



Oregon

CROWN ZELLERBACH TRAIL STUDY



National Park Service
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation
Assistance Program

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

September 26, 2006
Columbia County
Courthouse
230 Strand Street
St. Helens, OR
6:00-8:00 P.M.

Advisory Committee

Members:

Bill Eagle, Parks Comm.
Bobbi Luper, Resident
Beth Pulito, Resident
John Hanken, Scappoose
Robyn Bassett, Vernonia
Maggie Peyton, NWC
Noni Anderson, Vernonia
David Graf, Resident
Debra Drake, BLM
Steve Small, BLM
Mike Shannon, OPRD
Dan Lucas, OPRD
Rocky Houston, OPRD
Alison Charbonneau, SBWC
Tim Ohling, Parks Comm.
Bryon Rickert, Weyerhaeuser
Keith Klecker, Hancock
Gloria Rice OET
Ray Scholl, PUMP Org
John Joy, PUMP Org
Jim Tierney, Resident
Shawna Sykes, Resident
Phil & Paul Barlow, Barlow Bikes
Jim Davidson, Resident

Staff

Tony Hyde, Commissioner
Dave Hill, Roads
Lonnie Welter, Roads
Janet Wright, Proj. Mgr.
Glen Higgins, Planning
Aaron Clodfelter, Roads
Lori Baker, Parks

National Park Service

Bryan Bowden,

Volume 2, Issue 2

Summer, 2006

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Crown Zellerbach Advisory Committee has been working on the development of a concept plan for the Crown Zellerbach Trail, along with technical planning assistance provided by the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service. This is the second of a series of newsletters that is designed to inform and engage you in this planning process.

The idea for the development of the Crown Zellerbach Trail into a premier regional recreational facility began more than ten years ago, and was finally purchased by Columbia County in December, 2004.

The "Concept Plan" that is being developed will result in a written document that: describes the common vision for the trail including the type of use; design ideas, engineering, and permitting issues; the potential management and operational needs; identifies partnerships; describes potential funding sources; and presents recommendations for implementation.

This newsletter provides summarized information about various draft documents that have been reviewed and discussed with the Advisory Committee in meetings held over the past six months. These documents will be used to prepare the full Concept Plan, which will be the last stage of the project.

The draft documents can also be viewed and downloaded from the County's Website at [www.co.columbia.or.us/parks/cz trail study](http://www.co.columbia.or.us/parks/cz%20trail%20study).

CZ TRAIL OPEN HOUSE!!!

*Stop in anytime between
6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.*

SCAPPOOSE

**Tuesday, August 1, 2006,
City of Scappoose Council Chambers
Scappoose, OR**

VERNONIA

**Wednesday, August 2, 2006
Scout Cabin,
Vernonia, OR**

VISION STATEMENT

The Crown Zellerbach trail embodies the spirit of Columbia County's past, present and future. It enriches people's lives by fostering appreciation, pride and respect for the region's natural resources and cultural heritage. The Trail spurs the local economy and cultivates a sense of place and community that is genuine and unique.

The trail and support facilities:

- will allow a wide range of non-motorized activities such as walking, bicycling, and horseback riding;
- are designed for safety, accessibility and sustainability;
- conserve, protect and educate about the region's natural, historic, and cultural resources;

Continued on Page 2



(Continued from page 1)

- Connects communities and neighborhoods to other areas, businesses and
- Are sensitive in design and management to potential impacts on adjacent landowners, residents and neighbors;
- Are the result of many partnerships, coordinated management and citizen involvement.

CZ Logging Road

DRAFT NATURAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

The Draft Natural Cultural Resources document provides a general overview of the History, Geology, Cultural Resources, such as the Native American tribes and the pioneers that settled in Columbia County. Also addressed is the logging and railroad history, which brings us back to how the Crown Zellerbach Logging Road began.

This section of the plan will provide a rich list of historical information that can be used for educational and interpretive displays depicting the County's association with logging and the timber industry, our geological foundations associated with the Columbia River Plateau, vegetation, streams of the area including fish and other wildlife users might encounter along the trail. Providing a historical perspective allows trail users to appreciate and respect our cultural heritage and past.



Scappoose Early Days

DRAFT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Advisory Committee has worked on drafting proposed goals and objectives for the trail, which outline design characteristics, accessibility and sustainability requirements. The purpose of defining goals and objectives helps in seeking funding for development of the trail, and shows potential funder's that there is a vision and clearly defined outcomes.

Following are the draft goals for the Plan:

- Goal 1:** Design an attractive, safe, accessible and sustainable trail that meets the recreation and transportation needs of bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian users.
- Goal 2:** Develop a public/private "Trail Management Partnership" to coordinate various stakeholder interests in the day-to-day management and operation of the trail.
- Goal 3:** Create a linear centerpiece that is a principle feature in defining Columbia County as a healthy, family oriented region located near Portland but with its own unique identity.
- Goal 4:** Provide opportunities for people to learn about the natural and cultural resources in the area.
- Goal 5:** Promote and market the benefits of the trail.
- Goal 6:** Steward the natural and cultural resources in and along the trail corridor.

