

National Trails Intermountain Region

FY 2015 Superintendent's Annual Report Aaron Mahr, Superintendent

Archaeological Field Research



Complex trail projects start with on-the-ground studies. Clockwise: GTI Environmental archaeologist preparing to excavate shovel test pit at Lobanillo swales in East Texas on El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail; USFS archaeologist partners conducting metal detecting survey at La Bajada in New Mexico on El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail; Geophysical survey in Nebraska as part of archaeological field research, focusing on investigations at Cottonwood Springs and Cold Springs Pony Express stations on the Pony Express National Historic Trail.



Summary

I'm pleased and proud to present the National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) Superintendent's Report for Fiscal Year 2015. In the pages that follow you'll once again see an extensive collection of accomplishments and activities achieved by an exceptional group of dedicated and highly skilled trail administrators who comprise the NTIR team. Working in close collaboration with a growing community of trail partners, NTIR plays a leadership role in bringing the National Trails System into the 21st century.

Our projects and programs not only help to fulfill the NTIR mission "to promote the preservation and development of national historic trails for public use, enjoyment, education, and inspiration," but also contribute to the fulfillment of the NPS Call to Action. The expansion of mobile applications, online interactive maps, and enhanced social media covered Go Digital (C2a Goal #17), History Lesson (C2a Goal #3), Stop Talking and Listen (C2a Goal #13), and Out with the Old (C2a Goal #19). We also directed greater attention to providing the public with retracement opportunities along authentic trail alignments, helping to fulfill In My Backyard and Parks for People (Goals C2a #s 4 and 5).

We signed a new MOU with the University of New Mexico, which gave us office space there in Albuquerque and initiated an internship program. The partnership has worked well in promoting NPS relevancy and diversity. We hired two students for the Latino Heritage Internship Program and developed two Volunteers-in-Parks student opportunities. This program will continue to expand. In addition, NTIR's commitment to telling the American Indian story continues as we consulted with 21 tribes on a wide variety of projects.

For the National Park Service's 100th birthday, we established a centennial committee that created goals and objectives and planned for NTIR's involvement with the NPS Centennial. In total, 16 events have been planned across nine national historic trails, dovetailing with project dedications and trail treks.



Aaron Mahr,
Superintendent, National Trails Intermountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
Aaron_mahr@nps.gov, 505-988-6736













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Acronym List

AIANTA - American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association
ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act
BLM - Bureau of Land Management
CALI - California National Historic Trail
CARTA - El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association
CAS - comprehensive administrative strategy
CCSP - Challenge Cost Share Program
CESU - Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
CMS - content management system
CTTP - Connect Trails to Parks
DCP - developmental concept plan
DOT - Department of Transportation
EA - environmental assessment
EIS - environmental impact study
ELCA - El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail
ELTE - El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail
ELTEA - El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association
FS - feasibility study
FY - fiscal year
GIS - Geographic Information System
HFC - Harpers Ferry Center
IMR - Intermountain Region (National Park Service)
LIDAR - Laser Interferometry Detection and Ranging
MTSU - Middle Tennessee State University (Center for Historic Preservation)
MOU - memorandum of understanding
NEPA - The National Environmental Policy Act
NHP - national historic park
NHS - national historic site
NHT - national historic trail
NPEA - National Pony Express Association
NPF - National Park Foundation
NPS - National Park Service
NTIR - National Trails Intermountain Region
NTS - National Trails System
NWR - national wildlife refuge
OCTA - Oregon-California Trails Association
OLSP - Old Spanish National Historic Trail
OREG - Oregon National Historic Trail
OSTA - Old Spanish Trail Association
PEPC - Planning, Environment and Public Comment
POEX - Pony Express National Historic Trail
ROSI - Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program
RTCA - Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance program
SAFE - Santa Fe National Historic Trail
SFTA - Santa Fe Trails Association
SHPO - State Historic Preservation Office
TOTA - Trail of Tears Association
TRTE - Trail of Tears National Historic Trail
UNM - University of New Mexico
USACE - United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA - United States Department of Agriculture
USFS - United States Forest Service
USFWS - United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WASO - Washington Office

Executive Summary of FY15 Accomplishments (October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015)

-  Completed a MOU with the University of New Mexico (UNM), hired two students for the Latino Heritage Internship Program, and developed two Volunteers-in-Parks student opportunities. Implemented three task agreements under the NPS-UNM MOU: a GIS agreement with the Geography Department, and both a cultural resource agreement and a landscape architecture agreement with the College of Architecture and Planning.
-  Established CESU partnership with Stephen F. Austin State University for a digital media intern for FY16.
-  Established NPS Centennial committee that created goals and objectives, and planned for NTIR's involvement with the NPS Centennial. Created Find Your Park experiences for ELCA, ELTE, and TRTE.
-  Organized and facilitated two capacity building interpretation workshops for TRTE and SAFE. TOTA attendees included 20 board and association members from four states. SFTA attendees included 40 participants from five states.
-  Completed Draft Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) for MOPI in Utah and amended the TRTE MPDF (still in draft form). Completed two TRTE National Register nominations in Kentucky and in Tennessee, and listed three properties for SAFE in southeast Colorado.
-  Established five new certification partnerships, including sites on SAFE, OREG, CALI, POEX, and TRTE. There are over 190 certification partnerships with nonfederal entities along eight national historic trails.
-  Completed 15 new wayside exhibits, provided technical assistance on 41, and initiated seven across nine NHTs. Completed audio description on 11 videos for three NHTs.
-  Created 300 mobile app/media tour stops including photos, video, maps, audio files, text, and links for three intersecting trails, SAFE/OLSP/ELCA, across seven states. Presented mobile app presentation to NTS GIS network.
-  Conducted two design and interpretation charettes at Fort Armistead, Tellico Plains, Tennessee (TRTE) and at Valle de Oro NWR, Albuquerque, New Mexico (ELCA).
-  Completed 28 sign plans for 542 signs across 244 miles for eight NHTs.
-  Completed four CCSP, four CTP, and 17 base-funded projects across nine NHTs.
-  Submitted four Call to Action Success Stories.

Administration and Staffing

NTIR offices in FY15 administered nine national historic trails, a historic corridor preservation program, and continued three ongoing trail feasibility studies and one comprehensive administrative strategy.

