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CALIFORNIA TRAILS & GREENWAYS 2019

AWARDS PROGRAM



April 23rd-25th
Viejas Resort in San Diego, CA

MERIT AWARDS - DEVELOPMENT

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE'S MODOC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, COUNTY OF MODOC, AND THE CITY OF ALTURAS

Alturas to Modoc Trail Project

As of June 2018, pedestrians and bicyclists no longer have to share the road to access the Modoc National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). With major funding provided by the Federal Lands Transportation Program, the County of Modoc, City of Alturas, and Modoc NWR joined together to construct a 1.7-mile paved multi-use trail, providing residents of Alturas with safe access to the refuge and the refuge's trail system. The new two-lane asphalt pathway, set off of county roads, is an amazing high desert amenity that has provided far-reaching benefits to the community.

CITY OF BREA

The Tracks at Brea

The Tracks at Brea was developed in six segments and celebrated its grand opening with completion of the final segment in May 2018. The primary goal of the project was to close a critical gap in the 66-mile multi-modal trail system and connect the city-wide trail with adjacent communities, while providing access to a regional trail system. The trail project transformed a blighted and contaminated railroad corridor into a 4-mile, two-way paved bikeway and separate pedestrian path, providing public access to the Brea Senior Center, Boys and Girls Club, six schools, the Brea Mall, and numerous employers.

2020 AWARD NOMINATIONS CALIFORNIA TRAILS & GREENWAYS

Do you know of individuals or projects currently underway that are worthy of special recognition? The Conference Awards Committee will release nomination information for next year's awards in the fall of 2019. These awards are your opportunity to bring acknowledgment and appreciation to the individuals, organizations, agencies, and businesses that, through hard work, integrity, and social responsibility, have made outstanding contributions to promote, enhance, or expand public awareness and use of trails and greenways in California during calendar year 2019.

Full details about the Awards Program can be found on our website at:

www.parks.ca.gov/trails/ctg

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE AWARDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

CATHY HAAGEN- SMIT

*California Trails
Conference Foundation*

TERRY HANSON

American Trails

BOB KINGMAN

*Sierra Nevada
Conservancy*

RON KREUPER

*California Trails
Conference Foundation*

KATHY LONGACRE

*San Luis Obispo
County Trails Advisory
Council*

TYLER SUMMERSETT

*Tuolumne County
Transportation Council*

VICTORIA TOUCHSTONE

*U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service*

JIM TOWNSEND

ACME Consulting

APPRECIATION TO THE AWARDS COMMITTEE

LARRY TIERNEY

California Trails Conference Foundation, Retired

LAURALEE SVENDSGAARD

California Trails Conference Foundation, Retired

CHARLIE WILLARD

California State Parks, Retired

HONORABLE MENTION

SAN DIEGO CANYONLANDS

City Heights Canyons Loop Trail

Completed in March 2018, the City Heights Canyons Loop Trail crisscrosses urban San Diego through more than 150 individual and interconnecting canyons spread over 10,000 acres of open space. The Loop Trail improves residents' quality of life, supports active lifestyles, encourages appreciation of the outdoors through a sustainably designed urban trail system, and opens opportunities and awareness of the need to protect and enhance urban wildlife habitat. KTU+A Planning and Landscape Architecture served as consultants for the project.

CONCERNED OFF-ROAD BICYCLISTS ASSOCIATION AND THE MOUNT WILSON BICYCLING ASSOCIATION

Gabrielino National Recreation Trail Restoration Project

The historic Gabrielino National Recreation Trail (NRT) is a 27-mile trail in the Angeles National Forest and was the first NRT designated in the country. The Gabrielino Trail was destroyed by the Station Fire of 2009 and subsequent El Niño storms. Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association led a collaborative effort to restore the trail with the U.S. Forest Service and Mount Wilson Bicycling Association. After 1,900 volunteer hours and much skill and determination, the project was completed and the trail reopened on August 24, 2018, just a few weeks before the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Pinole Shores to Bayfront Park Project

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) completed the San Francisco Bay Trail's Pinole Shores to Bayfront Park project on September 12, 2018. The project closed a critical gap in the Bay Trail within the City of Pinole, in western Contra Costa County. This \$13.2M project is a result of over 30 years of collaborative planning between EBRPD, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR), and the cities of Pinole and Hercules. This 1/2 mile Class 1, paved, multi-use trail and bridge project travels 1,500 feet along the hillside bluff between the Burlington Northern Santa Fe and UPRR tracks until it sweeps north via a 1,100-foot concrete bridge structure over the UPRR tracks and a Kinder-Morgan high pressure gas pipeline, then descends between UPRR's tracks and sensitive tidal marshland to Bayfront Park in the City of Pinole.

