

National Trails Coalition Newsletter

NTC PROJECTS NEARING COMPLETION

National Trails Coalition Update

The 470 National Trails Coalition projects are in the home stretch of completion. The March 31st deadline for all trails is only two months away. There are many projects from each of the three sectors (ATV-OHV, Snowmobile and Non Motorized) that have been completed and have already been well utilized. The NTC program has partnered with several different trail organizations in every province and territory to build, enhance and change the trails all across Canada. With these strong partnerships and leadership residents of Canada now have access to thousands of kilometres of new trail, reconstructed and new bridges, freshly groomed trails, shelters, GPS mapping, interpretive sites and more. The National Trails Coalition has worked tirelessly to insure that all Canadians have access to trails in their communities and have ensured the trails of Canada are destinations that our residents and tourists from around the globe will want to visit. Trails are vital



This project improved 1200 kms of snowmobile trail and refurbished a bridge in Ontario's Bruce County and Grey County.

links in every community. They bring together a diverse group of individuals that all share the common appreciation of nature and healthy living. Our Canadian trails offer everyone a safe place to exercise, spend time with friends and family, enjoy nature and explore. There is still much work to be done on trails all across the country. There are so many resources that have been

untapped and are just waiting for access to trail improvements. Together we can keep improving our Trails.

National Trails Coalition The Sequel

The Board Members of the National Trails Coalition have been lobbying hard to ensure that the NTC program is extended for a longer term. Each Member of Parliament with a trail project in their riding has been contacted and the feedback we've been receiving

is astronomically in favor of doing more good work to further the trails of Canada. With the long list of projects that could not receive funding during the 2009-2010 program because capacity had been reached it is the sincere hope of the NTC Board that they can continue

their good work to improve the lifestyles and communities of all Canadians through trails. Collaboration—The future of trail development.



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www.ntc-canada.ca

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Special points of interest:

- Canadian trails are steeped in rich history.
- Trails are a healthy and safe way for all age groups to participate in a healthy lifestyle.
- Trails are a safe haven for many endangered species of flowers, foliage and water fowl.
- Canada offers trails near rainforests and deserts, enormous fjords, thriving orchards and vineyards.

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Profile of Regional Trails Coordinator Terje Vold-BC

Terje Vold has spent his life trying to improve the environment. He takes pride in nature and wants to foster the relationship between people and the planet. He obtained his B.Sc degree in Forestry from Berkley and his Masters Degree in Forestry specializing in outdoor recreation from the University of British Columbia. He is also a registered professional biologist His appreciation and respect for the environment and his quest to improve the planet for others makes him a great fit for the National Trails Coalition . Terje's diverse background in forestry gives him great insight into the functionality of trails. Terje has been the president of Terje Vold Consulting &

Associates and during this time took part in many interesting projects dealing with all aspects of environmental concerns and studies. Terje has also held positions as a Manager & Deputy Directory , Forest Practices Branch, Ministry of Forests. He has also been the International Relations Forester, Economics & Trade for the Ministry of Forests. He has helped develop and provide LAC training , and led preparation of a discussion paper on wilderness management policy, assessed numerous comments, and prepared final policy document that was approved by government. Terje also brings considerable experience in outdoor recreation and recreational trails, and has

recently had the privilege of working with key provincial recreation/trails organizations as lead consultant providing support for the Trails Strategy for BC and earlier as lead consultant assisting the BC Off-Road Vehicle Coalition. He has many years experience working directly with recreation trail organizations and various levels of government (federal, provincial, regional and municipal) on a variety of recreation and trail-related matters. Terje Vold is an champion for our environment and trails enthusiasts. He has worked tirelessly to improve the trails of British Columbia while still respecting the ecosystems around them.

Alberta Project Photo



This section of trail is near the Crowsnest Pass in Alberta. This project included mechanical brushing, trail relocation to restore original drainage patterns.

Profile of Regional Trails Coordinator Jeff Gruttz-AB

Jeff Gruttz has been using, volunteering and working with trails for most of his life. He is a member of the Alberta Bicycle Association, an Alberta TrailNet board member, ministerial appointed member of the Alberta Recreational Corridors Committee, co founder of Kananaskis County Volunteer Trail Care Group, a board member of the Friends of Kananaskis County and a founding board member of SHAPE (Safe Healthy Active People Everywhere) and the list goes on.

Jeff resides in Calgary and since 1987 has been working as the City of Calgary Parks Public Education and Programs Liaison. He is an avid cyclist and brings his many years of trail knowledge and experience to the National Trails Coalition table. Jeff's current life pleasures include fostering the recognition of "doorstep accessibility" to walking & bicycling opportunities on trails and streets, bicycle tour and travel, backcountry foot supported travel– backpacking and day

hikes, bicycle commuting and dualsport motorcycle travel and camping. Jeff also studied Resources and Environment at the Univ. of Calgary and has a BA in Geography. He also regularly attends city staff training sessions on workplace effectiveness, planning initiatives and health/safety and environment training.