Organization and Purpose

NTIR staff in Santa Fe and a branch office in Salt Lake City administer California, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, El Camino Real de los Tejas, Mormon Pioneer, Old Spanish, Oregon, Pony Express, Santa Fe, and Trail of Tears NHTs; and Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and Old Spanish NHTs are coadministered with the Bureau of Land Management.

Budgets

In FY15, NTIR received a total of \$3,509,400 in ONPS funding. In addition, NTIR received \$212,500 for planning and \$110,100 for Connect Trails to Parks projects. See Table 1 for a breakdown of funding by trail.

Staff

Historian Angelica Sanchez-Clark started October 1; Cultural Resource Specialist Mike Elliott and Tribal Liaison Otis Halfmoon left October 3; Chief of Trail Operations Sharon Brown retired January 3; Historian/Planner Susan Boyle retired February 26; Outdoor Recreation Planner Brooke Safford left April 11; Administrative Officer Bob Sandlin retired May 30; Chief of Planning Gretchen Ward left June 27; Chief of Interpretation Carole Wendler started March 8; Cultural Resource Specialist Jill Jensen started May 31; Planner Mike Elliott started June 14; Administrative Officer Kelly Shea and Deputy Superintendent John Cannella started August 23.



Table 1. NTIR Funding for FY15

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Trail or Program</i>	<i>Received</i>
ONPS	Santa Fe National Historic Trail	\$752,200
	Trail of Tears National Historic Trail	\$481,100
	Oregon National Historic Trail	\$419,800
	California National Historic Trail	\$340,600
	Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program	\$284,100
	El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail	\$280,200
	Pony Express National Historic Trail	\$245,500
	Old Spanish National Historic Trail	\$239,600
	Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail	\$237,600
	El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail	\$195,000
	Masau Trail	\$ 33,700
	TOTAL ONPS	
Planning	Chisholm and Great Western NHT FS/EA	\$ 42,500
	OREG, CALI, MOPI, POEX (Four-Trails) FS Amendment/EA	\$ 80,000
	Butterfield Overland Trail Special Resource Study/EA	\$ 50,000
	OLSP CAS	\$ 40,000
TOTAL PLANNING		\$212,500
CTTP	ELTE - Cane River Creole NHP ethnographic assessment	\$ 69,500
	SAFE - develop media tour content with national parks	\$ 24,100
	OREG/CALI - develop Oglala Lakota educational film	\$ 16,532
TOTAL CTTP		\$110,100
TOTAL		\$3,832,000

CALI/MOPI/POEX: NTIR is collaborating with Scotts Bluff National Monument on wayside exhibit planning.



Partnerships and Programs

With the exception of MOPI, each national historic trail has a primary partner organization that supports trail-related research, interpretation, and development, and promotes public interest and heritage tourism. NTIR provides financial assistance to each of these organizations from its base ONPS funding. Table 2 below identifies the financial assistance that NTIR provided each trail organization in FY15.

Table 2. NTIR Organizational Support for FY15

<i>Partner Organization</i>	<i>Funding Provided</i>
Trail of Tears Association	\$180,500
Santa Fe Trail Association	\$177,027
Oregon-California Trails Association	\$158,300
National Pony Express Association	\$101,570
El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT Association	\$ 92,005
Old Spanish Trail Association	\$ 91,500
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Association	\$ 65,620
TOTAL	\$855,722

Dixon Ford with Thor and Zeus demonstrating how to drive oxen at Alcove Spring, Kansas.



Courtesy Tom Parker

Trail Studies

NTIR is conducting three feasibility studies per the 2009 Omnibus Public Lands Management Act requirements, and one comprehensive administrative strategy.

OREG, CALI, MOPI, POEX (FOUR-TRAILS) FEASIBILITY STUDY AMENDMENT/EA

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Continued internal review of significance, feasibility, suitability, and desirability of all routes
- Completed GIS mapping of all routes and placed on PEPC site
- Completed document draft and bibliography
- Selected preferred and environmentally preferable alternatives
- Prepared draft tribal consultation plan
- Prepared and submitted significance statement to WASO
- Scheduled Director's Order-45 team review
- Scheduled NPS Advisory Board National Historic Landmark Committee review

BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND (OX-BOW ROUTE) TRAIL FS/EA

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Received WASO policy memo; began revision of draft document to respond to WASO policy memo
- Prepared maps and figures for draft document
- Began editing document content and formatting

CHISHOLM AND GREAT WESTERN NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS FS/EA

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Released document for public review and comment
- Compiled and analyzed public comments
- Revised draft study and produced final version
- Prepared Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

OLD SPANISH NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL CAS

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Prepared draft CAS
- Initiated editing contract with RECON Environmental, Inc. to finish editing, incorporate graphics, and assembly of a final CAS
- Determined consultation pathway and communications plan
- Developed federal notices for the change in documentation to CAS and to trademark trail logo

El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail

During the Spanish Colonial era, ELTE was a “royal road” that provided an overland route from Mexico and across the Río Grande to Los Adaes in what now is western Louisiana. Comprehensive management planning for administration of the trail, authorized in 2004, has been completed.

