

National Trails System

ANNUAL REPORT for FY 2009

submitted by the
Federal Interagency Council on Trails, Washington, D.C.
February 2010

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*National Trails System Trail Apprentices at the
12th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails, Missoula, MT, July 2009*

The young adult Trail Apprentices shown on the previous page include Jessip Akau, Waikolola, HI; Kyle Anderson, Potomac, MD; Marshall Alford, Bailey, CO; Justin Benfield, Lawndale, CA; Christine Chung, Woodbridge, IL; Ryan Cole, Altoona, AL; Alison Cryns, San Francisco, CA; Josh Cucinella, Gainesville, FL; Lorraine Daggett, Tucson, AZ; Megan Eno, Tallahassee, FL; Anne Fehrenbach, Arcata, CA; Andrea Franklin, San Francisco, CA; Lauren Gewuerz, Pine, CO; Prairie Hady, Columbia Falls, MT; Molly Hearn, Dover, NH; Keakealani Iona-Duncan, Kamuela, HI; Andrew King, Deal Island, MD; Arielle Klagsbrun, Newton, MA; Richard Lofton, Eagle Butte, SD; Candace Manley, Powderly, TX; Eric Mason, Idyllwild, CA; Lucas McFarland, Lapwai, ID; Kelley Phifer, Mammoth Cave, KY; Lindsey Ripley, Tucson, AZ; Jermain Robinson, Washington, DC; Dustin Rothenburg, San Francisco, CA; Sarah Thayer, Washington, DC; Jordan Tyndall, Walthill, NE; Johanna Weston, San Luis Obispo, CA; Lindsey Warren, Alstead, NH; and Abraham Yearout, Lapwai, ID. Photo courtesy of the Partnership for the National Trails System.

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Note: one additional agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is a signatory to the MOU under which this report is issued. However, due to more pressing priorities, that agency was not involved in the preparation or review of this report for FY 2009.



Young people from Dayton, Ohio, learn backpacking skills at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore along the North Country National Scenic Trail thanks to funding from the CONNECT TRAILS TO PARKS program. Photo courtesy Five Rivers Metroparks, Dayton, OH.

BACKGROUND

The National Trails System was created in 1968. In December 2006, six Federal agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) pledging to work closely together *to enhance visitor satisfaction, to coordinate trailwide administration and site-specific management, to protect resources, to promote cultural values, to foster cooperative relationships, to share technical expertise, and to fund lands and resources associated with the National Trails.* The MOU continues until 2016 as an active partnership of the Federal Interagency Council on Trails, an interagency group that has met since 1969 to coordinate activities under the authorities of the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241-1251).

Fiscal year 2009 started with the 40th anniversary of the National Trails System on October 2, 2008. While a few of us took time out to commemorate this landmark date, dozens of Federal staff, thousands of volunteers, and uncounted members of the traveling public helped build and enjoy the various components of the National Trails System.

Just after the 40th anniversary, enactment of P.L. 111-11 (the Public Lands Omnibus Act of 2009) expanded the Trails System from 26 to 30 national scenic and national historic trails (NSTs and NHTs). P.L. 111-11 added four new trails – the Arizona, New England, and Pacific Northwest NSTs, and the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. In addition, the Trail of Tears NHT was more than doubled in length with additional routes. Among many other notable features of P.L. 111-11 was the organic legislation for the National Landscape Conservation System within the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) under which administration and management of NSTs and NHTs occurs.

Congressman John Olver (D-MA) helps celebrate the establishment of the New England National Scenic Trail on July 13, 2009, at the Summit House on Mt. Holyoke, MA. L to R: Laurie Gabriel, President of the Appalachian Mountain Club; Andrew Falender, Executive Director of the Appalachian Mountain Club; Richard Harris, NPS Northeast Region Associate Director for Natural Resources; Congressman Olver; and Richard K. Sullivan Jr., Commissioner for the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. NPS photo.



Together these 30 trails now total almost 54,000 miles in combined lengths. In addition, over 1,080 National Recreation Trails (NRTs) which are recognized by the Secretary of the Interior (and in the USDA Forest Service by regional foresters) can be found in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Many serious issues faced National Trails System partners in Federal fiscal year (FY) 2009. Among them were the expansion of the Nation’s energy transmission grid and a profusion of fast-track energy projects – some of which severely impact the trails. At the same time terrific opportunities arose, including a successful scholarship program to enable almost three dozen young adults to become intensely engaged in the national trails.

This FY 2009 Report by the MOU agencies reflects both accomplishments along individual trails and actions that advance the Trails System as a whole. To correlate the 24 specific tasks of the 2006 MOU to the data topics below, see Attachment A, *Checklist of MOU Tasks*. To correlate the MOU tasks to the goals, objectives, and actions of “A Decade for the National Trails, 2008-2018,” see Attachment B.

AGENCY ACTIONS

Abbreviations used in this report:

NA = not applicable

n/a = not available

unkn = unknown

FTDS = Federal Trail Data Standards

FGDC = Federal Geographic Data Committee

BLM = Bureau of Land Management

FHWA = Federal Highway Administration

FS = USDA Forest Service

FWS = U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

NPS = National Park Service

USACE = U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

USDA = U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency Involvement in the National Trails System

	<u>BLM</u>	<u>FS</u>	<u>NPS</u>	<u>FHWA</u>	<u>FWS</u>	<u>USACE</u>
Agency attended all sessions of the Federal Interagency Council on Trails	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Agency has finalized agency-wide policy on National Trails System	no ³	no ³	no ³	²	no	no
Number of trails that actively use FTDS/FGDC standards ¹	0	15	0	n/a	900	
Agency’s NRT entries in Registry are current and accurate.	unkn	unkn	yes	NA ²	yes	unkn

Notes: 1) These standards have not yet been finalized, but FWS used the draft standards for its updated trails database.

2) FHWA does not manage any trail facilities, but cooperates as a partner. National trails are referenced in several FHWA guidance documents.

3) All three agencies are drafting policy, with approval scheduled for FY 2010 to 2012. BLM is producing a manual series. FS includes a section on NSTs and NHTs in their policy directives. And NPS has drafted Directors Order 45 for consideration by its leadership.

In addition, these agencies have collaborated in the support of various meetings, publications, and websites during FY 2009:

- Most of our agencies helped to support the 12th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails in Missoula, MT, July 11-15, 2009. Over 200 people registered to address the theme, “Gearing Up for the Decade of the National Trails: Outreach, Protection, and Capacity.” One new innovation that many of our agencies supported financially was a scholarship fund to enable 32 “trail apprentices,” ages 13-25, to attend and fully participate in the conference (see cover photo).