Profile of Regional Trails Coordinator Pat Rediger-SK

Pat Rediger is the managing partner of Benchmark Public Relations, a full-service agency with offices in Regina, Saskatoon and Winnipeg. The firm provides strategic communications and marketing services to more than 200 organizations including the Saskatchewan Trails Association (STA). Benchmark Public Relations was founded in 1992 and operates two subsidiaries, Benchmark Press, a book publishing company; and Benchmark Conferences and Seminars, an education and training company.

Pat serves as the Administrator for the STA and provides support for its numerous committees and working groups. His company has worked on numerous trail-related projects including the

launch of Saskatchewan Trails Day, the creation of Saskatchewan Trails Magazine, and assisting with the strategic plan development for trails in the province. His company has also worked on recreation projects with the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, Saskatchewan in motion, Sask Sport Inc., Saskatchewan Cycling Association, and KidSport Saskatchewan.

Pat has volunteered on numerous boards and committees including serving as the President of the Saskatchewan Writers Guild and chair of numerous SWG committees; the Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation, Western Canada Magazine Awards Foundation, Grey Cup '95 Media Relations Committee, Can Am Police Fire Games Media Relations Committee, and the Canadian Synchronized Skating

Promotions Committee.

Pat is married to Lynn Gidluck and has three children: Anna, 9, Maria, 7, and Eva, 2. In his spare time he enjoys hiking, cycling, and downhill skiing.

Saskatchewan Project Photo

A new surface was added to the Woodlands Trail in Saskatchewan.



Profile of Regional Trails Coordinator Lynn LaFleche-MB

Lynn LaFleche has over 22 years experience as a *District Sales & Financial Manager*, leading the financial functions of sales operations with up to 30 employees and \$70 Million in receivables. She is recognized for her ability to identify continuous change, which will reduce cost, enhance quality, and increase margins.

Lynn is a hands on individual who is known for her unique and innovative ideas. Her leadership skills are one of her

best assets and have aided several prominent companies in meeting and surpassing goals. Her knack of seeing ways to do more with less is what sets her apart. Lynn lives in Grande Pointe Manitoba with her family and they all share a passion for outdoor living. It is this love and enthusiasm of nature that lead Lynn to the National Trails Coalition. Her experience in managing groups and organizations gives her great insight into

what this pilot project needs to be successful. Her strong people skills make her a natural leader and her years of implementing her ideas into working processes gives her clients a clear path for goal achievement.



BCORMA Project Profile

British Columbia Off-Road Motorcycle Association, also known as BCORMA, has been actively improving trails with a strong focus on safety and the environment for off-road motorcyclists for many years. British Columbia has some of the best places to ride in the world and this province has over 2000 kms of trail in use. They are the voice for off-road motorcycling in British Columbia. When they heard of the federal funding for trail improvements and construction were available from the Economic Action Plan through the National Trails Coalition they knew they were perfect candidates. This club has a very active member base and once the word went out they started raising matching funds to make the project as large as possible. They raised over \$1,000,000 and this amount was matched by the NTC program.



The BCORMA project was broken down into 10 sub projects. The 10 project locations are in the Blue Mountain, Squamish, Chipmunk Creek, Nickle Mine and Vedder, from the lower Mainland area, Tansky of Vancouver Island, Kamloops of the Thompson-Okanagan area and Taylor from the Peace region of British Columbia. These projects have provided key trail riding opportunities while addressing the ecological and social impacts. The goal has always been to create a sustainable system of off-road motorcycle trail and provide endless opportunities and trail experiences. The project areas are used by the vast majority of the 50,000 off-road motorcycle riders in the province of British Columbia. These projects also provided 50 jobs during the construction. The projects solidify the future of the off-road motorcycling sport in British Columbia and give the riders a legal and safe place to gather and recreate. The many opportunities for growth in this sport will continue to bring the province of British Columbia to the fore front. British Columbia can continue to be a showcase for all riders in North America and beyond.

"BCORMA's mandate is to protect and advance off-road motorcyclists' interests and rights to enjoy world-class trail networks in BC through representation to provincial and local governments, their agencies, industry, and other recreational trail stakeholders," said Mr. Sprague. "Through this project we will be building and rehabilitating to modern best

practices for social and ecological sustainability up to 1000 kilometers of shared-use trails in British Columbia."

Peter Sprague, Executive Director, BCORMA

The Bear Creek Recreation Site is one of the sub projects and a prime example of trail evolution. Bear Creek is 35,000 hectares of recreation possibilities and has historically been open to unrestricted OHV use. This unrestricted use has created a wide gamut of problems and issues pertaining to water quality, erosion, noise, aesthetics, safety, liability, social conflicts, illegal road use as well as the impact on timber production, range and wildlife. A way to placate these issues was to contribute to a designated, managed trail systems that was designed and built to provide quality riding opportunities for off-road motorcycles and ATVs.

The BCORMA projects created 53 kms of new trail, 186 km of upgraded trail, 98 kms of rehabilitated trail and 70 bridges that were less than 50 feet in length. Further trail work will continue until the March 31st NTC deadline.

These photos are from trail work done at Bear Creek.