Key Partners/Cooperators: ELTEA, Texas Historical Commission, City of San Antonio, Webb County Heritage Foundation, Border Heritage Museum, River Pierce Foundation, Lamar Bruni Vergara Environmental Science Center, Laredo Community College, GTI Environmental, LLC , Robertson County, Sabine County, San Augustine County, Office of Councilman Mike Gallagher (San Antonio District 10), and Texas DOT.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Coordinated a one-day community outreach event in Laredo, Texas, “El Camino Real de los Tejas in Northern Mexico and South Texas,” held at the Border Heritage Museum. Purpose: To engage Hispanic community members in South Texas and NTIR colleagues in Mexico in the preservation, interpretation, and development of ELTE; to increase awareness of NTS and NPS; to increase interest and participation in ELTEA. Identified new partnership opportunities with Webb County Heritage Foundation, Border Heritage Museum, River Pierce Foundation, and Lamar Bruni Vergara Environmental Science Center at the Laredo Community College. Engaged the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) centers in Nuevo León, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas, Mexico to attend binational El Camino Real workshop, to be held in Laredo in June 2016. Partnered with ELTEA.
- Completed archaeological investigations at Lobanillo swales in East Texas that resulted in a historic research report, an archaeological report, and a draft national register nomination. Some portions were translated into Spanish as needed. The cultural data that was recorded will guide plans for visitor experiences at the site. Based funded. Partnered with GTI Environmental, LLC and ELTEA.
- Conducted site planning and interpretation development at Lobanillo swales in East Texas. Completed draft DCP; included Spanish translation of text in example exhibits. Base funded. Partnered with ELTEA.
- Coordinated with ELTEA to schedule a 2016 centennial event at McKinney Falls State Park with Austin school system; to be held on National Trails Day, June 4, 2016.
- Completed a rack card for use at welcome centers. Base funded.
- Coordinated replacement of and additions to Passport to Your National Parks stamp program along trail.
- Completed a sign plan for Sabine County, Texas, to place 19 original route signs across 15 miles. Funded by ELTEA and Sabine County. Partnered with ELTEA, Sabine County, Texas Historical Commission, and Texas DOT.
- Completed a sign plan for Robertson County, Texas to place 18 original route signs

across 28 miles. Funded by ELTEA and Robertson County. Partnered with Robertson County, ELTEA, Texas Historical Commission, and Texas DOT.

● Completed a sign plan for Brazos County, Texas to place 21 original route signs across 32 miles. Funded by ELTEA and Brazos County. Partnered with Robertson County, ELTEA, Texas Historical Commission, and Texas DOT.

● Completed a sign plan for the City of San Antonio, Texas to place 23 original route signs across seven miles. Funded by ELTEA and the City of San Antonio. Partnered with the City of San Antonio, the Office of Councilman Mike Gallagher (San Antonio District 10), ELTEA, Texas Historical Commission, and Texas DOT.

● Completed a sign plan for San Augustine County, Texas to place 22 original route and historic site name signs across 20 miles. Funded by ELTEA, San Augustine County, and private donations. Partnered with San Augustine County, ELTEA, Texas Historical Commission, and Texas DOT.



Lobanillo swales in East Texas has seven deep swales created from caravan traffic starting in the 1700s.

El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail

ELCA is one of the oldest roads in the US, and was authorized as a national historic trail in 2000. It is a timeless route of trade and cultural exchange and interaction among Spaniards and other Europeans, American Indians, Mexicans, and Americans. This internationally significant trail is coadministered by BLM and NPS.

Key Partners/Cooperators: CARTA, OSTA, BLM, USFS, USFWS, UNM, USACE, New Mexico SHPO, Isleta Pueblo, Cornerstones Community Partnerships, Valenzuela Preservation Studio, Valle de Oro NWR, Santa Fe County, Bosque del Apache NWR, Friends of the Bosque del Apache NWR, The Henley Company, Post Modern Media Services, Morrow Reardon Wilkinson Miller, Ltd., Cochiti Pueblo, Trust for Public Land, El Rancho de las Golondrinas, El Paso Community Foundation, El Paso County Historical Commission, El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization, and El Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Completed analysis and report of artifacts excavated from the early 17th-century mission at Isleta Pueblo through task and cooperative agreements. Funded by NTIR. Partnered with Isleta Pueblo.
- Finalized National Register of Historic Places listing of Hubbell House in Bernalillo County, New Mexico. Base funded. Partnered with the New Mexico SHPO.
- Completed an interpretive plan and three new waysides at Point of Lands in Bosque del Apache NWR, San Antonio, New Mexico. Funded by CTTTP. Partnered with Bosque del Apache NWR, Friends of the Bosque, and The Henley Company. Placed on ELCA website.
- Provided technical assistance on Martineztown site plan for landscape and interpretation recommendations for Martineztown Park, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Base funded.
- Provided guidance and reviewed drafts for four projects associated with La Bajada, a significant cultural landscape located 17 miles southwest of Santa Fe, New Mexico.
 - # Cultural Landscape Report, phase II. Funded by CTTTP. Partnered with Morrow Reardon Wilkinson Miller, Ltd and UNM through a CESU.
 - # Interpretive plan. Base funded. Partnered with USFS, BLM, USACE, Cochiti Pueblo, Trust for Public Land, local organizations, private landowners, and Valenzuela Preservation Studio.
 - # Historic roadbed stabilization. Funded by USFS through an Interagency agreement with Regional National Trails Office, USFS, Southwestern Region. Partnered with Cornerstones Community Partnerships through a CESU.
 - # Metal detection. Funded by USFS through an Interagency agreement with Regional National Trails Office, USFS, Southwestern Region. Partnered with NPS Heritage Partnerships Program, IMR.

- Facilitated one half day interpretation workshop for El Rancho de las Golondrinas, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Introduced docents to interpretation concepts and how they can be applied at the site. Base funded. Partnered with El Rancho de las Golondrinas.
- Conducted a design charette at Valle de Oro NWR located in the South Valley of Albuquerque, New Mexico; proposed site planning, interpretation, and education across a one-mile retracement trail and in the visitor center. Completed CTTTP project proposal to finance retracement trail and wayside exhibits. Base funded. Partnered with USFWS. Conducted ELCA presentations at Valle de Oro NWR third birthday event.
- Completed SAFE/ELCA/OLSP Children's Musical performance for the 2015 3-Trails Conference (SFTA/CARTA/OSTA) in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Base funded. Partnered with SFTA, OSTA, CARTA, and Santa Fe teacher (playwright, director, song writer, prop maker, and seamstress). Wrote articles for Wagon Tracks (SFTA) and Spanish Traces (OSTA). Videotaped musical and placed on SAFE/ELCA/OLSP websites. Sent copies of musical to SFTA/CARTA/OSTA.

