

National Trails Day June 1, 2019

National Trails Day comes annually
on the first Saturday of June.

This year the Chinook Trail Association will gather
at 9:00 a.m. along the L-1180 road near

Kloochman Butte. The trail work will end at 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be served by CTA.

Please RSVP to tedklump@gmail.com by May 26th.

National Trails Day is one of the days when Washington State
does not require a Discover Pass to use our public lands.

<https://americanhiking.org/national-trails-day/>



Phil Delany hard at it

April 27 CTA Trail Activities

Kelly Butte Work Party - April 27th, 2019

Text by Steve Jones / Picture by Logan Forgey

Gray skies sent a mist onto the windshield as I drove to Kelly Butte Park in southeast Portland. Board member Andrew Mathe had arranged for us to join with Portland Parks and Recreation to remove ivy and other invasive species from the park. When I arrived, Evan Hull was waiting out the drizzle in his car. I had brought a 10x10 shelter and Evan helped me set it up over the coffee, snacks, and water provided by Portland Parks and Recreation.

We met David Grandfield and Gabriel from Portland Parks and Recreation. As we talked, the mist changed to rain. We go to work parties rain or shine but I wondered about the Boy Scout troop that was scheduled to help us. David showed us areas where non-native plants have been pulled by hand and areas that were chemically treated. The hand-pulled areas have a nice variety of native

plants that have sprouted from dormant seeds and young plants that were struggling under the ivy and invasive cherries. The chemically treated areas had large bare patches and just a few different plants and grasses growing.

Soon Logan Forgey and his wife Stephanie, and Andrew Mathe and his wife Deborah Marion arrived. Andrew's friend Jeff along with his wife arrived to join the work party. David took us on a walkthrough and talked about restoring the Kelly Butte area. There have been several ivy pulls already. A fence separating the park from the water bureau property provides a stark contrast in land management. The water bureau property includes ivy-covered tree trunks and the ivy-free trunks in the Kelly Butte Park show us how it should be done.

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Kelly Butte Work Party - continued from front page

English ivy is very invasive. It aggressively competes for water and nutrients and spreads to create a thick carpet of dull green. Ivy smothers out native plants, climbs into trees and can out-compete leaves, killing the tree. An ivy carpet provides a breeding ground for rats.

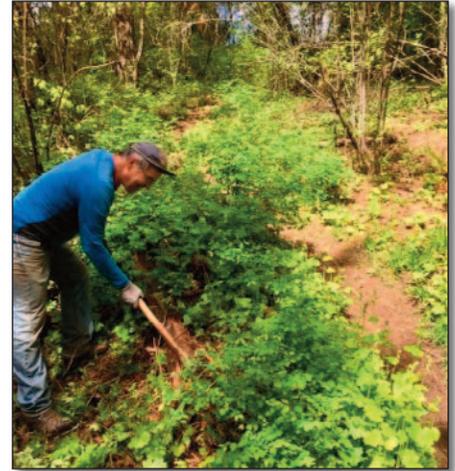
We got our tools and walked down the trail, avoiding the patches of poison oak. I began digging out invasive cherry trees and the rest of the crew piled deadfall and the pulled ivy.

Soon the rain and drizzle stopped and about ten Boy Scouts showed up with their Scout leaders and joined the ivy pulling and deadfall stacking.

The Scouts cut up the larger branches so they could be stacked in piles. The plan is to have native plants transplanted this fall and the branches redistributed to help create a more natural looking forest floor.

We continued working throughout the morning as the weather improved into a perfect day for working outdoors. Most of us went on a trash hunt. The oddest thing we found was an old baby stroller.

By the end of the day we had removed almost all of the invasive cherry trees, several invasive holly bushes, and piles of English ivy. Native plants



such as Fringecup Flower, Duck's Foot, Fairy Bells, and False Solomon's Seal are again thriving in the park.

We appreciated the opportunity to work with David Grandfield from Portland Parks and Recreation and promoting the Chinook Trail.

Pick Up the Burn

Text and Pictures by Steve Klump



Mike Klein surveys the trash

spent shotgun and rifle shells litter our forests, along with the remnants of clay pigeons and the ubiquitous beer can.

It is a good reminder of the value of the Leave No Trace outdoor ethic that many of us hold dear.

After a morning of off-again on-again warmish sun-breaks and cool overcast skies, we headed back for burgers, dogs and chili and the end of a satisfying day of stewardship of the great outdoors.

Rain was dripping off the pop-up shelters as CTA members Ted Klump, Mike Klein and Steve Klump rolled into the Jones Creek ORV trailhead. Joining with other organizations and the people of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), we fueled up on donuts and coffee, got our marching orders, and headed into the maze of forest and logging roads.