- Several of our agencies (BLM, FS, NPS, FHWA, and FWS) have assistance agreements or cooperative agreements with American Trails, American Hiking Society, and the Partnership for the National Trails System to help develop and enhance various aspects of the National Trails System. Products include *Pathways Across America*, *A Decade for the National Trails System – 2008-2018*, Youth Initiatives, National Trails Day, Volunteer Vacations, and the National Trails Training Partnership www.NTTP.net.
- The FWS’s National Conservation Training Center continues to offer the weeklong training course, “Trails Management: Policies, Plans, and People.” It was offered three times in 2009 in California, West Virginia, and Alaska.
- FHWA used Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds to help several initiatives benefiting the National Trails System, including *Pathways Across America*, the youth initiatives, National Trails Day, the National Trails Training Partnership, and the Trails Management course. Many States used RTP, Transportation Enhancement (TE), National Scenic Byways Program, Federal Lands Highway Program, and other Federal-aid funds to develop projects on or along National Trails.

Trail-Administering Agencies’ Involvement in the National Trails System

	<u>BLM</u>	<u>FS</u>	<u>NPS</u>
Agency contact lists are up to date and available.	yes	yes	yes
At least one interagency annual meeting occurred in FY.	yes	yes	yes
Number of instances where other programs were consulted.	many	many	many

Our agencies carried out additional innovative nationwide partnership actions in FY 2009 that are not credited elsewhere in this report. They include:

- NPS continued the \$957,000 grants program called CONNECT TRAILS TO PARKS. In FY 2009, the 19 recipient projects enhanced visitor information services in or near a variety of NPS park areas and several other federal facilities (see Attachment C).



National Recreation Trails (NRTs) Recognized

On June 6, 2009, 22 new NRTs were recognized by the Secretary of the Interior. Three of these trails are located wholly or partially on Federal lands, including:

<u>Trail</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Managing Agency</u>	<u>Length (in miles)</u>
Niobrara Scenic River, Ft. Niobrara NWR Section	NE	US Fish & Wildlife Service	5.6
Pioneer Nature Trail	KS	US Army Corps of Engineers	1.3
Pittsburgh to Harrisburg Mainline Canal Greenway, Path of the Flood Trail	PA	National Park Service	2.5

Training

To one degree or another, each of our agencies participates in the National Trails Training Partnership (NTTP), a coalition of seven Federal agencies and 13 national nonprofit organizations. It is coordinated by American Trails, based in Redding, California. NTTP's main service is a constantly updated website calendar currently listing dozens of training opportunities nationwide (www.nttp.net). Several of our agencies help finance this partnership through cooperative agreements. In addition, over the past several years, the US Fish & Wildlife Service has hosted the weeklong interagency training class, "Basic Trail Management: People, Plans, and Policy," offered three times in 2009.

In 2009, the BLM completed the interagency National Scenic and Historic Trails Training Needs Assessment Strategy and Recommendations Report, based on the survey conducted during the summer of 2007. Results were shared at the 12th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails in Missoula, Montana in July. The next steps contained in the report include establishing a steering committee on training, applying results, developing a strategy, and coordinating with trail partners to ensure that training opportunities are shared or developed. The BLM will continue its interagency leadership role in 2010.

TRAIL STATISTICS

Many of the MOU work elements only apply to trails where comprehensive management plans (CMPs) have been completed. For FY 2009 some statistics may not be available for newly established trails that are currently in the CMP phase, including the Old Spanish, El Camino Real de los Tejas, Captain John Smith Chesapeake, Star-Spangled Banner, and Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHTs -- as well as the Arizona, Pacific Northwest, and New England NSTs. For some tables, the California, Mormon Pioneer, Oregon, and Pony Express NHTs are listed together because they share resources and routes in many places.

NA = not applicable, n/a = not available, unkn = unknown

Table 1 <u>CHANGES IN TRAIL LENGTH</u> Trail	New miles of trail opened to the public in '09	Total miles of trail now open to the public and maintained	(NHTs only) miles of auto tour route signed in FY 09	(NHTs only) Total miles of auto tour route now signed
<u>National Scenic Trails</u>				
Appalachian NST ¹	1	2,179		
Arizona NST ¹		819		
Continental Divide NST	50	c. 2,000		
Florida NST	24	1,291		
Ice Age NST	17	575		
Natchez Trace NST ¹	0	65		
North Country NST	28	1,869		
Pacific Crest NST ¹	0	2,650		
Potomac Heritage NST	96	743		
NST SUBTOTALS	216	c. 12,190		

<u>National Historic Trails</u>				
California NHT				3,709
Iditarod NHT ¹		2,277	0	0
Juan Bautista de Anza NHT	2	250		900
Lewis & Clark NHT				c. 7,000
Mormon Pioneer NHT				1,415
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT	6	1,180	0	1,500
Oregon NHT				2,130
Overmountain Victory NHT	5	75	0	104
Pony Express NHT				1,378
Santa Fe NHT			0	1,202
Selma to Montgomery NHT ¹		54		²
Trail of Tears NHT			0	993
NHT SUBTOTALS	13	3,836	0	c. 20,330
COMBINED TOTALS	229	c. 16,025		c. 20,330

Notes: 1) These trails are essentially complete in length, so few or no additional miles may be added.
2) Currently this trail is only marked as an All-American Road, not a NHT auto tour route.

Additional Note for Table 1: In some cases auto tour routes are longer than the trail's designated length because two roads (perhaps on both sides of a river) are designated. Or, the auto tour may zigzag to approximate the much straighter historic route across the landscape. For the California NHT, roads in California and Nevada are still unsigned. For the Juan Bautista de Anza NHT, most auto tour route signs are found in California. Along the Lewis & Clark NHT, state agencies are responsible for marking the auto tour routes.

Compared to FY 2008, the number of miles of NSTs open to the public increased 9%.

Trail	Acres inventoried or surveyed in 09	Acres protected by Federal agencies in FY 09	Acres protected by non-Federal parties in FY 09	Number of energy projects impacting the Trail in FY 09
Appalachian NST	0	355	6,000	5
California NHT	4,500			
El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT				5
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT	120			
Florida NST	1,930	1,160	63	
Ice Age NST	2,746		576	
Iditarod NHT	⁽¹⁾		282 ²	
Lewis & Clark NHT		37		22
Mormon Pioneer NHT				2
Nez Perce NHT				2
Old Spanish NHT				15
Oregon NHT				14

Overmountain Victory NHT			2,000	
Pacific Crest NST	0	2,118	0	
Pony Express NHT				5
Potomac Heritage NST			54	
Santa Fe NHT				10
Trail of Tears NHT				3
(Interim TOTALS)	9,296	3,670	8,975	83

- Table 2 Notes:
- 1) In FY 2009, 1,720 miles of trail corridor were inventoried along the Iditarod NHT, but no equivalent acreage figures are available for this project.
 - 2) This acreage of Alaska State lands makes available 678 miles of trail protected through new easements dedicated to the Trail.