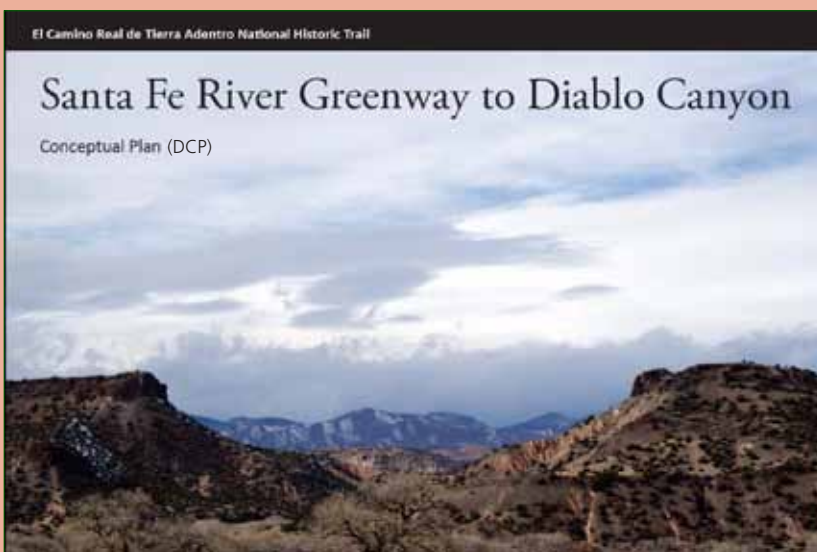


Fourth and fifth graders from Carlos Gilbert Elementary School in Santa Fe, New Mexico, perform an awesome musical covering three national historic trails: El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, Santa Fe, and Old Spanish.

- Completed audio description contract for three ELCA videos; uploaded onto website. Base funded. Partnered with Post Modern Media Services.
- Submitted dedications and unveiling events for wayside exhibits and family of highway signs to InsideNPS.
- Coordinated replacement of and additions to Passport to Your National Parks stamp program along trail.
- Developed CTTTP proposal for the Buckman Road retracement trail project. Funded in 2016. Partnered with the Santa Fe County, BLM, and USFS. This project works in concert with the \$1.8 million in Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) funding that Santa Fe County received for the project in 2014. Funding will construct 15 miles of retracement trail and fabricate original route and pedestrian signs.

- Assisted El Paso County Texas partners to gain approval from the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization to place road signs on ELCA through Texas. Partners secured \$1.5 million to implement an existing NTIR sign plan. Funded by El Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority. Partnered with El Paso Community Foundation, El Paso County Historical Commission, El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization, and El Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority.
- Provided review and input into New Mexico State Transportation Plan and Santa Fe Metropolitan Area Transportation Plan to include ELCA as a component. These plans are the basis for the expenditure of millions of dollars of transportation funds.
- Installed 36 pedestrian and site identification signs across three miles on the Santa Fe River Greenway. Provided technical assistance for five new wayside exhibits along Santa Fe River Greenway Trail—phase two of the exhibit project. Funded by CCSP. Partnered with Santa Fe County.

ELCA



Clockwise top left: Valle de Oro NWR south of Albuquerque, New Mexico is partnering with NTIR to produce a 1-mile retracement trail with exhibits. USFS archaeologists conduct a metal detection survey at La Bajada mesa south of Santa Fe, New Mexico. The DCP provides 13 miles of interconnected open space and trails in Santa Fe County. The new trail starts at Diablo Canyon trailhead and joins the Santa Fe Greenway. The greenway links to the historic Santa Fe plaza.

Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail

MOPI commemorates those Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who left Illinois in 1846 and continued on to the Great Salt Lake Valley the following year. MOPI was authorized in 1978 and consists of the original 1846-47 route from Nauvoo, Illinois to Salt Lake City, Utah.

Key Partners/Cooperators: Mormon Trails Association state chapters, HFC, OCTA, Brigham Young University, Utah SHPO, Scotts Bluff National Monument, Fort Laramie NHS, Chimney Rock NHS, Oregon Trail Museum Association, University of Utah, and RTCA.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Accepted second draft of National of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form prepared by Brigham Young University (BYU) and initiated preliminary review with Utah SHPO. Partnered with BYU and Utah SHPO to identify prospective sites and segments for individual nominations. Base funded.
- Provided technical assistance for visitor center exhibit remodel and wayside exhibit planning project at Scotts Bluff National Monument (SCBL), Gering, Nebraska. Attended exhibit design charette and wayside exhibit planning meetings. Drafted wayside proposal; submitted for review October 2015. Exhibit/wayside planning funded by CTFP. Partnered with SCBL, Fort Laramie NHS, Chimney Rock NHS, HFC, OCTA, and Oregon Trail Museum Association.
- Published article on traditional use and training of oxen, “Oxen: Engines of the Overland Emigration,” in *Overland Journal*, vol. 33 (1), Spring 2015, pp. 4-29.
- Updated Utah National Historic Trails mobile tour, transitioned from OnCell to Toursphere platforms. Created 37 new pages, reviewed and updated all 122 pages, and updated interactive map. Base funded.
- Printed 20,000 Utah National Historic Trails Mobile App rack card. Base funded.
- Trained Urban Rangers at University of Utah on national historic trails. Designed a sticker to promote national historic trails. Drafted social media communications plan for program. Base funded. Partnered with University of Utah and RTCA.
- Printed 94,500 copies of Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail Official Map and Guide. Base funded.
- Printed 10,000 copies of Nebraska Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide. Base funded.



Powerful, tractable, and hardy, oxen were the draft animal of choice for most overland emigrants. Credit: Sally Gray

Old Spanish National Historic Trail

BLM and NPS jointly administer this historic trade route between Santa Fe and Los Angeles. OLSP was authorized in 2002.

Key Partners/Cooperators: OSTA, SFTA, CARTA, BLM, USFS, USACE, HFC, Aztec Ruins National Monument, Mesa County, and City of Grand Junction.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Established an OLSP research committee with OSTA.
- Provided technical assistance for three new wayside exhibits at Aztec Ruins National Monument (AZRU), Aztec, New Mexico; supplied images; coordinated in-house review of comments. Partnered with AZRU, HFC, BLM, and OSTA.
- Completed SAFE/ELCA/OLSP Children's Musical performance for the 2015 3-Trails Conference (SFTA/CARTA/OSTA) in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Base funded. Partnered with SFTA, CARTA, OSTA, and Santa Fe teacher (playwright, director, song writer, prop maker, and seamstress). Wrote articles for Wagon Tracks (SFTA) and Spanish Traces (OSTA). Videotaped musical and placed on SAFE/ELCA/OLSP websites. Sent copies of musical to SFTA/CARTA/OSTA.
- Created 30 OLSP mobile app/media tour stops including photos, video, maps, audio files, text, and links. Tour itineraries for northern New Mexico and southern Utah. Designed and fabricated signs to promote the tour. Funded by CTFP. Partnered with OSTA. Tour location is at safe.toursphere.com beginning at stop 3000.
- Coordinated trip to Largo Canyon and Caracas Canyon on the Carson National Forest in northern New Mexico to continue filming for orientation podcast for the New Mexico corridor. Partnered with USFS and BLM.
- Initiated a plan for trail signage and interpretation starting at Abiquiú Dam and extending to the Ghost Ranch trail system, which connects to the Continental Divide Trail, Rio Arriba County near Abiquiú, New Mexico. Partnered with USACE.
- Installed 37 original route, site identification, and directional signs across seven miles of OLSP near Grand Junction, Colorado. Base funded. Partnered with OSTA, Mesa County, City of Grand Junction, and BLM.
- Provided review and input into New Mexico State Transportation Plan and Santa Fe Metropolitan Area Transportation Plan to include OLSP as a component. These plans are the basis for the expenditure of millions of dollars of transportation funds.
- Installed 16 road signs across two miles from the Santa Fe to Tesuque, New Mexico. Base funded. Partnered with OSTA.



Signing OLSP from Santa Fe to Tesuque, New Mexico

Oregon and California National Historic Trails

OREG was authorized in 1978 and CALI was authorized in 1992; both trails followed the same corridor from the Missouri River to southwestern Wyoming, where they split and led to Oregon and California. They share many of the same organizations, resources, and stories.

Key Partners/Cooperators: OCTA and its chapters, NPEA, BLM, USFS, RTCA, NPF, HFC, University of Utah, Lander Trail Foundation, Exxon Mobil Corporation, Shoshone-Bannock tribes, Hugo Neighborhood Association & History Society, Jackson County Parks, Alcove Spring Preservation Association, Alcove Spring Historic Trust, City of Rocks National Reserve, City of Sugar Creek, City of Independence Parks and Recreation, Malheur County, City of Kansas City, Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, Oglala Lakota College, Humboldt State University, Scotts Bluff National Monument, Fort Laramie NHS, Chimney Rock NHS, Oregon Trail Museum Association, Wyoming Military Department, Wyoming National Guard, NPS Denver Service Center Transportation, Pannier Graphics, Interpretive Graphics, Marysville Health and Fitness, El Dorado County, and Doniphan County.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Facilitated digitization of photographs and documents from the Henderson Collection at the Legacy of the Plains Museum in Gering, Nebraska. Funded by and partnered with OCTA.
- Initiated an Interagency Agreement for monitoring, archeological fieldwork and documentation, and stabilization of OREG trail trace in the Vale District. Base funded. Partnered with Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center and BLM in Baker City, Oregon.
- Completed recording and transcription of oral history interviews with Lakota elders at Pine Ridge Sioux Reservation. Partnered with Oglala Lakota College. Base funded.
- Established CESU to develop a film documenting the impact of historic trail travel on the Oglala Lakota in South Dakota. Funded by CTTP. Partnered with Humboldt State University, Arcata, California and Oglala Lakota College, Kyle, South Dakota.
- Researched and wrote a brief history of the central Idaho OREG corridor (Boise to Glens Ferry) with focus on the Canyon Creek site. Partnered with BLM (Idaho State Office) and OCTA Idaho chapter.
- Created a wayside exhibit and site plan at Canyon Creek Stage Station and a story map for the Main Oregon Trail Back Country Byway, Idaho. Base funded. Partnered with BLM (Boise field office) and OCTA.
- Provided technical assistance to develop three new wayside exhibits with Lander Trail Foundation and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Fort Hall, Idaho. Funded by Lander Trail Foundation via ExxonMobil Corporation. Partnered with Lander Trail Foundation, ExxonMobil Corporation, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and Interpretive Graphics.



New exhibits at Emigrant Lake County Park on CALI near Ashland, Oregon

- Completed three new wayside exhibits at Emigrant Lake County Park on the Applegate Trail near Ashland, Oregon. Completed MOU for project between Hugo Neighborhood Association and History Society (HNAHS), Oregon Jackson County Parks (Emigrant Lake County Park), and NTIR. Base funded. Partnered with HNAHS and Oregon Jackson County Parks. Installed Fall 2015.
- Developed a proposal to replace wayside exhibits, develop a new trail segment, and plan an event at City of Rocks National Reserve, Malta, Idaho. Conducted site visit, drafted wayside plan, and submitted CTFP funding request, which was approved for FY17. Base funded. Partnered with BLM (Burley office) and OCTA.
- Recommended interpretive media options for Hensley-Salt Lake Cutoff from Salt Lake City to Raft River Narrows, Idaho. Base funded. Partnered with OCTA.
- Provided technical assistance for visitor center exhibit remodel and wayside exhibit planning project at Scotts Bluff National Monument (SCBL), Gering, Nebraska. Attended exhibit design charette and wayside exhibit planning meetings. Drafted wayside proposal; submitted for review October 2015. Exhibit/wayside planning funded by SCBL CTFP. Partnered with SCBL, Fort Laramie NHS, Chimney Rock NHS, HFC, OCTA, and Oregon Trail Museum Association.
- Created a combined OREG/CALI Facebook page; added links to websites.
- Published article on traditional use and training of oxen, "Oxen: Engines of the Overland Emigration," in *Overland Journal*, vol. 33 (1), Spring 2015, pp. 4-29.

