

TRAILS REPORT – Parks and Commons Commission – September 5, 2023

Volunteers – We have averaged approximately 30 volunteers for the last few sessions.

YIPS! – Continued removal of blackberry from the wetlands area S of the Public Works yard and along the west portion of Ocean View Drive.

Trails – Routine trimming of vegetation on various trails, including the short stretches between Aqua Vista Loop and Marine Drive and between King Street and Horizon Hill Road.

Pocket Parks – Trails volunteers have continued to help with the planting and watering of native plants in the two pocket parks as well as with weed removal.

Trails picnic – After a 4-year hiatus due to covid concerns, we resumed our annual volunteer picnic which was held August 19 at Quiet Water. Attendance was strong and a good time was had by all.

Trails Committee Goals for 2023 – Last year, we were asked to identify a set of goals for this current year and these are the goals we submitted to you:

1. TRAIL INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR SURVEY - Survey each trail, locate and mark maintenance/repair needs, compile them into a master list, prioritize them, and use that prioritized list to determine which projects to undertake first.
2. ROUTINE MAINTENANCE LIST - Compile a list of routine maintenance items (ex. Whale Park, pampas grass near Windy Way, trimming of encroaching vegetation on Amanda Trail) for use in planning out what to do during upcoming work sessions.
3. TRAIL LEADERSHIP - Continue the process of finding trail crew members who have the interest in and capacity to become team leaders.
4. CONTINUING EDUCATION - Trail leaders and committed crew members continue to seek out educational / training opportunities to develop skills in invasive removal, native plantings, trail maintenance and construction, management, and networking
5. COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS - Maintain our positive collaborations and partnerships* and expand with others such as Chamber of Commerce and Oregon Coast Visitor's Association.

Regarding Goal #3, Kevin Erdahl is now a “trails leader in training” and is making excellent progress towards becoming a 5th Trails Committee leader.

Regarding Goal #4, Joanne, Bob, and Kevin will be attending the Oregon Outdoor Recreational Summit and have received approval from the Interim City Manager to do so. This statewide gathering in Coos Bay on November 2-3 is an excellent opportunity to learn new things while networking with others in the statewide trails community.

PCC/Trails Committee links – It is interesting to note that every current member of the Parks and Commons Commission is or is about to be a current trails volunteer.

* Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept, Siuslaw National Forest, local businesses, View the Future, Angell Job Corps, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Midcoast Watersheds Council, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians