013 Accessibility Guidelines for Trail Design & Construction

This session will analyze issues specific to planning, designing and constructing, accessible trails in compliance with the "2013 Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas," and will utilize information obtained from the development and construction of over twenty accessible California trails in the past four years. The presentation will focus initially on the changes

between the 2009 Draft Final Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed areas and the adopted 2013 Accessibility Guidelines, followed by typical issues associated with accessible trail construction.

Travis Segebart, Accessible Trails Coordinator, California State Parks
Steve Nawrath, Project Manager, California State Parks

Promoting Trails & Trail Projects through Storytelling

Learn how storytelling can help you build public support, reach non-trail users, fundraise and educate current trail users. This session will explore how to craft a story that will resonate with the chosen audience, how to choose the best medium for telling the story, and how to utilize modern technology to spread the story.

Andrew Mumm, Co-Founder SparkBug Creative, Marketing Consultant for American Conservation Experience

11:00 – 12:15 PM

Promoting Trails with Maps, Media & Mobile Apps

Maps, websites, mobile apps and social media can play a huge role in promoting trails. Join us to learn how to connect more people to your trails through a combination of traditional and emerging technologies. In this session, you will learn how to create trail maps, manage and publish your trail information, build beautiful websites and mobile applications, document events with photography and integrate these elements to launch successful social media campaigns. Presenters will discuss first-hand experience in utilizing different technologies in partnership with nonprofit organizations, local agencies and other outdoor groups. A new outdoor application platform will be introduced with specific examples of how agencies improved their own websites and increased online exposure. This session will be helpful for anyone looking to promote their trails and associated activities.

Ryan Branciforte, Director, Cofounder Trailhead Labs, Inc.

Ben Fish, Landscape Architect, Design Workshop

Amy Fish, GIS Manager, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

Old Spanish Trail -- Unique 21st Century Challenges

Enjoy a lively, illustrated introduction to the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, documenting the trail's significant – if not widely known – role in southern California history. Learn about the Old Spanish Trail Association's trail-recording work near Death Valley, and the challenges of protecting these historical resources from proposed industrial-scale solar and wind energy power projects.

Jack Prichett, M.A. Anthropology & President, Tecopa, CA chapter of Old Spanish Trail Association

Can the Trails Community Develop Stable Maintenance Funding?

Streets and highways have dedicated funding sources for maintenance that local governments rely on to keep their streets in serviceable condition. And there are numerous sources of grants for capital improvements. But funding to maintain trails is very hard to come by. This very important session will explore the creation of a dedicated funding source for trail maintenance.

Help us frame the issue and provide input on an action plan that will begin the process for creating a stable funding source for trail maintenance.

John Mercurio, Vice Chair, California Trails & Greenways Foundation

Maryanne Vancio, Program Coordinator, County of San Diego

Charlie Willard, (retired) Chief, Office of Grants & Local Services, California State Parks

Accessibility Summit for Outdoor Developed Areas

Hosted by Beneficial Designs, this round table discussion will give attendees an opportunity to contribute to a USDA grant funded project to create the Developed Outdoor Recreation Assessment Process (DORAP) associated to the Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas that became law for all federal facilities in November 2013. The session will provide an overview of the current DORAP version that evaluates the level of access provided at each element in outdoor recreation areas. The use of symbology and other scenarios for the dissemination of assessment data, and a template for creating a transition plan to improve access and meet the needs of land management agencies will be presented for evaluation and comment. Don't miss this opportunity to help set the standard for how accessible outdoor recreation elements are to be managed to meet the ADA.

Nathan Tolbert, Assessment Coordinator, Beneficial Designs Inc.

Little Trails, Big Impacts!

This session will highlight the Mountain Recreation & Conservation Authority's innovative joint-use multiple-benefit Compton Creek National Park and ongoing interpretive programs. The 2.5-acre park located on Compton Unified School District property and adjacent to an elementary school, is a partnership with the School District and the Los Angeles Conservation Corps who will be running a Youth Training Facility at the park. Learn how building parks along trails is a way to not only increase nature in disadvantaged areas but also to increase interest in our natural resources and educate communities about the value of protecting those resources. Learn about strategies to generate stewards and building joint-use parks on school property.

Jamie Cabral, Chief of Interpretation, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

Melissa Guerrero, Project Manager, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

Bo Savage, Division Director of Conservation Programs, Los Angeles Conservation Corps