

TRAILS COMMITTEE REPORT – Parks and Commons – June 1, 2021

Work sessions – Yachats Trails / YIPS continues to have good turnouts for work sessions, averaging eighteen to twenty-two volunteers for our sessions on the first and third Saturdays of each month. We continue to practice Covid-19 restrictions, with distancing requirements and masks being required, and are also able to split into several smaller groups to work on many tasks.

As the County moves into the lower risk covid category, we are exploring ways to work in closer proximity to one another which will allow us to work on several projects that we have postponed during the past year.

We are also looking into ways to safely resume getting together as a group at the conclusion of work sessions.

Ya'Xaik Trail counter – The counter is still in place and working well. Keeping in mind that they represent the lower use winter months, what do you think the average weekly number of hikers was for the last 25 weeks? Check the graph on the next page for the answer.

Boardwalk project – We appreciate the Commission's support as we work to get the City Council to authorize City staff to move forward with this project. At its meeting 5/19, the City Council authorized the design consultant to produce conceptual drawings for two walkway construction and authorized the City Manager or other City employee designated by him/her to solicit bids for design engineering companies.

Aqua Vista Loop South Trail – The Oregon Parks Foundation Fund Grant was awarded to View the Future in partnership with the Trails Committee. This project will rehabilitate the Aqua Vista connection from the 804 N to the 804 S (the south access from Aqua Vista Loop to the bluff). Cost breakdown: \$2000 from grant, \$2,000 from trails budget, and \$610 from View the Future (VtF). \$4,025 is the equivalent in volunteer hours making the total cost of the project \$8,635. Funds will be spent on equipment, ground cloth and 55 yd³ of aggregate in various sizes. We are working on archaeological considerations as well as logistics (consultation with Yachats PW, OPRD) and have not yet determined when we will do the actual work.

Trail maps – Wally and Bob are working with Drew Roslund to develop an additional trail map sign that will be located between the Overleaf and Fireside. It will have information about the Ya'Xaik Trail and we hope it will encourage even more people to explore the Ya'Xaik and Gerdemann Trails.

Amanda Trail Suspension Bridge Project – A planning Committee has been meeting to make preparations for the May 21st, 2022 dedication. Bridge construction is on time to start, October 1. The existing bridge will remain in place until after the dedication and will then be dismantled by trail crew members and other volunteers; parts will be used for other trail projects. The trail crew continues to work in the area to control invasives and prepare for the dedication.

Volunteer hours – For the fiscal year to date (11 months), Trails volunteer hours total is 1481 = 501 in scheduled work sessions and 980 in unscheduled work sessions, work with sister agencies like OPRD and Mid-Coast Watershed Council, meetings, etc.

Braemar Grant (Trust Management Services -- Although not directly a trails committee project, this grant award is about the Amanda Trail. In partnership with the Oregon Extension Service, the project, called TRAIL-Ed (Thankful Respect & Acknowledgment for Indigenous Land Education) aims to create greater awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the indigenous history of Yachats through the development of an interactive Amanda Trail map and QR code consisting of the scaled route, scientific illustrations of native plants that can be identified along the trail, the indigenous uses of those plants, wildlife that lives in the area, and the importance of minimizing our impact on the land. Total project cost = \$13,770. Grant award from Braemar is \$6,728. View the Future's match is \$2,526. Volunteer and crew account hours are \$4,516. Craig Berdie, VtF board member, and Jennifer Pettit, Oregon Extension Service, are the leads. VtF is very fortunate and grateful to have this project supervised by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians' Cultural Department.

