



Chinook Trek Update #10

March, 1994

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The Dalles Waterfront Trail

by Don Cannard

In 1989, community groups, state and federal agencies, and individual citizens met for eleven months to develop a plan for The Dalles waterfront. The plan encompasses the area between The Dalles Dam and the proposed USFS Discovery Center above Taylor Lakes, a distance of about seven miles. The Dalles Riverfront Plan includes a waterfront trail connecting these two points. Chinook Trail Board members Don Cannard, Ed Robertson, and Boyd Jacobsen served on this community planning group.

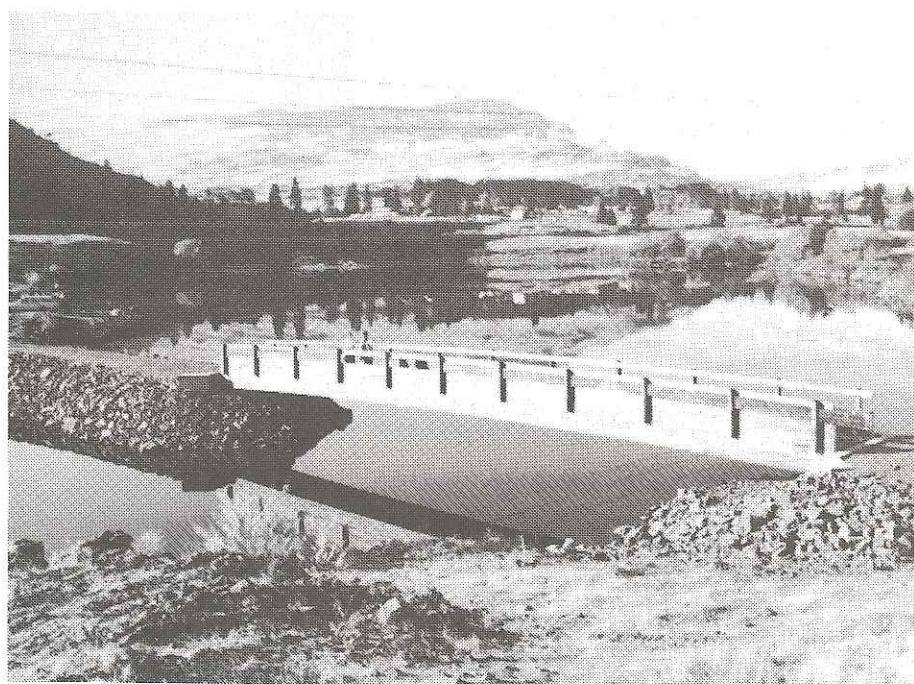
The Dalles Riverfront Plan has

been instrumental in securing community support and funding from a variety of sources. Boyd Jacobsen reports that a trail segment in the Taylor Lakes area has been paved. An access bridge to this area has also been completed. The trail segment to the Discovery Center will be completed in 1994, when federal funds for a railroad underpass are made available.

The Dalles Riverfront Trail is an important feature of the Chinook Trail. It will connect The Dalles with the proposed Chinook Trail to the east and west.

Board of Directors

Karyl Ramsey, President
Ann Lee, Vice President
Paul Clare, Secretary
Florence Wager, Treasurer
Don Cannard
Larry Devroy
Boyd Jacobsen
Ted Klump
Dave Meyer
Ed Robertson
Fred Rogers



Bridge Across Taylor Lakes — The Dalles
Photo by Boyd Jacobsen

Trail Work Session — 1994

by Ted Klump, Trails Chairman

Mark your calendars! The 1994 work party season begins Saturday, April 9, at Beacon Rock State Park. We'll meet at 8:00 AM at the Highway 14 Park and Ride by Columbia Industrial Park in Vancouver to car-pool. Bring personal gear, tools, lunch, and water. The section of trail we'll be working on will be announced when it has been determined.

The schedule for spring is:

- * April 9 – Beacon Rock State Park
- * April 23 – Beacon Rock State Park
- + May 7 & 21 – location not finalized
- + June 4 – National Trails Day –
Squaw Butte Connector (Silver Star Mountain area)

- + June 25 – (Same as June 4)

8:00 AM meeting time at rally points for all dates.

Rally Points:

- * = SR 14 (Camas Highway) Park & Ride – 1 mile east of I-5
- + = 134th Street Park & Ride – I-5 & 134th St.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers fill an important role in achieving the vision of the Chinook Trail. The following tasks need additional help – won't you volunteer?

