

# Coast Trails!

*Newsletter of the National Coast Trail Association / PO Box 2491, Eugene, OR 97402 / Projects 2016/2017*

## Corvallis-to-Sea Trail expected to officially open Spring 2017

**First half of route to be available for recreation, permit application to be filed to finish the trail**

Corvallis, OR – The *Corvallis-to-Sea (C2C) Trail Partnership* is expected to officially open the eastern 35-mile section of the *Corvallis-to-Sea Trail* to non-motorized recreation in Spring 2017.

"One of the more heartening things that I have experienced in my almost 14 years with the *C2C Trail Partnership*," notes Chapman, "is the willingness of people to stay with the long process needed to create the trail. I suppose that most of them truly enjoy the hard work, the outdoor experience, and the comradery of like-minded people. I know they are all proud of the work we have accomplished to date and they look forward to future accomplishments."

The history of the *Corvallis-to-Sea Trail* is long and varied, stretching back in time to 1972, when Phil DeLucchi, *Siuslaw National Forest (SNF)* landscape architect, first proposed the concept.

The first attempt to develop the trail started with DeLucchi's vision, and involved *Oregon State University (OSU)* students, *Siuslaw National Forest (SNF)*, the *US Bureau of Land Management (BLM)* and others. But concerns over timber resources and their management plus political reasons eventually stopped the initial efforts in 1984.

The second attempt from 1991 to 1997 again involved *OSU* students and the two federal agencies initially involved. In fact, a Memorandum of Understanding was developed between the *SNF* and *BLM* in 1993 and they agreed to share responsibility for planning and related capitalization of construction projects. In 1994 *OSU* students prepared a *Corvallis-to-the-Sea-Trail* project plan for *SNF*, and it had their unanimous support with a commitment to complete the planning phase in 1995. Shortly thereafter, however, the *City of Corvallis* opposed allowing the proposed trail route through its watershed lands, and the recreation resources of both agencies shrunk to the point of barely maintaining existing trails and facilities with a "no-new-net-trail-miles policy" adopted for the *SNF*.

The current attempt began at a 2003 meeting in Corvallis to gauge the interest in renewing the effort to develop the trail. This meeting thus began a coalition of interested stakeholders and eventually led to the organization of the grass-roots *C2C Trail Partnership*.

The *National Coast Trail Association* contributed various resources, both staff time and funds, beginning in 2003 towards the planning and development of the trail. This included facilitating the strategic planning process, submitting a successful grant application for early technical assistance from the *National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program*, funding to develop an official trail logo, the donation of trail tools and safety equipment for volunteers, lobbying the Oregon delegation in Washington DC for political support, public relations assistance, and also provided consultation over many years on various issues.

"We are encouraged by the *Siuslaw National Forests* willingness to enter into special use agreements with us," adds Chapman, "and hope that a new permit process that we will begin in 2017 can open up the opportunity to finish the trail over the next several years."

*(Article uses information & trail logo of the C2C Trail Partnership/C2CTrail.org.)*



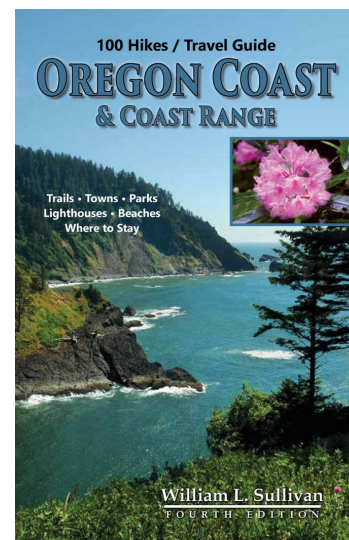
## OR coast hikes/travel guide, revised edition released 2016

**Oregon author updates his classic coastal book, offered here is the books own promotional info**

**100 Hikes / Travel Guide: Oregon Coast & Coast Range 4th Edition** by William L. Sullivan is a complete coastal guide describing hiking trails, campgrounds, museums, towns, and lighthouses from Washington's Long Beach Peninsula and south along the Oregon coast to the redwoods of northern California.