Compared to FY 2008, there was more than a 10-fold increase in the acreage protected by Federal agencies to help protect these trails, increasing from 264 acres in 2008 to 3,670 acres in 2009. The bulk of this is the result of years of preparation along the Florida and Pacific Crest NSTs. This year we've added a tally of energy projects (many related to new wind farms and solar generators) on or visually related to the trail corridors.

Table 3 STATUS OF HIGH POTENTIAL SITES AND SEGMENTS ALONG NHTs (Only trails reporting are listed.)	Total number associated with the trail	Number protected in FY 09	Number experiencing threats in FY 09
Trail			
California NHT	295	101	23
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT	197	3	21
Iditarod NHT	60	1	4
Juan Bautista de Anza NHT	119		1
Lewis and Clark NHT	524	15	60
Mormon Pioneer NHT	65		9
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT	212 ⁽¹⁾	10	4 ⁽²⁾
Oregon NHT	146		18
Overmountain Victory NHT	34		2
Pony Express NHT	295	101	12
Santa Fe NHT	225	unkn	unkn
Selma to Montgomery NHT	7	1	0
Trail of Tears NHT	52		unkn
TOTALS	2,231	232	154

- Note3:
- (1) The 3 high potential segments along this trail equal 317 miles in combined lengths.
 - (2) Two of these involve energy-related projects.

Compared to FY 2008, these statistics show a 31 % decrease in NHT sites protected in FY 2009, and a 15 % increases in the number of sites reported as threatened. (There are six additional NHTs for which the definitive list of high potential sites and segments is still being determined.)

Table 4 CHANGES IN DEVELOPMENT AND CERTIFICATION Only trails reporting data are listed.							
Trail	Miles of trail constructed, improved or re-constructed in FY 09	Miles of trail with deferred maintenance now brought up to standard during FY 09	Number of recreation structures constructed, altered, or expanded in FY 09	Number of major trail structures installed in FY 09 ¹	Number of new certified sites and segments in FY 09	Acreage of certifications in FY 09	Miles of new certifications in FY 09
Appalachian NST	20	20	11	1			
Continental Divide NST	61	11	1				
El Camino Real Tierra Adentro NHT			2		3		
Florida NST	44	37		5	1	n/a	11
Ice Age NST	16	5	7		6		14
Iditarod NHT		106		2			
Juan Bautista de Anza NHT					1		
Natchez Trace NST	10	10					
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT	92	11	25	6	1	n/a	
North Country NST	28	1	8		7		28
Overmountain Victory NHT	5				2	20	5
Pacific Crest NST	4	57		6			
Potomac Heritage NST	2						
Santa Fe NHT			1		2		
Selma to Montgomery NHT			4				
Trail of Tears NHT					7		
TOTALS	282	258	59	20	30	20	58

Notes: (1) Major structures include bridges, kiosks, trailheads, campgrounds, and similar investments.

Compared to FY 2008, the mileage of built or improved trail is way down (mostly with a shift along the Pacific Crest NST from 311 miles in '08 to 4 miles in '09), data on deferred maintenance is new, structures data has been split, and the number of new certified sites and segments is similar to last year.



Southwest Conservation Corps working on the White Canyon Passage (50 miles southeast of Phoenix) along the Arizona NST. Photo courtesy Bill Gibson, BLM.

Table 5 DATA MANAGEMENT				
Y = yes, N = no, unkn = unknown				
Trail	Trail has full-time or part-time data steward	Data sets are updated and accessible to public	Website hits during FY 09 (in 1000s)	Publications distributed in FY 09 (in 1000s)
Appalachian NST	Y	Y	184,255	10
California NHT	Y			53.4
Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT			13,500	5
Continental Divide NST	Y	N	n/a	n/a
El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT	Y	Y	n/a	0
El Camino Real/Tierra Adentro NHT	Y	Y	n/a	0.5
Florida NST	Y	Y	6 million	50
Ice Age NST	Y	Y	14,949	
Iditarod NHT		some	unkn	10
Juan Bautista de Anza NHT			35,000	25
Lewis and Clark NHT	Y	Y	1.6 million	40.9
Mormon Pioneer NHT	Y			26.6
Natchez Trace NST	Y	Y	0	0
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT	Y	in process	150,000	80
North Country NST	Y	Y	112,975	50
Old Spanish NHT	Y	Y		0
Oregon NHT	Y			60.2
Overmountain Victory NHT	Y			10
Pacific Crest NST	Y	Y	unkn	50.6
Pony Express NHT	Y			53.7
Potomac Heritage NST	Y	Y	12,000	24
Santa Fe NHT	Y	Y		n/a
Selma to Montgomery NHT	Y	N	unkn	12
Star-Spangled Banner NHT			9,600	0.5
Trail of Tears NHT	Y	Y		35
TOTALS	most yes	12 Y, 2 N	8.1 million	c. 597 k

As in FY 2008, most of the trails have data stewards, and most provide at least some data to the public. However, some of these figures are sharply different from FY 2008, with a 20 % increase in website hits and a 41 % drop in publications distributed.

Table 6 MAPPING		
Only trails reporting data are listed.		
Trail	Level of GIS/GPS activity	Frequency that trail is shown on national and state maps
Appalachian NST	full	always
California NHT	often	often
Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT	some	sometimes
Continental Divide NST	full	sometimes

El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT	some	sometimes
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT	full	often
Florida NST	full	often
Ice Age NST	some	often
Iditarod NHT	some	sometimes
Juan Bautista de Anza NHT	seldom or none	sometimes
Lewis and Clark NHT	full	often
Mormon Pioneer NHT	often	sometimes
Natchez Trace NST	seldom or none	always
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT	some	always
North Country NST	often	sometimes
Old Spanish NHT	full	often
Oregon NHT	often	often
Overmountain Victory NHT	often	sometimes
Pacific Crest NST	often	often
Pony Express NHT	seldom or none	sometimes
Potomac Heritage NST	some	sometimes
Santa Fe NHT	some	sometimes
Selma to Montgomery NHT	some	always
Trail of Tears NHT	often	sometimes

The level of e-mapping varies from year to year and trail to trail. Only a few trail offices operate at full performance, and several are just getting involved. Similarly, the degree to which these trails appear on national and state maps seems to be a function of their age – the ones established first being the best known.

PARTNERSHIPS AND PLANNING

Trail	Number of compliance actions and reviews during FY 09	Number of trailwide partner meetings	Number of new partner agreements in FY 09	Number of officially recognized volunteer hours contributed
Appalachian NST	56	12	0	220,565
California NHT	88	3	4	400
Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT	1	10	75	250
Continental Divide NST	NA	1	2	16,536
El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT	10	1	7	(1)
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT	6	3	4	3,828
Florida NST	2	1	4	69,433
Ice Age NST	11	15		58,225
Iditarod NHT	4	10	3	32,000
Juan Bautista de Anza NHT	4	4	3	15,118

Lewis and Clark NHT	81	39	17	30,432
Mormon Pioneer NHT	20	0	2	59
Natchez Trace NST		5	5	16,274
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT	30	5	12	(1)
North Country NST	c. 16	5	20	59,958
Old Spanish NHT	12	2	1	17,990
Oregon NHT	60	4	2	435
Overmountain Victory NHT		1	8	10,000
Pacific Crest NST	7	4	5	75,530
Pony Express NHT	20	10	4	1,868
Potomac Heritage NST	3	1	7	(1)
Santa Fe NHT	10	2	7	(1)
Selma to Montgomery NHT	0	1	1	11,443
Trail of Tears NHT	10	2	2	(1)
TOTAL	451	141	195	640,344

Notes: 1) Volunteer hours for these trails are not formally tracked.

Several trends seem to be going on at once in this arena of trail activity. Compared to FY 2008, compliance actions have decreased, trailwide meetings have increased + 34 %, the level of new agreements is up 74 %, while formally recognized volunteer hours have increased 16 %.

Table 8 <u>PLANNING ACTIVITIES</u>			
Trail	Participation in statewide, metropolitan, and local planning	No. of local trail corridor plans	No. of Federal interagency projects
Appalachian NST	very frequent		8
California NHT	occasional	2	46
Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT	frequent		4
Continental Divide NST	frequent	1	1
El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT	little or none		
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT	frequent		5
Florida NST	very frequent	11	5
Ice Age NST	very frequent	8	1
Iditarod NHT	occasional		6
Juan Bautista de Anza NHT	occasional	2	1
Lewis and Clark NHT	frequent	15	14
Mormon Pioneer NHT	little or none	0	4
Natchez Trace NST	little or none		
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT	very frequent	4	30
North Country NST	occasional	1	
Old Spanish NHT	frequent		7
Oregon NHT	occasional	3	9
Overmountain Victory NHT	very frequent	3	1
Pacific Crest NST	frequent	3	7
Pony Express NHT	occasional	3	10

Potomac Heritage NST	frequent	3	3
Santa Fe NHT	occasional		1
Selma to Montgomery NHT	little or none		3
Trail of Tears NHT	occasional		1
TOTALS		59	167

Compared to FY 2007, most of these figures are about at the same level, with a slight drop (17 %) in the number of Federal interagency projects.

Trail	Miles of trail still to be built	(NHTs only) Miles of auto tour route still to be signed or marked	Number of key natural and cultural resource sites still to be protected
Table 9			
UNMET NEEDS			
Only trails reporting data are listed.			
<u>National Scenic Trails</u>			
Appalachian NST	0		c. 20
Continental Divide NHT	up to 1,000		NA
Florida NST	260		42
Natchez Trace NST	0		
North Country NST	c. 2,700		
Pacific Crest NST	0		
Potomac Heritage NST	358		
<u>National Historic Trails</u>			
California NHT		2,130	194
Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT		3,000	
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT		600	185
Iditarod NHT	1,500	200	
Juan Bautista de Anza NHT		300	192
Mormon Pioneer NHT		60	35
Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT		0	all
Old Spanish NHT		2,700	
Oregon NHT		2,000	77
Overmountain Victory NHT	255	201	
Pony Express NHT		650	194
Santa Fe NHT		0	unkn
Selma to Montgomery NHT			45
Star-Spangled Banner NHT		290 +	unkn
TOTALS	c. 6,100	c. 12,135	c. 1,000

Because most of these numbers are rough estimates, it is hard to compare them year to year. For many of the trails it is difficult to ascertain how many miles of corridor or trail tread still need to be completed because exact route locations are not yet known. The number of miles of auto tour route still to be signed has risen markedly due to the addition of new trails in recent years.



*Participants from Dayton, Ohio, learn backpacking skills along the North Country National Scenic Trail with funding help from CONNECT TRAILS TO PARKS.
Photo courtesy Five Rivers Metroparks, Dayton, OH.*

INNOVATIVE ACTIONS

The wide variety of innovative actions that are documented for FY 2009 reflects the diversity of the National Trails System and the cooperative spirit of the interagency MOU.

Appalachian NST

- Three major electricity transmission projects are the single greatest threat to the preservation of the primitive outdoor recreation experience on the Trail. It is imperative to identify critical “treasured landscapes” where such crossings should not even be proposed. In addition, major pipeline projects have already been constructed and are being constantly monitored by local trail clubs. The cumulative impacts of these projects, plus new wind energy generators, could potentially be devastating to the overall desired “A.T. experience.”
- \$789,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding is being applied to significant trail rehabilitation projects to be started early in 2010. In addition, an additional \$7.5 million is being sought to address rock fall hazards at the Palmerton Superfund Site in Pennsylvania.
- The successful education and outreach program called A Trail to Every Classroom (TTEC) is finishing up its fourth year. Begun as a pilot in 2006 and brought to scale in 2007, the program expanded from three to four teams of teachers in 2008 and 2009. Club volunteers and staffers of NPS, the USDA Forest Service, state agencies, and others have served as presenters and resources for teachers. By the end of 2009, 175 teachers and community partners were trained, engaging some 7,000 students.



A Trail to Every Classroom workshop in 2008 celebrates completion of intensive teacher training. NPS photo.

- A business plan for the Appalachian Trail MEGA-Transect has been completed by Dr. Roger Moore of North Carolina State University to generate additional funding for this program of 15 projects. Most notable are the new NASA Decision Support system that will integrate satellite imagery with on-the-ground field measurements and a USGS-led project to assess the recovery rates of soils impacted by acid deposition at high elevations.
- The Trail's Resource Management Plan was recently completed and is now available at <http://www.nps.gov/appa/naturescience/index.htm>.
- An Appalachian Trail Visitor Count Study has been completed by the Forest Service's Southern Research Station and expert mathematical statisticians and social scientists who identified a process for determining a defensible annual visitation number. Researchers spent a year developing a pilot process and implementing a survey on a "testable" section of the Trail. The selected method includes a stratified random survey design using two survey instruments: exit site tallies and a survey questionnaire to obtain visitation estimates. It identifies three components (non-proxy, proxy, and special days) which can be used to subdivide the sampling frame into estimator types that lead to more efficient sampling and estimation processes. The full report is available at <http://www.nps.gov/appa/parkmgmt/planning.htm>.
- Using funding from the Connect-Trails-to-Parks Program, NPS and FWS together hired a designer for a bridge over the Walkkill River in northern New Jersey to eliminate the longest remaining roadwalk along the entire Trail.