Soon we came upon a favorite place where shooters leave their mess behind. Literally hundreds of



Ted Klump raking the coals

New Recreation Manager for the Pacific Cascade Region: Sharon Steriti



This year the Washington Department of Natural Resources welcomes Sharon Steriti as the new Recreation Manager for the Pacific Cascade Region replacing Ryan Schreiner, who moved to New Zealand.

Stretching from the Pacific Ocean to the Cascade Mountains, the Pacific Cascade Region includes the widely diverse counties of Lewis, Pacific, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark and Skamania, along with southeast Grays Harbor. Special attractions include the scenic Columbia River Gorge, Mount St. Helens volcano, Yacolt Burn State Forest, and Toutle Ridge. The Pacific Cascade region includes 480,000 acres of state forest, agriculture, and urban and conservation lands.

The DNR works with groups advocating motorized and non-motorized recreation. Some motorized projects are in progress at Hagen Creek and Jones Creek. Last year eight miles of new motorized trails were created. Other projects for maintenance and reroutes are in progress or in the planning stages.

For non-motorized recreation, the 17 Mile Trail Project is under construction and keeping to the planned timeline. This year should see sections one and three completed and continued work on section four occurring. This year there are two bridge installs planned for the 17 mile project. DNR is using fiberglass bridge trusses for lower maintenance and ease of assembling. The heaviest sections of these bridges weigh about 90 pounds which makes transporting the bridges to the placement site relatively easy.

Sharon comes to DNR from the U.S. Forest Service where she worked for the Gifford Pinchot National Forest at Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. She brings 20 years of experience working in recreation, primarily in the Climbing and Trails Program, where she

worked to build advocacy for trails with the many volunteers and partners of the U.S. Forest Service. Sharon did her undergraduate work at the University of Washington in Writing and earned her graduate degree in Natural Resource Management from Virginia Tech University. When asked about her most rewarding part of working in recreation she said “. . . the most rewarding things I enjoy about working for public lands is public service, land stewardship and the opportunity to work with amazing people doing wonderful things in beautiful places.”

Just before starting with DNR She finished an assignment working in support of the Eagle Creek Fire Recovery efforts in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Sharon started at Washington DNR January 2nd.

Sharon is looking forward to getting to know all the user groups and working together to enhance recreational opportunities on state trust lands. She is excited to be working at DNR and learning about the organization, groups, and the job. Sharon expects the current staffing level to be maintained in the region for this year.



Chinook Trail Association

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Mark your calendars

Sat., June 1st

**National
Trails Day**

RSVP by May 26th

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CTA 2019 Annual Meeting February 24, 2019

February 24th found our CTA members gathering for the annual brunch and celebration of our vision of the Chinook Trail. Highlights of the afternoon included thoughts from Vancouver's new mayor **Anne McEnerny-Ogle**. Anne has been a supporter of CTA for many years and we always look forward to her time with us.

The featured speaker was **Ryan Ojerio**, Southwest Regional Manager for the Washington Trails Association. Ryan shared a fascinating slide show detailing how the WTA and the CTA make a great partnership, working for the future of trails in our piece of paradise.

A wonderful brunch provided by Kathryn's Artistic Catering set the stage for a great afternoon of friendship and inspiration.

CTA Memberships and Financial Support

Your CTA Board is gathering steam for a more vibrant year. With our eyes on the future we are renewing our efforts to plan, scout and construct new portions of the Chinook Trail. To that end we are scheduling a trail scouting event on Saturday, July 20th. Watch for details.

We also know that maintaining the treasured trails we have requires volunteers and financial resources. And so, our planning for 2019 includes efforts to recruit

new members and expand our base of financial support.

If you received this newsletter in the mail you likely already support CTA with your membership dues and gifts for special projects. If you haven't already done so, this is an excellent time to renew or begin your membership in the CTA. Enclosed you will find a return envelope with all the information you need.

Your membership and gifts to the CTA keep the vision alive.

The Chinook Trail was founded in 1986 as a non-profit 501c3 organization. The vision of the Chinook Trail Association (CTA) is to assist in the planning and construction of a 300-mile loop trail encircling the Columbia River Gorge, from Vancouver Lake to Maryhill, Washington and Biggs, Oregon to Portland and then back to Vancouver. The Chinook Trail is in the Washington State Trails Plan, the Oregon State Trails Plan, the Columbia Trails Plan, and Greater Metro trails plan utilizing the 40 Mile Loop Trail. Where and when appropriate, the CTA will participate in the maintenance of the trail system.