



Chinook Trek Update #5

November, 1992

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Chinook Trail Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 14, 1992 11:00 AM

Mark your calendars for the annual meeting of the Chinook Trail Association. Mr. David Ausherman, Associate Regional Planner for the Metropolitan Greenspace program will be the keynote speaker.

Other events that day will be the recognition of those performing service to the association and a hike on a recently cleared segment of the Indian Creek Trail in Hood River. Dress appropriately.

The menu will be catered by Kathy Eastman, a Hood River caterer. Cost will be \$12.00 adults, \$10.00 seniors, and \$5.00 for children 12 and under.

We will gather at the historic Alpines Hut in Hood River. The Lodge is located on Tucker Road. More information will be mailed later.

RSVP 206-694-2364 or 503-652-2241

Funding for Silver Creek and Cedar Creek Falls Overlook

Presentations relating to the funding of these projects are being made before the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation. IAC distributes or makes certain recommendations to the Washington State Legislature concerning funding for a variety of recreation projects in the state.

Silver Creek Trail, a Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) project, was presented in September and the Cedar Creek Falls Overlook will be presented the end of October. CTA will be using these projects as the basis for our coming fund raising activities. The planning is essentially completed for these trail segments.

You may recall the Cedar Creek project is a short trail for the physically challenged in Clark County.

Silver Creek Trail is proposed to connect Silver Star Mountain with the Three Corner Rock Trail. This would complete a connection with the Pacific Crest Trail.

Augsperger Mountain Trail

The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area USFS is conducting a scoping process for a proposed trail system in the Augsperger Mountain area. This proposal will connect with the Dog Mountain Trail system. CTA endorses this proposal with enthusiasm as it could ultimately add a number of miles to the proposed Chinook Trail and provide a number of miles of connector and loop trails tying these two mountains together in a splendid network.

The scoping process is just one of a number of steps or phases which the USFS is legally bound to follow before construction can begin. CTA anticipates being a partner in this activity. Some have wondered why CTA has devoted time to trail maintenance work parties. We want to be ready with a group of folks familiar with the skills, knowledge and safety awareness to build trail when the time is appropriate. If interested in helping in some capacity let us know.

Chinook Trail Association

Imagine a trail...

Imagine a trail from Vancouver Lake to Maryhill Museum. If you've travelled up the Columbia River Gorge, climbed to the top of Silverstar Mountain, or walked along Discovery Trail at the mouth of Vancouver Lake, you can imagine what an "excellent adventure" it would be to hike through trees and meadows and along the ridges overlooking the Gorge. The dream is a compelling one.

So how do we make this dream a reality? With a lot of hard work and a great deal of effort by many dedicated people. We have a number of areas to work on simultaneously, all requiring ongoing attention and energy. Certainly we need help at our trail-building work parties. Volunteers who show up at the park and ride with their gloves and tools are *greatly* appreciated!

We need permits, of course, before we can work on trail segments. Working with the agencies who can authorize trails on public lands is an ongoing challenge; the wheels of bureaucracy can be frustratingly slow and unpredictable.

To generate funding for trail-building we have to submit grant applications and organize fundraisers. Both require significant time commitment.

We are grateful to all who help out with these ongoing efforts. And we want to encourage those who have not yet become involved: we can use your help, too! There's a lot of work to be done. It's fun, and it's an investment in our quality of life.

Karyl Ramsey,
CTA President

Fall work parties

CTA fall work parties concluded with a jointly sponsored one on the Hamilton Mountain Trail in Beacon Rock State Park. Sierra Club, Mazamas and Chinook Trail members worked together to improve this popular trail. This was the best attended project of the fall series.

A major reroute was attempted, water bars installed and tread improvement was the focus of the October 17 activity.

CTA is working with Washington State Parks to determine where connector trails to the Chinook Trail will be located in Beacon Rock Park.



Urban Trails move ahead

The Dalles Waterfront Trail moves a bit closer to reality with the support of several agencies. Oregon Department of Transportation (ODT) has indicated it will be assisting with construction of .6 miles of the trail. This will occur where the trail can proceed only on ODT right of way in order to avoid encroachment on a nearby wetland. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is considering construction of a bridge near the Taylor Lakes area. This will enable BPA to have access for their line maintenance and for the public to use as a part of the trail. Some Oregon Lottery funds will be made available soon to assist with a portion of the trail. On October 10, 1992, the Columbia River Gorge Commission unanimously accepted the Joint Recreation Task Force recommendation to fund four projects in the Gorge. The Dalles Waterfront trail was number two on the priority list. Boyd Jacobson, CTA Board member has been closely associated with this project.

This summer a Youth Employment Crew cleared rubble, brush and trash from over a mile of the proposed Indian Creek Trail in Hood River. CTA Board member Dave Meyer has been the prime mover on this project.

The Chinook Trail will ultimately follow these trail segments.

Squaw Butte

Squaw Butte is the name given to a ridge which comes off Silver Star Mountain. It loses elevation as one follows it to the west. The Chinook Trail will traverse the ridge several times as the trail gains altitude until it reaches another ridge coming from Silver Star Mountain.

Squaw Butte rests on lands managed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). CTA has carried on dialogues with both agencies for a number of years concerning trail construction. CTA has completed all the necessary paper work to secure the needed construction permits from WDNR. We have been assured it is only a matter of entering them in the WDNR archives before work can commence.