California National Historic Trail

- NPS continues a partnership with the Organization for American Historians to conduct a study of the experience of African Americans on the emigrant trails.
- As required in P.L. 111-11, Section 5302, NPS staff started the feasibility study for additional routes associated with the Trail.
- Trail staff initiated a series of tribal listening sessions along the entire length of the Trail.
- Staff also began a multi-agency and partner project to develop a series of 10 wayside interpretive exhibits along the Hastings Cutoff trail in Utah's West Desert and a new design for Trail highway

signs that will first be installed on the Hastings Cutoff in Utah, through central Nebraska, and in southeastern Idaho.

Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT

- The Trail's Advisory Council was established and more than 75 partner organizations were identified. One special project is an interactive touch-screen kiosk listing trail resources at four Virginia state parks. Another is development and publication on waterproof paper of the Trail route within the Rappahannock National Wildlife Refuge.

Continental Divide NST

- The USDA Forest Service revised the Trail's Comprehensive Management Plan through a *Federal Register* notice, based on extensive public review and comment.

El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT

- NPS joined the Texas Historical Commission to develop 10-property multiple property nomination for the National Register of Historic Places.

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT

- Coordinated by a Santa Fe-based contractor, NPS joined BLM and the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office to develop a multiple property nomination form (with historic context statement) for National Register of Historic Places nominations for 19 significant resources. This involved a survey and inventory of 1,280 acres this past year and the development of site documentation files for 10 segments of the Trail.
- NPS has developed trail sign standards. The first "original route" components using these standards were implemented along 8.5 miles in Bernalillo County, NM.
- The BLM office in New Mexico participated in the GeoCorps Internship program, a joint venture between federal agencies and the Geological Society of New Mexico. This enabled New Mexico to field test a viewshed data collection and viewshed model development program on 74 miles of the Trail, including high sensitivity sections on the Jornada del Muerto in southern New Mexico.

Florida NST

- The USDA Forest Service and the University of Florida continue a partnership conducting trailwide user studies. For FY 2009, reports were prepared for each public land managing agency reflecting a total of 350,000 users during the year.
- The Florida Trail Association (FTA), in partnership with the USDA Forest Service and the Northwest Florida Water Management District, constructed a second 80-foot free-span hanging bridge over Econfinia Creek. The design reduced environmental impacts during construction and was largely built by volunteers. Some of the funding came through FHWA's Recreational Trails Program, administered through the Florida Office of Trails and Greenways. Volunteers were provided by the Student Conservation Association.
- A \$300,000 state-of-the-art 24-bed Interagency Volunteer Center was established near the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, cost-shared 50-50 by the Forest Service and the FWS. This center houses FTA's Alternative Spring Break, Student Conservation Association, and Volunteer Vacation young adult crews. It also serves as firefighter housing in case of fire emergencies.

- A boundary marking project, funded by USDA Forests in Florida, for 2,000 acres in three counties has enabled enhanced resource protection and management in partnership with Florida State Parks, the Suwannee River Water Management District, and the Florida Division of Forestry.

Ice Age NST

- Four alternatives for the General Management Plan of the Cross Plains interpretive site were developed and reviewed by the public.
- County trail corridor plans continue in Marathon, Chippewa, Sauk, and Rock Counties, plus railway protection strategies plans in Kewaunee, Sheboygan, and Manitowoc Counties.
- New training opportunities included an exotic plant management class at the Ice Age interpretive site, a workshop held jointly with the North Country Trail Association for identifying cultural resources, and an interpretation workshop to develop a graphically consistent message for the Trail. All were well received and evaluated.

Iditarod NHT

- With pass-through funding from BLM and other Federal sources, 678 miles of new public easements were established across State of Alaska lands. The lack of easements previously had prevented development of permanent trail-related public facilities along the Trail.
- BLM, the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance, and two Native villages on the Trail partnered to build the first two public shelter cabins in 15 years.
- BLM, the Iditarod Historic Alliance, and other partners continued Trail Centennial events with the signing of a Governor's Proclamation establishing Iditarod Gold Discovery, a historic reenactment at the start of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race, interpretive presentations on the historic trail by Iditarod Race finishers to 500 Anchorage school students during BLM Outdoor Week, and a large display at the Alaska State Fair.
- BLM solicited and participated in an interview about the Iditarod Trail Centennial with Public Radio International's program "The World", which is heard on 200 stations nationwide.
- BLM and the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance provided technical and financial support to an independent film-maker who received a National Endowment for the Arts grant for a 1-hour production on the Nome Serum Run.

Juan Bautista de Anza NHT

- A new Outdoor Recreation Planner position will focus on trail protection and take a proactive approach to developing and certifying recreational trail segments.
- The new Anza Trail Foundation is now formally established as a 501(c)(3) organization.
- The Teacher-Ranger-Teacher program continues with two rangers at San Juan Bautista, CA, partnering with the San Benito County YMCA summer youth programs. The rangers conducted five on- and off-site visits with local youth and an Anza Trail Reading Literacy session at the San Benito County School District teacher workshop. One ranger was also located at Santa Monica Mountains NRA near Los Angeles.

Lewis and Clark NHT.

- NPS revised the Trail's Challenge Cost Share program to make it more competitive and accountable, with announcements now available on www.grants.gov. NPS moved away from third-party grants processed through one non-profit partner to a model where partners report directly on project concerns and successes, fostering closer relationships with multiple partner organizations.
- Trail staff developed critical data sets for resource inventories, mapping, and condition assessments by developing critical base layers. Approximately 98% of the identified data sets (6.5 terabytes, or 6,500 gigabytes of spatial and attribute data) have now been acquired. Data sets include a variety of eco-region data layers as a first step to begin developing management zones for the Trail. Phase I of the Inventory and Assessment Project was contracted to the University of Wyoming through the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) network. All field work was completed and the data was recently transferred to trail staff.
- Trail staff developed archeological project maps for sites associated with Lewis & Clark and the Omaha tribe. The project identified existing archeological sites in relation to proposed NPS archeological project sites.
- Alert networks identifying potential threats along the Trail were expanded, including ER2000, a news clipping service, the USACE mailing list for notices, internet searches and alerts, the USDA Forest Service SOPAs and mailing lists, and interagency and partner contacts. NPS expanded links among regions to increase their awareness of the Trail and areas of potential concern. Comment letters submitted by Trail staff have encouraged other parks in those regions to review and comment on Environmental Reviews that they had not done previously. Trail staff now receive USACE e-mail notifications of all public permit notices in certain regions. They have compiled contact information for appropriate FWS officials in State Ecological Services offices within the FWS regions along the Trail.
- New outreach to state and tribal agencies includes contacting State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) in the 11 Trail states, alerting them to the Trail's new Resources Stewardship function and solicited information about Trail-related cultural resources. Also, trail staff met face to face with four of these SHPOs and held face-to-face meetings with six tribal council members and 16 resource officers representing 14 tribes.
- The Trail's GIS specialist has actively sought to create new partnerships with resource staff at the USDA Forest Service in Montana, BLM in Montana, Omaha District of the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, The Nature Conservancy, the University of Missouri Geographic Resources Center, and worked to develop strong partnerships within NPS at the Midwest Archeological Center, NPS National Soils Program, and the Midwest Region GIS Technical Support Center.

Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT

- The western end of the Trail is now protected as Iwetemlaykin ("At the Edge of the Water") State Park, dedicated by the Governor of Oregon at the north end of Wallowa Lake. Forest Service staff advocated for Oregon's purchase of the property and set up a challenge cost-share agreement with the Nez Perce Tribe and Oregon State Parks for an interpretive panel about the Trail.

- A summer institute for teachers at Yellowstone National Park brought 16 junior high school history teachers from California to study the Park and the story of the Nez Perce crossing it in 1877. Institute partners included the Nez Perce Trail Foundation, the Yellowstone Association, the University of San Diego, and park staff.
- Trail staff and partners provided critical support to ensure the success of the 12th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails in Missoula, MT. Thanks to this involvement, Nez Perce and Salish-Kootenai tribal speakers, performers, and cooks impressed everyone involved. An additional benefit for the conference was a day-long Tread Lightly! Workshop offered by trail staff for the youth scholarship recipients.
- Trail staff also helped sponsor an annual Preparation for Academic Excellence (PACE) math and science camp for middle-schoolers.

North Country NST

- Five Rivers MetroParks in Dayton ,Ohio, partnered with NPS to provide backpacking workshops in 2008 and 2009, culminating with weeklong adventures along the Trail at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Funds were provided by NPS’s Connect-Trails-to-Parks program.
- Challenge Cost Share funds with the North Country Trail Association funded seven “Volunteer Adventures” projects, similar to AHS’ “Volunteer Vacations,” at sites from New York to North Dakota. Volunteers built a 400 foot-long bridge in Michigan, constructed stone steps and new trail in Pennsylvania, and maintained or re-constructed trail segments in New York, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, and North Dakota.

Old Spanish NHT

- BLM developed a six-state program of trail resource identification, condition assessment, and documentation that will be carried out by a contractor in FY10. This is part of a multimillion dollar ARRA project to establish innovative protocols for describing NHT resources, associated landscapes, and associated visual resources. Field experiments with data collection in support of this larger initiative were carried out under a GeoCorps Internship program sponsored by BLM and the Geological Society of America.
- NPS hosted a Tribal Listening Session in Las Vegas, Nevada. It was attended by representatives from 10 tribes: Jicarilla Apache, Kaibab Paiute, Colorado River Tribal Council, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Northern Ute, Las Vegas Paiute, Ute Mountain Ute, Agua Caliente Band of Indians, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Chemehuevi Tribal Council, and the Navajo Nation.

Oregon National Historic Trail

- A new series of route signs is being developed to distinguish between the actual tour route and the local tour route.

Overmountain Victory NHT

- A \$50,000 “Active Trails” grant from the National Park Foundation supports 2009 and 2010 programming to attract more visitors to Trail segments and increase resource protection. NPS is partnering with the Overmountain Victory Trail Association to coordinate increased programming during the annual march in the fall and hire a graduate student to promote the Trail through storytelling. So far, more than 12,000 public contacts have been made at sites and pathway sections along the Trail, including almost 9,000 students of all ages.

- Trail staff are conducting a feasibility study to determine the location of a permanent headquarters and visitor center. Four public meetings were attended by more than 600 people.

Pacific Crest NST

- Trail staff continue planning and discussions with the Tejon Ranch in southern California to relocate 37 miles of the Trail from the desert floor to the Sierra Mountain crests.
- The “Trail Skills College,” funded by Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI), at Cascade Locks, OR, trained more than 100 volunteers.

Pony Express National Historic Trail

- The NPS trails office in Santa Fe participated in several Sesquicentennial planning meetings throughout the year with the National Pony Express Association for technical guidance and development of a number of media projects for these events. The Trail as a mail run existed from 1860 to 1861.
- The interpretive guide booklets for Nevada and Utah are nearing completion.

Potomac Heritage NST

- Trail staff, with assistance from a national park area non-profit partner, launched a travel promotion network to develop continuity of experience throughout the Trail network by promoting travel itineraries. See www.potomacallegHENY.org.
- Virginia recently conducted a comprehensive “gap analysis” report on its long-distance trails, including this trail. See http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/trails.shtml.
- Trail staff are initiating a “foundation document” for planning, management, interpretation and coordination in partnership with a CESU (Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit) partner to analyze and expand GIS resources and capacity.

Santa Fe NHT

- NPS produced a 22 x 28 Trail poster featuring the four national parks (Fort Larned NHS, Bent’s Old Fort NHS, Fort Union NM, and Pecos NHP) along the Trail.
- The “Santa Fe Trail Rediscovery Project” was completed as a GIS-based database linked both to an internal staff website and a public website (still to be released). This work included: 1) compiling and generating an 800- page report detailing visited sites, 2) collaboration with the University of Utah DIGIT Lab to continue the production and development of a website repository of Trail data, 3) development of parallel data repositories for the other 8 NHTs administered by this NPS region, and 4) production and development of an interactive map to display Trail point data.
- NPS provided technical assistance to the Village of Cimarron, NM, for Trail projects, including construction cost estimates, interpretive exhibit cost estimates, working with fabricators, and developing sign fabrication cost estimates.
- NPS has been exploring with the Boy Scouts of America to establish a partnership fostering mutually beneficial Trail projects.

- A two-day meeting was organized in Dodge City, KS, for representatives from six SHPOs, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Santa Fe Trail Association to talk about common issues and goals for the amendment to the existing Santa Fe Trail Multiple Documentation Form and subsequent National Register nominations to be prepared under it.
- NPS hosted a Tribal Listening Session in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, which was attended by representatives from eight tribes: Otoe-Missouri, Pawnee, Osage, Fort Sill Apache, Comanche, Kaw, Mescalero Apache, and Southern Cheyenne.

Selma to Montgomery NHT

- The Tuskegee Multicultural Center has developed a partnership with the Trail for developing a new Voting Rights March Interpretive Exhibit at nearby Tuskegee Institute.
- Two additional Travel Information Station antennae will be placed along the Trail for a wider broadcast range.
- The Annual Bloody Sunday Jubilee event in March featured “foot soldiers” who lived just after the 1965 March at Tent City (where the Trail’s major visitor center is now located).

Star-Spangled Banner NHT

- Trail staff started a trailwide interpretive plan and developed the Trail’s website. This interactive website will complement www.smithtrail.net and www.starspangled200.org , providing users with information to plan visits to 1812 sites in Maryland.
- The NPS Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network (which administers the Trail) was awarded funds by Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine and Maryland’s Bladensburg Waterfront Park to develop school curricula and interpretive programming for those sites.
- A grant from the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network -- and building on work completed for the Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT -- will help complete a Water Trails Plan next June. This plan, which will be incorporated into the Trail’s CMP, will identify priority actions and investments for developing new and enhanced water trails.
- NPS is providing funding to the Baltimore National Heritage Area for the development of a travelling exhibit on the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake that will travel to schools, libraries, sites and parks throughout Maryland and the country to promote Maryland’s War of 1812 stories and places to visit.
- The Friends of Chesapeake Gateways is developing a geo-caching trail connecting more than 30 sites with a War of 1812 connection and providing a coin for the first 400 geo-cachers to visit at least 20 sites, to inspire visitors of all ages to visit the places in Maryland that tell a piece of the Star-Spangled Banner story.
- NPS is working closely with Maryland Office of Tourism Development to develop signage, wayside exhibits, public art, and other media that will help bring the Trail to life. These projects are funded through a \$1.8 million grant from the Federal Highway Administration for the development of the Star-Spangled Banner Byway.
- NPS is participating in locally-initiated discussions among sites, municipalities and organizations in Baltimore City, the Upper Bay, Southern Maryland, North Point peninsula, and National-

Capital region to identify and prioritize projects and programs with sufficient local capacity and interest to be developed and incorporated into the Trail in anticipation of the Bicentennial.

Trail of Tears NHT

- NPS assisted in the site development at the Crabb-Abbot Farm in Pope County, IL, working with the landowner and the USDA Forest Service to facilitate their help in implementing the plan and providing a trail crew to clear trail damaged by an ice storm. They also provided development and construction for visitor retracement opportunities on the farm and contiguous Shawnee National Forest lands.
- NPS has finalized Trail sign standards and used them along an 8.5 mile segment of original route in Pope County, IL.

CONCLUSION

New Funds -- Despite the economic downturn – the worst nationwide economic conditions and highest unemployment since the 1930s – several new sources provided much-needed funds for National Trails System projects. Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), numerous National Trails System projects received funding, including over \$6 million for projects under BLM’s jurisdiction. One is a multi-state project developing a systematic inventory and assessment process for cultural and visual trail resources within trail corridors. At the same time, the USDA Forest Service received \$22 million (out of a total \$101 million) specifically for projects along the Pacific Crest and Continental Divide NSTs, the Nez Perce NHT, and Forest Service segments of the Iditarod NHT.

In addition, NPS continued a second year with the Connect-Trails-to-Parks program, distributing \$837,000 to 14 projects in 15 states, ranging in scope from educational outreach for teachers to new wayside exhibits along national historic and recreation trails (see Attachment C below).

Some trails also benefitted from Federal transportation funds apportioned through the States, particularly under the funds set aside for Transportation Enhancement activities.

Departmental Priorities -- Much of 2009 was devoted to introducing the new Administration to the special challenges of the National Trails System. Many of the new Administration’s top priorities reflect values exemplified by the National Trails. For example, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar’s top initiatives – expanded youth involvement in conservation, energy independence, and enhanced protection of treasured landscapes – all affect the trails. Agriculture Secretary Vilsack seeks to increase rural wealth, implement the Forest Service’s conservation mission, enhance human lifestyles through biotechnology, and improve children’s health. The components of the National Trails System can help carry out most of these goals.

Involving Youth -- Outreach to young people by the National Trails System “community” reached a new level in July, 2009, at the biennial conference in Missoula. Our agencies collectively provided some \$40,000 in scholarships to enable 32 young people from ages 13 to 25 to attend and offer their wisdom on how to better link the trails to the Nation’s youth. From this has developed a Youth Council within the nonprofit Partnership for the National Trails System. In addition, various agency initiatives for youth are gaining ground. The BLM received \$5 million (for a second year) to support local youth employment initiatives.

Setting Priorities -- During 2009 “A Decade for the National Trails, 2008-2018” took on a distinct shape. Brainstorming actions to help carry out the Decade’s three goals and 11 objectives revealed a potentially significant workload. Over the summer an effort was made to winnow actions to the most essential ones, and that process is now more or less complete.

Research Need -- There is no commonly-agreed upon method for measuring trail use. A study released this year about the Appalachian NST estimates annual usage of the trail by some 1.9 million people. This is more accurate than any previous figures, but not a method easily replicated by others. It is critical that we develop a standard visitor use methodology to be able to compare trail visitation with comparable figures occurring at parks, forests, visitor centers, and similar destinations. With such data we can then do research in visitor satisfaction, economic impacts, and the cost/benefits of operational and project funding.

Challenges -- Major challenges continue to face these trails. An aging workforce and changing technologies will clearly affect the current high numbers of volunteers in the future. The depressed economy makes fundraising difficult. Vandalism, neglect, erosion, and development continue to take their toll at the local level on resources associated with these trails. Energy independence and the wish to upgrade and add utility corridors – as well as install thousands of acres of wind farms and solar arrays – may severely damage the visual quality of many of these trails. It has become clear that the past decade’s conflicts over oil and gas drilling and cell phone towers were just prelude to a concerted rush to develop new sources of energy – primarily wind farms and solar arrays. Dozens of these projects fostering energy independence may negatively impact various trails and trail sites. Mitigating or moving some of these projects will prove a challenge in balancing the twin goals of fostering energy independence and protecting treasured landscapes.

Summary -- The impressive accomplishments documented throughout this report indicate that the National Trails System is stronger than ever, providing an ever-expanding diversity of travel and adventure experiences for Americans and their international visitors. Much of this work is the result of vibrant interagency and public-private partnerships. These trails offer unmatched quality of life experiences in outdoor recreation, education, scenic transportation, and access to the precious natural and cultural resources that define us as a Nation. And, essential to all these efforts is an unwavering, impressive, and ever growing cadre of volunteers.

ATTACHMENT A

CHECKLIST OF MOU TASKS

The data in this annual report have been clustered so that similar data can be found with other information that relates to it – this is not the order in which the tasks are listed in the 2006 MOU. The following checklist shows where the reported information can be found for each of the MOU tasks:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Task</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1	Attend Trails Council, issue report	<i>Agency Actions</i>	4
2	Develop policy	<i>Agency Actions</i>	4
3	Participate widely in planning	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i> , Table 8	12
4	Coordinate trail plans with others	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i>	12
5	Prepare and implement plans	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i>	12
6	Conduct NEPA and NHPA compliance	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i> , Table 7	11
7	Foster interagency training	<i>Agency Actions</i>	5
8	Support meetings, publications, etc.	<i>Agency Actions</i> (narrative)	4
9	(USACE only) Protect trail resources	(data not available for FY 2009)	
10	Develop data and mapping standards	<i>Trail Statistics</i> , Table 5	10
11	Collect and manage data and mapping	<i>Trail Statistics</i> , Tables 5-6	10 - 11
12	Update NRT listings	<i>Agency Actions</i>	4, 5
13	Formulate unified policies	<i>Agency Actions</i>	4
14	Establish a contact list	<i>Agency Actions</i>	5
15	Hold annual meeting	<i>Agency Actions</i>	5
16	Execute supplemental agreements	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i> , Table 7	11 - 12
17	Cooperate in planning and compliance	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i> , Tables 7-8	11 - 12
18	Encourage regular schedule of meetings	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i> , Table 7	11 - 12
19	Take full advantage of agency programs	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i> , Table 8	12
20	Coordinate for effectiveness	<i>Agency Actions</i>	4 - 5
21	Conduct collaborative planning	<i>Partnerships and Planning</i> , Table 8	12
22	Enhance administration and management		(throughout)
23	Encourage innovation	<i>Innovative Actions</i>	14 - 22
24	Develop/use a unified tracking system	<i>Trail Statistics</i>	6 - 13