- Completed four new ADA waysides at McCoy Park in Independence, Missouri. Wrote text for age appropriate children; included Braille on all panels; included bas relief of two emigrant-day wagons on one panel. Base funded. Partnered with the City of Independence Parks and Recreation. Installed Fall 2015.
- Conducted a site visit to develop wayside exhibits for Camp Guernsey, Wyoming Military Department, Guernsey, Wyoming. Developed wayside proposal. Created general agreement between NTIR and Wyoming Military Department. Ordered four illustrations and nine wayside exhibit bases in July 2015. Base funded. Partnered with Wyoming Military Department, Wyoming National Guard, OCTA, Interpretive Graphics, and Pannier Graphics.
- Trained Urban Rangers at University of Utah on national historic trails. Designed a sticker to promote national historic trails. Drafted social media communications plan for program. Base funded. Partnered with University of Utah and RTCA.
- Updated Utah National Historic Trails mobile tour, transitioned from OnCell to Toursphere platforms. Created 37 new pages, reviewed and updated all 122 pages, and updated interactive map. Base funded.
- Completed DCP for Alcove Spring Park, based on June 2013 design charette in Blue Rapids, Kansas. Received second NPF Active Trails Grant to complete park improvements and hold public events. Assisted partners and volunteers with trail construction, event planning, and other grant implementation tasks. Developed trail displays (small trail map exhibits); delivered in summer. Designed park brochure with map; finalized August 2015. Attended Orchestra on the Oregon Trail event on September 6, 2015, to highlight national significance and trail elements of the park for the public. Funded by NPF and NTIR base. Partnered with the Alcove Spring Historical Trust, Alcove Spring Preservation Association, NPF, Marysville Health and Fitness, OCTA, and multiple local groups.



Hiking at Alcove Spring Park
Credit: Tom Parker

- Submitted dedications and unveiling events for wayside exhibits and family of highway signs to InsideNPS.
- Printed 101,500 copies of Oregon National Historic Trail Official Map and Guide. Base funded.
- Printed 150,000 copies of California National Historic Trail Official Map and Guide. Funded by and partnered with HFC.
- Printed 10,000 copies of Nebraska Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide. Base funded.
- Printed 10,499 copies of Nevada Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide. Base funded.
- Printed 20,000 Utah National Historic Trails Mobile App rack card. Base funded.
- Installed 14 original route and directional signs along 14 miles of the Old Oregon Road in Malheur County, Oregon. Also installed 19 site identification and directional signs for other trail sites in Malheur County. Funded by OCTA. Partnered with the Northwest chapter of OCTA, Malheur County, and BLM (Vale District of Oregon).
- Completed a sign plan for Donner Reed Pass, Nevada to place 36 original route, directional, and pedestrian signs across 37 miles. Funded by OCTA. Partnered with BLM.
- Ordered 29 original route and historic site name signs for the City of Kansas City, Missouri, based on a sign plan completed in FY14. In combination with signs purchased in 2014, a total of 54 signs will be installed across nine miles of SAFE/OREG/CALI. Funded by OCTA. Partnered with OCTA and the City of Kansas City.
- Ordered three site identification signs for the City of Sugar Creek in support a sign plan completed in FY14. Funded by OCTA. Partnered with OCTA and the City of Sugar Creek. Trails include SAFE/OREG/CALI.
- Initiated sign plan of statewide road sign project for 23 counties in California; held a volunteer training in Marysville, California. Funded by Federal Highways through a Caltrans grant. Partnered with Caltrans, California-Nevada chapter of OCTA, NPEA California Division, and the NPS Denver Service Center Transportation. Trails include CALI/POEX.
- Completed a sign plan for 13 original route signs in El Dorado County, California, between the towns of Shingle Springs and El Dorado. Signs will be installed across five miles of CALI/POEX. Funded by NPEA. Partnered with NPEA California Division and El Dorado County.
- Completed a sign plan for 30 original route signs in Doniphan County, Kansas. Signs will be installed across two miles of CALI/POEX and five miles of POEX between the towns of Wathena and Troy, Kansas. Funded by NPEA. Partnered with NPEA Kansas Division and Doniphan County.
- Entered into two certified partnerships:
 - ➔ Cave Spring Interpretive Center, Kansas City, Missouri
 - ➔ Plum Creek Historical Trail Ruts, Bertrand vicinity, Nebraska



Pony Express National Historic Trail

The Pony Express rider and his galloping horse have become one of the mythic icons of the American West. Many Pony Express enthusiasts enjoy re-creating the thrill of this cross country ride by participating in the annual re-ride along the route. POEX was authorized in 1992.

Key Partners/Cooperators: NPEA, OCTA, HFC, RTCA, NPS Midwest Archeological Center, NPS Denver Service Center Transportation, University of Nebraska—Lincoln, Scotts Bluff National Monument, Fort Laramie NHS, Chimney Rock NHS, Oregon Trail Museum Association, Wyoming Military Department, Wyoming National Guard, University of Utah, El Dorado County, Doniphan County, Interpretive Graphics, and Pannier Graphics.

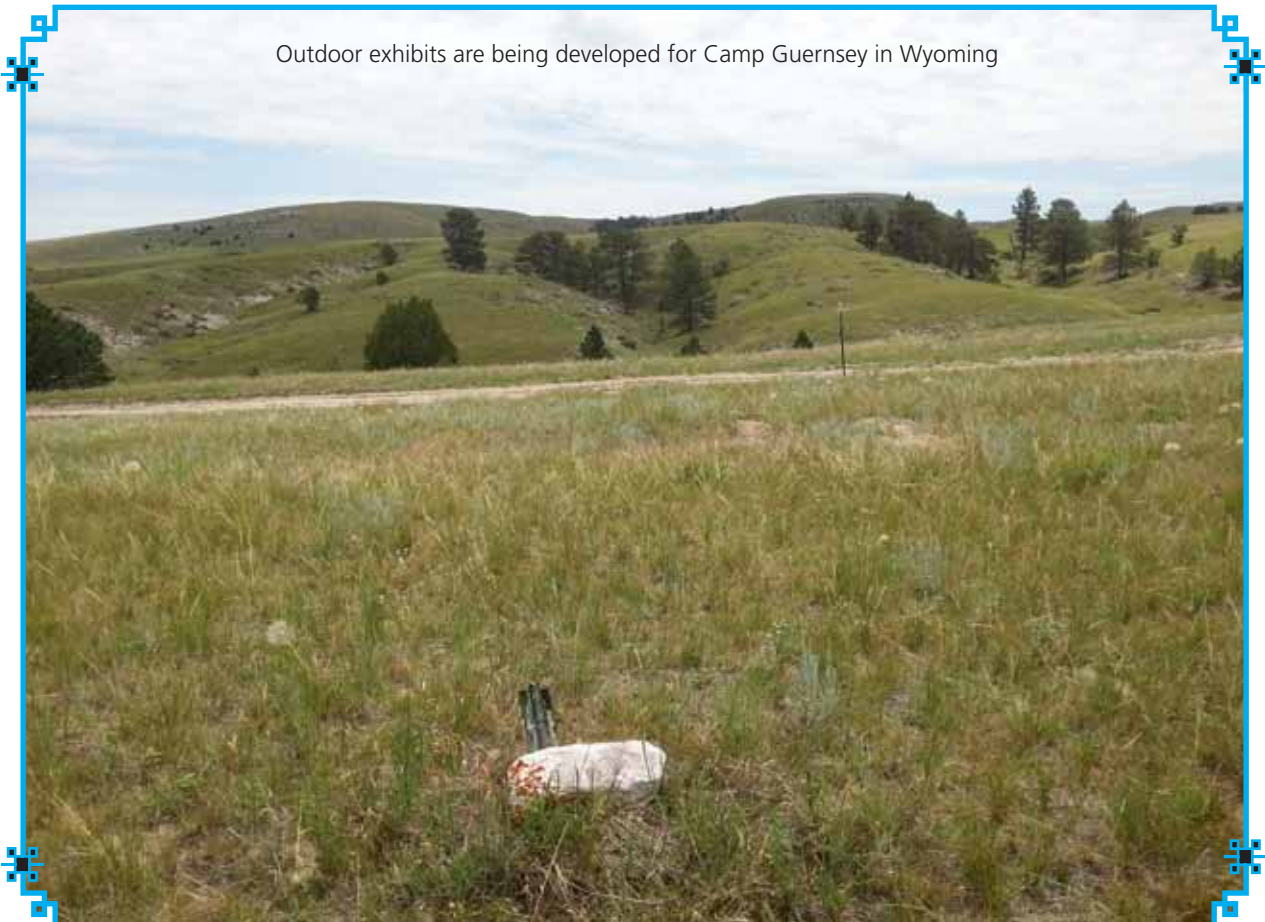


KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Concluded phase II of archaeological field research in western Nebraska, focusing on investigations at Cottonwood Springs and Cold Springs Pony Express stations. Work entailed LIDAR analysis, metal detection, geophysical prospection, analysis, and reporting. Base funded. Partnered with NPS Midwest Archeological Center and University of Nebraska—Lincoln.
- Provided technical assistance for visitor center exhibit remodel and wayside exhibit planning project at Scotts Bluff National Monument (SCBL), Gering, Nebraska. Attended exhibit design charette and wayside exhibit planning meetings. Drafted wayside proposal; submitted for review October 2015. Exhibit/wayside planning funded by SCBL CTTP. Partnered with SCBL, Fort Laramie NHS, Chimney Rock NHS, HFC, OCTA, and Oregon Trail Museum Association.
- Created Facebook and Instagram pages, posted weekly and monthly respectively. POEX Facebook page shared three times on other NPS Facebook pages.
- Initiated the NPEA website reorganization project. Developed a website plan and created a flyer to promote the project within the organization. Base funded. Partnered with NPEA.
- Conducted a site visit to develop wayside exhibits for Camp Guernsey, Wyoming Military Department, Guernsey, Wyoming. Developed a wayside proposal. Created general agreement between NTIR and Wyoming Military Department. Ordered four illustrations and nine wayside exhibit bases in July 2015. Base funded. Partnered with Wyoming Military Department, Wyoming National Guard, OCTA, Interpretive Graphics, and Pannier Graphics.
- Trained Urban Rangers at University of Utah on national historic trails. Designed a sticker to promote national historic trails. Drafted social media communications plan for the program. Base funded. Partnered with University of Utah and RTCA.
- Updated Utah National Historic Trails mobile tour, transitioned from OnCell to Toursphere platforms. Created 37 new pages, reviewed and updated all 122 pages, and updated interactive map. Base funded.

- Submitted dedications and unveiling events for wayside exhibits and family of highway signs plus social media events to InsideNPS.
- Printed 94,500 copies of Pony Express National Historic Trail Official Map and Guide. Base funded.
- Printed 10,000 copies of Nebraska Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide. Base funded.
- Printed 10,499 copies of Nevada Auto Tour Route Interpretive Guide. Base funded.
- Printed 20,000 Utah National Historic Trails Mobile App rack card. Base funded.
- Completed a sign plan for 30 original route signs in Doniphan County, Kansas. Signs will be installed across two miles of CALI/POEX and five miles of POEX between the towns of Wathena and Troy, Kansas. Funded by NPEA. Partnered with NPEA Kansas Division and Doniphan County.
- Completed a sign plan for 13 original route signs in El Dorado County, California, between the towns of Shingle Springs and El Dorado. Signs will be installed across five miles of CALI/POEX. Funded by NPEA. Partnered with NPEA California Division and El Dorado County.
- Initiated sign plan of statewide road sign project for 23 counties in California; held a volunteer training in Marysville, California. Funded by Federal Highways through a Caltrans grant. Partnered with Caltrans, California-Nevada chapter of OCTA, NPEA California Division, and the NPS Denver Service Center Transportation. Trails include CALI/POEX.
- Entered into one certified partnership:
 - ➔ Plum Creek Historical Trail Ruts, Bertrand vicinity, Nebraska