Trail Stewardship –

Don Cannard (206) 694-4033

Grant Writing –

Paul Clare (206) 892-8173

National Trails Day, June 4, 1994 –

Ted Klump (206) 695-7149

A great short-term project!

Trail survey and lay-out –

Vern Swain (206) 695-5510.

Knowledge of surveying helpful.

Newsletter Writing & Publication –

Karyl Ramsey (205) 694-7046

Klickitat Railroad, Rails to Trails

by Don Cannard

On January 28, 1994 in Spokane, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission voted to accept title to the 30 plus miles of the rail-banked Burlington Northern Klickitat Railroad which connects Lyle and Goldendale. The Rails to Trails Conservancy held title until final arrangements for title transfer could be arranged. The United States Forest Service will manage the proposed trail and the WSP will hold title. The USFS accepted responsibility to develop interim and final management guidelines, conduct the environmental assessment, and oversee final clean-up. A salvage contractor is removing all rails and ties and Burlington Northern will be responsible for clean-up of any toxic sites. Art Carroll, manager of the USFS – Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area outlined the necessary steps in the development of the management guidelines.

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Dalles Mountain Ranch - Columbia Hills

by Don Cannard

The Washington State Parks and Washington Department of Natural Resources have accepted title to the 6500 acre Dalles Mountain Ranch in Klickitat County. The Trust for public lands signed the initial option for the purchase. Funds for the acquisition come from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition funded by the Washington Legislature through the Washington Inter-Agency for Outdoor Recreation. The upper portion of the ranch will be managed through WDNR's Natural Heritage Program, due to the presence of several special plants. The lower portion will be managed by WSP, which will be developing interim management guidelines. WSP notes potential for environmental studies as well as a meeting site at the ranch house. Some of the older buildings may become available for public use. WSP envisions developing use guidelines to promote a variety of passive recreation activities for the site.

The Chinook Trail Association has been involved in this project since 1989. A portion of the Chinook Trail will travel through this beautiful site. The spectacular views to the north and south take in the Columbia Plateau dryland areas, as well as many of the major peaks of the Cascades of Washington and Oregon. The acquisition of the rail banked Klickitat railroad and the Dalles Mountain Ranch enhances the possibility of a unique trail system in the Columbia River Gorge.

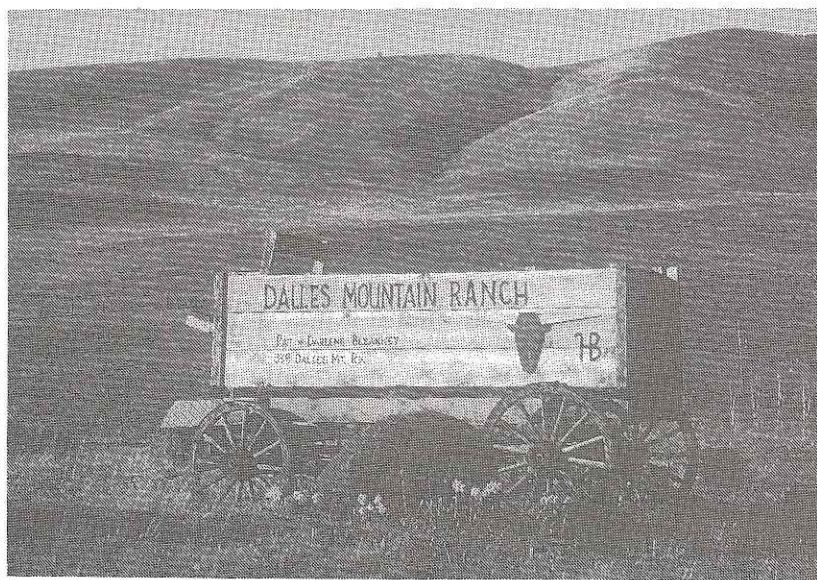


Photo by Jim Hughs

Klickitat Railroad, Rails to Trails

Continued from Page 2

Don Cannard testified in support of the Commission's action. The Chinook Trail will travel on a portion of the proposed 'rails to trails' trail. The WSP Commission is to be commended for accepting title for the benefit of the Citizens of the State of Washington, and the USFS for accepting management of the 30 plus mile conversion. The USFS is prohibited by law from holding title to rail-banked conversions, but they can manage trails on those lands.

This parkway travels alongside the scenic Klickitat River for over 10 miles and then along Swale Canyon on its way to Goldendale. This will provide an unparalleled opportunity to view wildlife and vegetation of the oak grassland in the eastern portion of the Columbia River Gorge. A linkage to the Dalles Mountain Ranch becomes possible with this acquisition.