The Goals and Objectives will define the future development on the trail. They will assure that the community vision for the trail will be first and foremost in its development and also assure that the plan is sustainable and meets design criteria.

DRAFT
TRAIL DESIGN CONCEPTS

The Advisory Committee discussed design concepts for the trail and the Draft Design Concepts document was the result of input received from those discussions.

The trail will be a multipurpose, non-motorized trail, designed for recreation, education, health, and transportation purposes. It will accommodate multiple uses and activities including walking, jogging, bicycling, and horseback riding. The trail will be designed to be accessible for all users wherever possible, including people with mobility and visual impairments.

The trail will be developed along an old railroad/logging road corridor that was originally engineered and constructed to support heavy trains, trucks, equipment, and machinery. It is a gravel road surface that has been hardened and compacted from years of use and will make an ideal trail surface for years to come. The gravel surface will be retained as the preferred surface for the trail from Highway 30 to Vernonia. In the Scappoose area (from Highway 30 to Chapman Landing), the trail surface will be asphalt.

Wherever possible, the trail will be maintained at a minimum width of 12 feet. Maintaining a 12 foot width will provide plenty of room for all users and will allow Columbia County to manage the trail using service vehicles for maintenance and operations. Emergency vehicles will also use the trail when necessary for emergency purposes.

Chapman Landing Area



YOU ARE INVITED!!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

A public tour of the trail will be held on September 23rd.

Time and meeting place to be determined.

For details you can contact Janet Wright at 503-397-1035 or check out our

website at

[www.co.columbia.or.us/Parks/CZTrail Study](http://www.co.columbia.or.us/Parks/CZTrail%20Study)

DRAFT
MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

The Management and Operations of the trail is proposed to be handled jointly in partnerships with other cities, agencies and interested groups that own and/or manage and use the lands that the trail crosses. Columbia County will serve as the lead or anchor organization in this partnership and will have the primary responsibility to design, build, and manage the trail.

Other partners include:

- City of Scappoose
- City of Vernonia
- Timber Companies, such as Weyerhaeuser & Hancock Timber Resources
- Oregon State Parks and Recreation Dept.
- Bureau of Land Management
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- Watershed Councils
- Special Interest Groups, i.e. Equestrian & Bicycle Groups

It is anticipated that Columbia County will enter into a number of formal agreements with these and other partners for sharing development, maintenance and operation costs, and implementing operational procedures for specific trail segments.

The trail will be managed as a day-use (dawn to dusk) facility. This does not mean it will be physically 'closed' at dark. It means management of the trail will assume trail users primarily use the trail during daylight hours and trail development design will not purposefully encourage nighttime use.

Other topics include Maintenance, Operations Funding, Trail Safety, Civic Support, Trail Etiquette and other important aspects which establish the policies for how the trail will be operated.

DRAFT
INTERPRETATION & EDUCATION

Interpretation refers to a program designed to provide informative and educational material to people on a variety of topics directly related to a specific area or region. These topics are usually related to the areas natural and cultural resources, but can include other topics such as local industry, economic activity, and folklore. This information can be presented utilizing a variety of media such as signs and displays, brochures, guided walks and tours, web sites, information kiosks, and K-12 curriculum guides.



Lady on Logging Wagon

Interpretive Themes

When developing an interpretive program, it is important to carefully select a few primary themes and keep to them. Some programs try to do too much and end up diluting messages and missing opportunities. There are literally hundreds of topics that could be interpreted relevant to the CZ Trail corridor, so packaging topics thematically will help focus peoples attention to a few carefully selected primary messages called 'Interpretive Themes'.

The Advisory Committee recommended the following themes for development of an interpretive and education program for the CZ Trail:

- Wildlife, Plants and Habitat
- Human History and Culture
- Logging, Railroads and Lumbermen
- Current Land Use (Industry, Recreation, and Economic Activity)
- Geology



Scappoose High School 1912

Interpretive Methods

The success of interpretive efforts is strongly influenced by the location chosen for the effort. Good site selection will insure that there is a compelling story at a specific site that is directly related to the subject matter of the interpretive material. By planning and coordinating location sites, interpretive theme's can be fully explored without over producing or cluttering the landscape.

Signs and Exhibits

The purpose of interpretation is to enhance a person's experience of a site and to introduce its stories. To be most effective, signs and exhibits should be unified, uncluttered, and compatible with the site.



The development and use of a common and consistent 'family' of signs (i.e., recognizable as one system) creates a sense of unity among the sites and various interpretive media used. Uniformity in colors, text style, size and the use of a common layout style help achieve this goal.

Brochures

Brochures are an inexpensive and effective way to provide interpretive and educational material and they offer a great deal of flexibility in their design and use. For example, a series of brochures could be produced on different subjects and made available through the mail, at local businesses, at trailheads, or on a website.