The expanded and revised fourth edition includes 122 maps, a 32-page color travel guide to coastal highlights, a guide to the Oregon Coast Trail, a wildflower guide with color photos, a catalog of campgrounds, and a chart of the best inns and quaint hotels on the Oregon Coast.

Whether you're touring Highway 101 or exploring off the beaten path, this guide has everything you'll need to plan a trip to Oregon's spectacular coast. *(Visit [OregonHiking.com](http://OregonHiking.com) for more information.)*



## Vision of National Coast Trail becoming reality around USA

**Trail grows through dreams and efforts of many**

"We're called the *National Coast Trail Association (NCTA)* because our vision is literally the development of a national trail system along the coasts and borders of the United States," says Al LePage, *NCTA* founder and executive director, "and since we started some twenty plus years ago it continues to grow and become a reality."

The *National Coast Trail (NCT)* concept essentially connects other long-distance trails, both on land and water, which continue to be envisioned and developed through the efforts of various organizations, agencies and others. Some major connecting trails are as follows:

- ♦ Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, 800 miles, Kayak TX to FL
- ♦ Florida National Scenic Trail, 500-mile section, Hike within FL
- ♦ SE Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail, 800 miles, Kayak FL to VA
- ♦ East Coast Greenway, 800 miles used, Bike VA to ME, plus ferries
- ♦ Great Northeast Trail, 750 miles, Hike, Kayak, Bike ME to NY
- ♦ North Country National Scenic Trail, 4,600 miles, Hike NY to ND
- ♦ Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, 1200 mi., Hike MN to WA

The *NCTA's* primary goal since it began in 1994 has been the development of America's "*West Coast Trail*," an 1800-mile hiking trail from Washington's NW tip to the Mexican border connecting the coastal trails of WA, OR and CA. Their "*Great Northeast Trail*" concept was promoted in 2004 when LePage hiked, kayaked and biked 750 miles of existing and proposed trails to serve as the *NCT* segment from the Atlantic to the Great Lakes. The completion of the *Oregon Coast Trail* continues to be one of the organization's major objectives.

*(Simply "google" the above trail system names for more detailed information.)*

# Trail Development

## Working for Recreation & Public Access

### OCT: New Section, Reroute, Reopened, Update

A significant new connection for the *Oregon Coast Trail (OCT)* along the north coast, a 1.6 mile natural surface trail, will be built to complete the gap from Neahkahnie Mountain to the beach in Manzanita. The *City of Manzanita* received a 2016 *Recreational Trails Program (RTP)* grant for \$95,833, the total project cost is \$120,315, and in a volunteer capacity, Connie Soper, *Oregon Coast Trail* author and long-distance hiker, will serve as its project manager. The trail will essentially be located along the *Oregon Department of Transportation* right-of-way of Highway 101 with a tentative time-frame to complete routing, design and construction during 2017.



**OREGON  
COAST TRAIL**

Also, a reroute of a half mile or more portion of the *Oregon Coast Trail* along the south coast in *Cape Sebastian State Park* involved flagging a new section, removing brush and establishing new trail tread. This project was also funded through an *RTP* grant of \$17,201 and was completed Summer 2016.

A significant mudslide associated with the heavy rainfall in mid-December 2015 completely washed away a fiberglass bridge and closed a section of the *Amanda Trail* segment of the *Oregon Coast Trail* south of Yachats, OR. However, the trail was able to be reopened in June 2016 through the cooperative efforts of volunteers, government agencies, various groups and others.