Three years ago REI contributed \$1,000 to assist us with trail construction. The CTA Board earmarked these funds for this project. It took a great deal of time and effort to secure the necessary permit. There were meetings with local and area WDNR personnel. There was a meeting with Brian Boyle, Commissioner of Public Lands. Local legislators, Senator Dean Sutherland and Representative Val Ogden, assisted us in our quest. State Representative and Chair of the House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee, Jennifer Belcher, met with CTA representatives and assisted in the facilitation process. Much has been learned by all in this period of time and we are confident the Chinook Trail is closer to reality due to the help and cooperation of many.

Elsewhere a part of the process dealing with Silver Star Mountain speaks to conducting plant inventories as part of the USFS planning process for Silver Star. This is one of those necessary steps required before detailed trail location and construction can be undertaken.

Music in the meadow

CTA officers and co-founders Don Cannard and Ed Robertson met with Vancouver City Manager John Fishbach in early October to acquaint him with the CTA vision and to enlist his support for a proposed 1993 summer project. Fishbach responded positively, we're happy to report.

The project, "Music in the Meadow", is designed to be both a trail publicity event and also a fund raising project.

Stay tuned for further developments.

Chinook Trail Association (CTA)

Membership Application

- ☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$30 ☐ Student/Senior \$10 ☐ Institutional \$60
☐ Sustaining \$100 ☐ Life \$500 ☐ Corporate \$1,000 and above

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

☐ I wish to purchase a trail patch @ \$3.00 + .50 handling TOTAL: \$3.50

☐ I wish to become a volunteer:

_____ Trail building _____ Assist with mailings
_____ Membership _____ Promotions (Photography, writing, newsletters) _____ Other

Members will receive CTA newsletter, "The Chinook Trek," and other mailings as appropriate to keep you informed of Chinook Trail progress.

Send application and remittance to:

Chinook Trail Association

P.O. Box 997, Vancouver, WA 98666-0997



Your yes vote would be appreciated on Three Oregon Meadows
(See back page for details)

Trails and Bikeway Forum

CTA in co-sponsorship with the Forum at Clark College is presenting a forum on Trails and Bikeways. The Forum will take place on November 10, 7:00 pm in Foster at Clark College.

Keith Hay, Director of the American Greenways and Conservation Fund will open with a slide presentation on greenways and trails of the United States. Keith's presentation is a wonderful trip across the American landscape. It is a tribute to the steadfastness and determination of literally thousands of individuals and many communities throughout our nation to make our urban and rural neighborhoods better places to live.

The Forum at Clark College will provide a moderator to handle questions from the audience for a panel. The panel will be: Angie Laughlin, Northwest Neighborhood Association and Renaissance Advisor; Dan George, Resource Manager of Vancouver Parks and Recreation; and Jerri Bouhard, Senior Planner for Clark County Trails and Bikeway Plan.

Three Oregon Measures to enhance parks

Metro's Bond Issue 26-1 will provide \$200 million to implement the Greenspace program. A portion of this will be available to local communities to use in their parks.

State Bond Measure #1 authorizes the legislature to issue \$250 million in bonds to be spent state wide for acquisition, development and maintenance of parks. A portion may also be used for fish and wildlife improvement. This too can be shared with local jurisdictions.

State Measure #2 would allow the legislature to collect up to two cents per gallon gas tax.

These fund would be used in State Parks for maintenance and operation. A successful vote on each of these will enhance parks and greenspace acquisition development and maintenance. Each of these would have a positive impact upon trails.

Your yes vote is encourage.

CALENDAR:

Oct 29-30	ISC meets, evaluate Cedar Creek Falls Overlook funding
Nov 14 11:00 am	Annual Meeting, Alpines Hut, Hood River
Jan 13 7:00 pm	Chinook Trail Board and Advisory Board Mtg
Feb 6 9:00 am	Moulton Falls Hike, 134th St Park and Ride WDOT
June 5	National Trails Day, Specific event to be announced

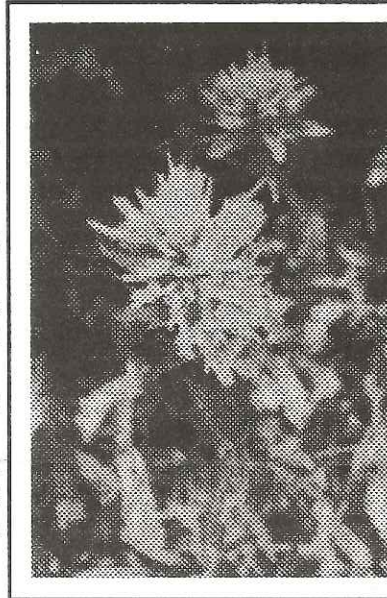
Silver Star plants inventoried

The Silver Star Recreation Planning Area was the site of a 1992 spring and summer cooperative effort by eleven volunteers and US Forest Service employees to inventory plant life along existing and proposed trails around Silver Star Mountain, elevation 4390 feet, north-east of Vancouver and Portland.

Karl Buermeyer, Project Leader, and Nancy Fredricks, Botanist, both of the Wind River District, represented the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in this project. The Chinook Trail Association was responsible for recruiting and coordinating the volunteers.

The inventory is an integral part of the process of developing a land management plan. Concurrent cultural and archeological studies will also be included in the final decision.

Project volunteers were Mike and Nancy Fahey, Russ Jolley, Janet Lindgren, Louise Godfrey, Molly Grothaus, Sue and Don Cannard, Reuben Hatch, Ed Robertson and Nancy Ellifrit.



Chinook Trail Association

P.O. Box 997, Vancouver, WA 98666-0997



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