



# 2022 STATE OF THE TRAILS

In 2022, more than 148,644 volunteers donated 717,028 service hours, valued at \$21,474,988, on National Scenic and Historic Trails.

Each year, Partnership for the National Trails System members and Federal agency partners contribute information to showcase key facts and highlights that demonstrate the range and variety of resources, values, connections, and benefits the National Trails System provides to the nation. While some of the information is not holistic or may be tracked irregularly or with varying degrees of certainty, it provides a snapshot of the work and progress made each year by the nonprofit organizations and Federal partners that work together throughout the year to create and sustain a vibrant, world class National Trails System for all.



## National Scenic & Historic Trails

### The 30 National Scenic & Historic Trails (NSHT) authorized by Congress

- 19 National Historic Trails
- 11 National Scenic Trails

### Over 55,000 miles of NSHT designated to date

- 37,400+ miles as part of National Historic Trails
- 17,900+ miles as part of National Scenic Trails

### National Trails connect people and landscapes

NSHT connect and travel through:

- 390+ National parks, forests, wildlife refuges, nationally designated wilderness areas
- 230+ Major urban areas and 'Trail Towns'
- 100+ Bureau of Land Management areas, and more



## Engagement

**4,015 programs** were conducted including:

- 542 were designed to highlight/expand diversity on the trail
- 312 were virtual

**Programs engaged 977,510 people** including:

- 49,750 youth K-12
- 4,656 young adults 18-25
- 615 Veterans

**Qualified Service or Corps members spent 7,214 hours** involved in planning, promotion or delivery of educational and/or cultural activities, events or programs.



## Collaboration

**225 State, Tribal, regional, and local government agencies** have played an active role in managing and sustaining trails through formal agreements.

**79 Indigenous communities or nations** collaborated with NSHT organizations or Federal agencies in sustaining and supporting trails.

## Land Protection & Restoration



**5,474 miles of trail were permanently preserved**

- 99% is on public land within dedicated management areas
- 1% is on other land and/or acquired easements

**2,879 acres of viewshed were protected**

- 67% is on public land within dedicated management areas
- 33% is on other land and/or acquired easements

### 11,286 miles of trail were constructed or maintained

221 new trail miles were built, including 45 miles that closed gaps and 32 side or connecting trail miles. 467 miles of trail were reconstructed.

### 903 maintenance and construction activities

Qualified Service or Corps members spent 95,282 hours performing maintenance or construction activities.

In 2022, **57 sites were evaluated** for their relationship and/or significance to an NSHT, 48 High Potential Sites were marked or interpreted, while 3,052 High Potential Sites were reported to be facing threats due to disrepair, development or other challenges.

## Local Impact



**236 communities participated in Trail Towns or gateway programs** organized by NSHT organizations.

Gateway Communities or Trail Towns programs are coordinated by several NSHT nonprofit organizations to promote local communities and attract visitors and tourists to local businesses, resulting in increased foot traffic and increased recognition of both towns and trails.

## Visitation & Accessibility



The majority of NSHT reported an increase in use in 2022 despite **13,605 acres of trail land being damaged by natural disaster** (wildfires/floods/etc) and 338 trail miles being closed for longer than 4 months.