MERIT AWARDS - PLANNING

RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

Comprehensive Trails Plan

Completed in 2018, the County of Riverside's Trails Plan develops a backbone trail network that is feasible, compatible with other plans, leverages trails within other jurisdictions, and closes gaps throughout the countywide trail system. The plan creates guidance for the design of trails and recommendations for the future management of regional trails. It also achieves a balance between function, recreation, and the environment, and provides recommendations for a sustainable, manageable, and funded program. ALTA Planning + Design served as the consultant for the plan.

PAST WINNERS OF CALIFORNIA TRAILS AND GREENWAYS CONFERENCE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

LIFETIME VOLUNTEER ACHIEVEMENT

1994- *George Cardinet*

1996- *Hulet Hornbeck*

1997- *Vie and George Obern*

1998- *Claude A. (Tony) and Mildred Look*

1999- *Ilse Byrnes*

2005- *Barbara Weitz and William (Bill) Bliss*

2007- *John and Arvie Degenfelder*

2009- *Ron Brown*

2010- *John Olmsted and Michael Kelley*

2013- *Elizabeth "Liz" Blackwelder*

2014- *Lauralee Svensgaard and Jim Hasenauer*

2017- *Maryanne Vancio, Kurt Loheit, and Ron Webster*

LIFETIME PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

1995- *Ross Henry*

2000-2001- *Charlie Willard*

2001-2002- *Greg Wells and Steve Fiala*

2005- *Doug Andrews*

2006- *Bill Haire*

2008- *Peter Lewis*

2009- *Don Beers, Bob Doyle and Karl Knapp*

2010- *Steve Diers*

2012- *Terry Hanson*

2015- *Dick Troy*

2018- *John Kolb and Stephan Vance*

CALIFORNIA TRAILS AND GREENWAYS CONFERENCE TRAIL CHAMPIONS

PATRICIA RIGGS

With unselfish contributions of time and energy spanning over 40 years, Patricia has achieved significant improvements to San Diego County's trails and California's regional trail system. A staunch advocate of trails at a time when trails often drew negative outcries in public forums, her steady, respectful efforts breathed new life into the state's historic California Riding and Hiking Trail. She also mobilized efforts to connect communities by restoring and linking existing trails to the numerous unincorporated communities within the county. While preferring to be in the background, Patricia's steadfastness and perseverance has been a driving force behind San Diego County's trail movement. Her exceptional leadership skills, unwavering determination, and dedication have assured success for many of San Diego County's trail endeavors.



MERIT AWARDS - SOCIAL MEDIA, WEBSITES, AND TECHNOLOGY AWARD

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Old Survey Road 97 Trail User Video and Self-Issued Permits Program

The Old Survey Road 97 Trail User Video and Self-Issued Permits Program is a part of the Department of Parks and Recreation's innovative solutions to balance public access with the protection of natural resources. The department created an educational video and established a self-permitting process, allowing trail users to watch the video and receive an online permit that provides access to the Old Survey Road 97 Trail. The trail, which was in active use by missionaries, ranchers, and military personnel in the late 1800s, is located within the Ramona Grasslands County Preserve. In addition to its historical significance, the preserve and trail contain many sensitive biological resources. Increased public interest stretched the limits of docent-led tours, and in 2018 the department developed an innovative solution through the Old Survey Road 97 Trail User Video and Self-Issued Permits Program -- allowing the public to access the trail on their own and ensure that trail users are aware of environmental constraints in the area. The permit system also allows the department to comprehensively track trail users, and revoke permits for one season if established rules are not followed.

The video can be seen here: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dmpr/gfx/ramona-grasslands-quiz/>.

CALIFORNIA TRAILS AND GREENWAYS CONFERENCE TRAIL CHAMPIONS

DAN ARDOIN

A volunteer and trail crew leader for the City of Santa Maria's Los Flores Ranch Park Recreational Open Space for over 7 years, Dan has been instrumental in working to expand the park's trail system from 8 miles of access roads to a 15-mile, multi-use trail network for hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian use. His insight, hands on attitude, experience, knowledge, and keen eye for detail helped ensure a safe, sustainable trail for all users. Dan's deep passion for building and expanding sustainable trails throughout the Central Coast, and teaching others the importance of trails and open space has been vital to the success of the Los Flores Ranch Park's sustainable recreation goals



CALIFORNIA TRAILS AND GREENWAYS CONFERENCE TRAIL CHAMPIONS

STEVE MESSER

Steve began riding mountain bikes in the early 1980s, and has since served as an indefatigable advocate for responsible trail use and etiquette. On the Board of the Concerned Off Road Bicyclists Association since 2010 and President since 2014, he attends numerous meetings each week. He is recognized by Southern California's trail advocates, as well as local, state, and federal agencies, as committed to stakeholder participation in trail planning efforts and for his efforts to restore trails and habitat destroyed by the Station Fire. He has mentored several successful Eagle Scout Projects, and is deeply committed to fostering knowledge, skills, responsibility, and a spirit of volunteerism in youth – believing it is our best investment in the future of trails.