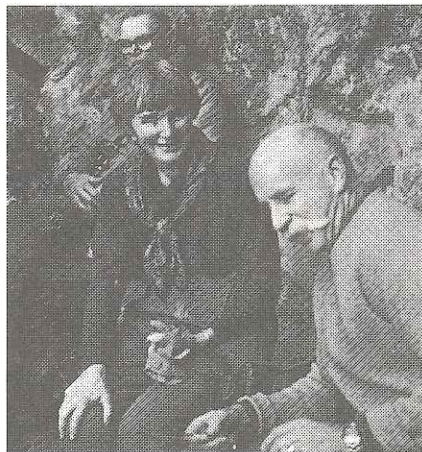
Annual Meeting

Photos by Sue Conklin



*Karyl Ramsey,
President, CTA
Florence Wager,
Chair, Annual
Meeting
Jennifer Belcher,
Commissioner of
Public Lands*

*Karyl Ramsey
Seth Mackie*



*Ken Norman
Nancy Russell
Fred Henschell*

*CTA Cofounder, Don Cannard
Brad Wager
Justin Wager
Claire Bender Ramsey*



The Chinook Blessing Litany was read by Paul Clare at the Annual Meeting, and is printed here by requests of several attendees:

Chinook Blessing Litany

We call upon the Earth, our planet home,
with its beautiful depths and soaring heights,
its vitality and abundance of life,
and together we ask that it

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the mountains,
the Cascades and the Olympics,
the high green valleys and meadows
filled with wild flowers,
the snows that never melt,
the summits of intense silence,
and we ask that they

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the waters that rim the earth,
horizon to horizon,
that flow in our rivers and streams,
that fall upon our gardens and fields,
and we ask that they

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the land which grows our food,
the nurturing soil, the fertile fields,
the abundant gardens and orchards,
and we ask that they

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the forests,
the great trees reaching strongly to the sky
with earth in their roots
and the heavens in their branches
the fir and the pine and the cedar,
and we ask them to

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the creatures of the fields
and forests and the seas,
our brothers and sisters the wolves and deer,
the eagle and dove, the great whales and the dolphin,
the beautiful Orca and salmon
who share our Northwest home,
and we ask them to

Teach us and show us the way.

We call upon all those who have lived on this earth,
our ancestors and our friends,
who dreamed the best for future generations,
and upon whose lives our lives are built,
and with thanksgiving, we call upon them to

Teach us and show us the way.

And lastly, we call upon all that we hold most sacred,
the presence and power of the Great Spirit of love
and truth which flows through all the universe
to be with us to

Teach us and show us the way.

*Chinook Blessing Litany source:
Earth Prayers Around the World
Edited by Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidan*

Columbia River Gorge Workshop
Saturday, March 12, 1994
Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA

The Friends of the Columbia Gorge cordially invite you to an all day session to learn about the latest efforts to protect the Gorge through the National Scenic Area act. Activists from local communities and the Friends will discuss how to get involved in protecting the scenic and natural areas of the Gorge. In attendance will be representatives from the Forest Service, county planning staff, and the Gorge commission. Cost is \$12.50, including lunch at the beautiful Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington.

To receive information on the workshop, please call Friends of the Columbia Gorge at (503) 241-3762, or drop us a line at 319 SW Washington, Suite 301, Portland, OR 97204.

Master Plan for Gorge State Parks

by Mark J. Stenberg, Planner, Oregon Parks & Recreation

The Draft Master Plan for the Columbia Gorge District State Parks was adopted by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Commission at its meeting in January, 1994. An important aspect of the plan was the inclusion of a comprehensive set of trail maps and proposals for the south side of the Gorge. The goal is to get all the existing and proposed trails shown in relationship to OPRD properties and the other trails in the system. Key parts of the Chinook Trail proposal cross OPRD lands in the west end of the Gorge. The Chinook Trail alignment farther to the east is mostly on USDA FS lands.

To complete a "continuous mid-level trail through the gorge" is a goal of the Detailed Draft Master Plan. The proposed Chinook Trail alignment in the west part of the Gorge will provide for some of the recreation needs identified in the plan analysis, which includes more day-use hiking opportunities and trails which have gentler grades.

Trail goals and proposals on OPRD lands will require close and active partnerships with trail users, other agencies, and jurisdictions.

Chinook Trail Association

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 _____

Members receive "The Chinook Trek" and other mailings of Chinook Trail progress.

Send application and remittance to:

Chinook Trail Association

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



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