ATTACHMENT B

MOU TASKS AND DECADE OBJECTIVES

Since the National Trails System MOU was signed in 2006, agencies and partners involved in the National Trails System have fashioned a framework of goals and objectives to coordinate actions at the national and trailwide levels so that the National Trails System in 2018, its 50th anniversary, will be substantially better known, better protected, and better served by both the agencies and trail partners than in 2008, the 40th anniversary. This effort is called “A Decade for the National Trails, 2008-2018.”

Many of the factors assessed and measured in this annual report help achieve the goals and objectives of the Decade. In fact, every MOU task helps achieve – to one degree or another – at least two Decade objectives.

The Decade goals and objectives can be listed in summary form as:

Goal 1 Promote the Trails System so that all Americans are aware of it

- Obj. 1A – Outreach through a variety of media
- Obj. 1B – Engaging all types of Americans
- Obj. 1C – Getting everyone interested out on the trail

Goal 2 Fully protect trail resources and complete national scenic trails, where possible

- Obj. 2A – Complete resource inventories
- Obj. 2B – Complete NSTs and fully protect NHTs
- Obj. 2C – Enhance preservation corridors
- Obj. 2D – Complete NST facilities and restore NHT sites

Goal 3 Enhance capacity of Federal agencies and trail organizations

- Obj. 3A – Optimal budgets
- Obj. 3B – Strengthen capacity of the Partnership for the National Trails System and its constituent organizations
- Obj. 3C – Strengthen Federal capacity and authorities
- Obj. 3D – Increase National Trails System volunteerism to 1 million hours/year

When these objectives are correlated to the tasks discussed in the MOU, the following pattern shows which objectives are addressed by which task:

<u>No.</u>	<u>MOU Task</u>	<u>Objectives Addressed</u>
1	Attend Trails Council, issue report	2B, 2C, 3A, 3C, 3D
2	Develop policy	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3C
3	Participate widely in planning	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C
4	Coordinate trail plans with others	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C
5	Prepare and implement plans	1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3C

6	Conduct NEPA and NHPA compliance	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3C
7	Foster interagency training	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C, 3D
8	Support meetings, publications, etc.	1B, 2A, 2B, 3C, 3D
9	(USACE only) Protect trail resources	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C
10	Develop data and mapping standards	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C
11	Collect and manage data and mapping	1A, 2A, 2B, 2C, 3C
12	Update NRT listings	1A, 2A, 3C
13	Formulate unified policies	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3C
14	Establish a contact list	1B, 2B, 3A, 3C
15	Hold annual meeting	2B, 3C
16	Execute supplemental agreements	1C, 2D, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D
17	Cooperate in planning and compliance	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3C
18	Encourage regular schedule of meetings	1C, 3B
19	Take full advantage of agency programs	1C, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3C
20	Coordinate for effectiveness	2B, 3B, 3C, 3D
21	Conduct collaborative planning	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3C, 3D
22	Enhance administration and management	2A, 2B, 3C
23	Encourage innovation	1A, 1C, 3D
24	Develop/use a unified tracking system	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C

ATTACHMENT C

2010 CONNECT-TRAILS-TO-PARKS FUNDING AWARDS

(listed by trail, in alphabetical order)

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Trail(s)</u>	<u>Park or Other Federal Area</u>	<u>Location(s)</u>	<u>Award Amount</u>
Build capacity in the Forest Service for A Trail to Every Classroom	Appalachian NST	Numerous national forests	Nationwide	\$100,000
Complete compliance for Walkkill River bridge	Appalachian NST	Walkkill NWR	Sussex, NJ	\$100,000
Spur trail stone steps at Lockwood House	Appalachian NST	Harpers Ferry NHP	Harpers Ferry, WV	\$ 55,000
Transport students to Trails and park	Appalachian NST Potomac Heritage NST	Harpers Ferry NHP	Harpers Ferry, WV	\$ 7,700
Replace missing trail signs and install new waysides	Baptism Creek NRT	Hopewell Furnace NHS	Elverson, PA	\$ 65,146
New kiosk, pavilion, and entry sign for CDNST at Grand Lake	Continental Divide NST	Rocky Mountain NP	Grand Lake, CO	\$ 59,750
Brochure connecting 3 NPS Sites in southern Arizona	Juan Bautista/Anza NHT	Casa Grande Ruins NM Saguaro NP Tumacacori NHP	Coolidge, AZ Tucson, AZ Tumacacori, AZ	\$ 96,000
“Explore the Outdoors, Your Life Depends On It” (educational program)	Lewis & Clark NHT	Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center	Great Falls, MT	\$ 45,205
Interpretive programming at the Cathlapotle Plankhouse	Lewis & Clark NHT	Ridgefield NWR	Ridgefield, WA	\$ 35,000
Parks as Classrooms at the Natchez Trace NST	Natchez Trace NST	Natchez Trace Parkway	Tupelo, MS	\$ 99,984
Volunteer-based Interpretation	Nez Perce NHT	Nez Perce NHP	Spaulding, ID	\$ 4,500
Wayside exhibits at 3 parks	North Country NST	Dayton Aviation HNHP Ft. Stanwix NMem Pictured Rocks NL	Dayton, OH Rome, NY Grand Marais, MI	\$ 30,485
Publish Fort Circle Parks Trail brochure	Potomac Heritage NST	Fort Circle Parks	Washington, DC	\$ 5,000
Unigrd brochure for new trail	Star-Spangled Banner NHT	Trailwide (incl. Ft. McHenry NM&HS)	Chesapeake Bay region (MD, VA)	\$ 29,500

Expanded website	Star-Spangled Banner NHT	Trailwide	Chesapeake Bay region (MD, VA)	\$100,000
Twin Arches connector trail	Twin Arches NRT	Big South Fork NR&RA	Oneida, TN	\$ 36,909
Trail of Tears wayside exhibits at Stones River	Trail of Tears NHT	Stones River NBP	Murfreesboro, TN	\$ 12,554