Finally, an update regarding last year's story on the repair and restoration of degraded sections of trails in *Oswald West and Cape Lookout State Parks*. The overall project was delayed due apparently to park staff changes, needed scope modifications and time-line constraints of available matching funds for the *RTP* grant. The *Oregon Parks and Recreation Department* is working on a plan for how to move this project forward. (Image credit/OPRD)

### "C2C" Signage Developed, Approved, Installed

The *Corvallis-to-Sea (C2C) Trail Partnership* had to delay the anticipated 2016 opening of the eastern half of the *C2C Trail* to create maps and develop, get approval, purchase and install over one hundred signs to mark the official route. Although both projects had taken longer than planned, the first signs were installed in December 2016, and this projects expected to be completed during Winter 2017 with a formal opening of the 30-mile section from Corvallis to *Big Elk Campground* west of Harlan, OR in Spring 2017. (Info & trail logo/C2C Trail Partnership/C2CTrail.org.)



### Oregon Coast Trail 2021 Plan Presented

The *National Coast Trail Association (NCTA)* presented their updated *Oregon Coast Trail 2021: Final Connections, Logistics Strategy* plan to *Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (ORPD)* coastal staff and the *Oregon Recreational Trails Advisory Council* during Winter 2016. The year began with an extended presentation in Florence with Dennis Comfort, *OPRD* Coastal Region Manager for the entire coast, and continued through other meetings with *OPRD* district and park managers along the entire Oregon coast. The concept of designated "backpacker-only" primitive campsites in specific day-use state parks to serve the logistic needs of long-distance hikers was also presented.

# Education

## Promoting Coastal Trails to Everyone

### Redesign, Launch New NCTA Main Website

The *National Coast Trail Association (NCTA)* main website, *CoastTrails.org*, first launched in 1999, will be redesigned literally from a 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>-century website, and launched during 2017 to better serve our members, the organization and its visitors. Visit our *OregonCoastTrail.info* "sub-website" focusing on providing basic information that long-distance hikers and backpackers need to travel the *Oregon Coast Trail*; its annual update during Spring 2017.

# Conservation

## Taking Action for Coastal Preservation



Courtesy of the Gaviota Coast Conservancy / Image Credit: © Bill Dewey

### Gaviota Coast Plan Approved, CA Coastal Trail

The *Gaviota Coast Plan* was approved by the *Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors* in November 2016, the culmination of a process involving 130 public meetings over a seven-year period. The location of the Gaviota Coast "Plan Area" begins where the California coast bends east at Point Conception to Goleta, north of Santa Barbara. The purpose and intent of the Plan's "Parks, Recreation and Trails Element" is to create quality recreational experiences for the public, while preserving and protecting valuable natural resources, cultural resources, agricultural operations and adjoining land uses, and the rural character of the Plan Area. This part of the plan also includes planning and policies for the future development of the California Coastal Trail (CCT), envisioned as a continuous interconnected public trail system along the California coastline. The CCT is of primary interest to the *National Coast Trail Association*, given it's a significant section of their vision and efforts to realize an 1800-mile "West Coast Trail." (Information from *Gaviota Coast Plan* and *GaviotaCoastConservancy.org*)

### Bayocean Spit Testimony, Protection Sought

The *Tillamook County Commission* invited public input in August 2016 regarding the future of Bayocean Spit and the *National Coast Trail Association (NCTA)* supported the transfer of county land there to the *Oregon Parks & Recreation Department* as a state natural area. The *NCTA's* preferred *Oregon Coast Trail* route uses a ferry to cross Tillamook Bay from Garibaldi Marina, travel over the spit and then south along the beach. The organization will work with others during 2017 towards realizing the protection of Bayocean Spit in the future.

The two-sided one sheet print version of this newsletter uses recycled paper and soy-based inks. Printed by **Uprinting.com**

The annual election of board members, in accordance with the National Coast Trail Association's existing bylaws, requires the general membership to vote for their election. Similarly, this is also the current situation regarding amendments to the bylaws. The following candidates have submitted the following statements in this regard for your consideration, and a bylaw amendment is also included. This ballot needs to be received by January 20<sup>th</sup> to be counted, although you also have the option of voting online. Thank you for your hopeful participation in the 2017 board election and bylaw amendment.

### CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FOR 2017 BOARD MEMBER ELECTION

Candidate **Benjamin Ward**, Portland, OR – Incumbent

I have been a long time supporter of the National Coast Trail Association (NCTA), and Oregon, my home for the last 34 years, has a gem in its beach access law (golden anniversary in 2017), quite different than in New England where I grew up. So, what originally attracted me to the organization was its focus on enhancing everyone's access and use of our great coast with its work on the Oregon Coast Trail. Through NCTA's work and the efforts of like-minded people, organizations, agencies and coastal communities, coastal access and preservation is now better than in the past. Of course, NCTA's efforts have not been limited to the Oregon coast, also working on important trail issues in Washington state and elsewhere. Likewise, I feel I shouldn't limit my NCTA support to yearly financial contributions. While I am not new to participation on boards (congregation, alternative school program), this would be my third year with this non-profit. Any board benefits from multiple skill sets -- and my strongest is as a lifelong engineer -- is a tendency to focus on problem solving and attention to details. If elected again, I will continue to carry out my responsibilities, attend to the organizations current needs, and work on any structural changes required for its future health.

Candidate **Kristen Leibelt**, Portland, OR – Incumbent

I'm a long-time member of the National Coast Trail Association, a board member for the last two years, and have followed the organization's progress over the years with great interest.

I strongly support the primary tenets of the organization: to promote trail development, to provide education aligned with coast trails and to support conservation of those environs. I believe in the organization's actions for equal public access to beach and coastal areas as critical components to the success of their efforts to "Keep the coast for everyone."

I would like to further express my support in the upcoming year by serving again as a board member of the National Coast Trail Association.

Candidate **Matthew Pellico**, Vancouver, WA – New Candidate

My involvement with National Coast Trail Association centers in my personal history.

My first trail of memory was the beaten down path across our five acre field that the we used as a shortcut to the local grade school. Later as a Boy Scout, a trail was a means to explore the area around a campsite. Later still, a trail was a challenging five day route across Isle Royale National Park. On the way we learned to work together, to share the excitement, and to look out for each other. And I benefited along the way gaining a personal connection with nature.

Now I think of trails as a natural and spiritual means for egress. Before all modern transportation, humans got from place to place on their feet under their own power. We possess a natural connection to our ancient past that is satisfied when we get out on trails today. We have a hardwired need for this connection, and preserving trails is a great way to protect this need.

A coastal shoreline is unique because tidal action deters most near-shore development, and that leaves a natural easement much as it would have existed thousands of years ago. Our legacy should not only be to document and preserve, but also build and maintain our coastal trails for future generations. All this reflects why I want to serve as a board member of the National Coast Trail Association.

### BYLAW AMENDMENT FOR NCTA 2017 BALLOT

"Section \_\_\_\_ Amendment of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The Board of Directors may amend or restate the Articles or bylaws, and the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the entire Board of Directors is necessary and sufficient to do so. Provided, however, that only the voting members may approve amendments that relate to the number of directors, the composition of the Board, the term of office of directors, the method or way in which the directors are elected or selected, or the qualifications of voting members. The affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members participating in the vote is necessary and sufficient for the approval of such amendments. Proper written notice must be given in advance, including either a written copy or written summary of the proposed amendments."

### NATIONAL COAST TRAIL ASSOCIATION 2017 OFFICIAL BALLOT

#### CANDIDATES

Please **vote for three** Board Members  
by marking an "x" in the adjacent boxes

**Benjamin Ward**

**Kristen Leibelt**

**Matthew Pellico**

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#### BYLAW AMENDMENT

Please **vote either yes or no** regarding the bylaw amendment  
by marking an "x" in the adjacent box

YES  / NO

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**VOTE ONLINE through Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> at this direct link**  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YGMQHPK>  
**OR . . . Print and Mail this ballot**  
**which must be received by January 20<sup>th</sup> to the . . .**

**National Coast Trail Association**  
**PO Box 2491**  
**Eugene, OR 97402**

**THANK YOU FOR VOTING!**

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**OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
**National Coast Trail Association**  
General Membership Meeting, 10:00-10:30 AM  
First Quarterly Winter Board Meeting, 10:30-12:30 PM  
**Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> 2017**  
334 SE 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97214

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