Outdoor exhibits are being developed for Camp Guernsey in Wyoming



Santa Fe National Historic Trail

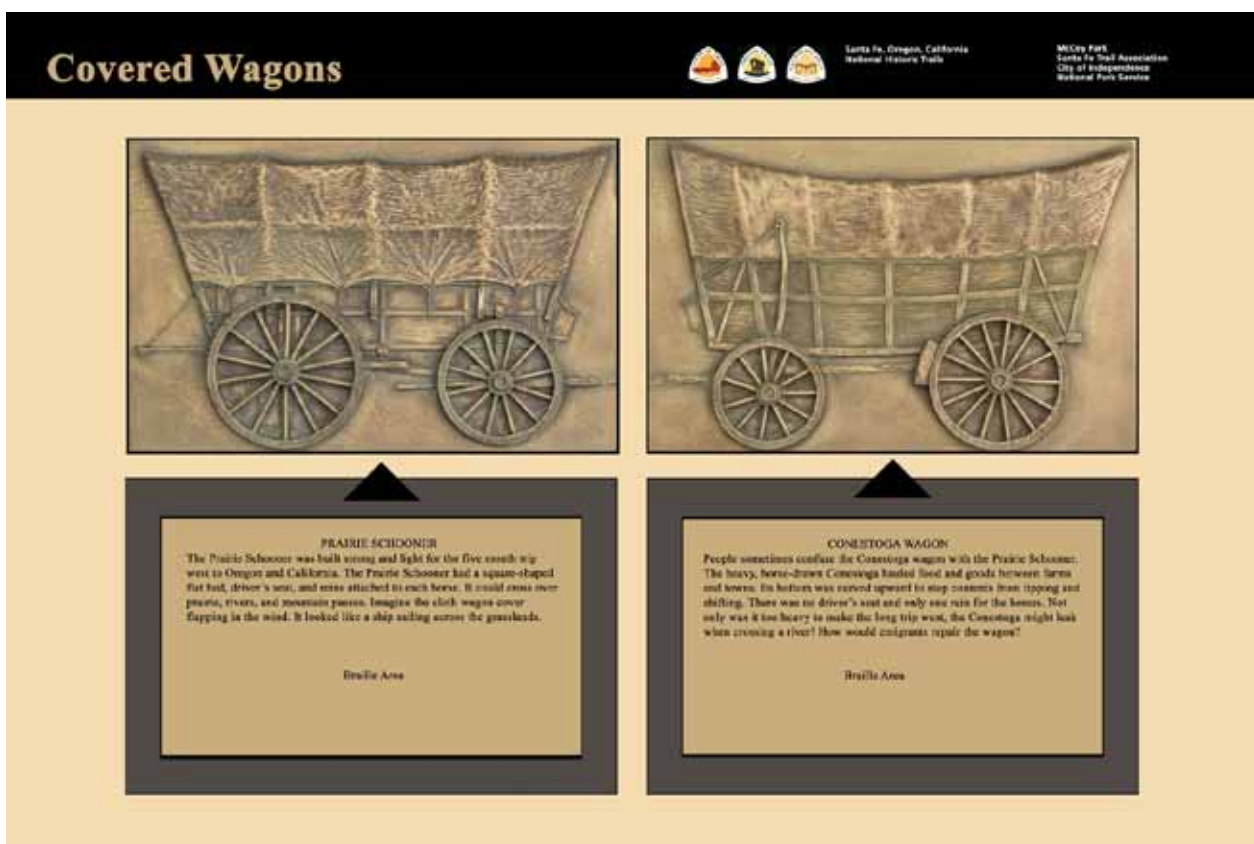
Between 1821 and 1880, the Santa Fe Trail was primarily a commercial highway linking Missouri and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Today, this well-known trail attracts many visitors and partners and enjoys the support of a very active trail association. SAFE was authorized in 1987.

Key Partners/Cooperators: SFTA and its chapters, OCTA, CARTA, USFS, HFC, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Colorado SHPO, Kansas Historical Society, City of Independence Parks and Recreation, Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association, Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, Jackson County Parks and Recreation, Fort Union National Monument, Pecos National Historic Park, City of Baldwin City, Douglas County, City of Sugar Creek, City of Kansas City, Ion Graphics, and Post Modern Media Services.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Completed literature search for historic buildings and structures associated with SAFE in all five states. Confirmed over 168 buildings associated with the trail. Base funded. Partnered with the Kansas Historical Society.
- Completed National Register of Historic Places listings for three properties in southeast Colorado. Base funded. Partnered with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Colorado SHPO, and SFTA.
- Created 300 mobile app/media tour stops including photos, video, maps, audio files, text, and links for three intersecting trails (SAFE/OLSP/ELCA) across seven states. Added 60 partner sites to tour. Designed and fabricated eight unique tour signs for partners, the national parks, and three trails to show availability. Pilot tested at the Three Trails Conference in September. Designed and printed SAFE rack cards for promotional use; printed September 2015. Funded by CTPP, third year of a three year project. Partnered with SFTA. Site: safe.toursphere.com
- Hired NTIR's first Student Conservation Association intern to create short films and stops for the media tour. Created in depth site tours for four national parks along SAFE, including video, audio, text, and links. Produced two short films about how to see the trail in the landscape and how the four national parks relate to SAFE. Funded by CTPP.
- Completed SAFE/ELCA/OLSP Children's Musical performance for the 2015 3-Trails Conference (SFTA/CARTA/OSTA) in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Base funded. Partnered with SFTA, CARTA, OSTA, and Santa Fe teacher (playwright, director, song writer, prop maker, and seamstress). Wrote articles for Wagon Tracks (SFTA) and Spanish Traces (OSTA). Videotaped musical and placed on SAFE/ELCA/OLSP websites. Sent copies of musical to SFTA/CARTA/OSTA.
- Provided technical assistance to Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) contractor for six orientation panels for the Three Trails Transit Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Funded by KCATA. Partnered with KCATA, Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association, and Ion Graphics.



- Completed four new ADA waysides at McCoy Park in Independence, Missouri. Wrote text for age appropriate children; included Braille on all panels; included bas relief of two emigrant-day wagons on one panel. Base funded. Partnered with the City of Independence Parks and Recreation. Installed Fall 2015.
- Completed two new wayside exhibits in Overland Park, Kansas City, Kansas. Funded by and partnered with Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association. Installed Fall 2015.
- Conducted site visit at Cimarron National Grassland, Kansas to develop conceptual ideas for interpretive media and to revise scope of work for improvements to the 19-mile retracement trail. Funded by CTPP in 2016. Partnered with SFTA and USFS.
- Facilitated a one-day capacity building SFTA Interpretation Workshop in Salina, Kansas. Forty partners from five states participated. Base funded. Partnered with SFTA.
- Began task agreement to produce three new upright wayside exhibits and site planning at Salem Park, Independence, Missouri. Base funded. Partnered with SFTA, OCTA, and Jackson County Parks and Recreation.
- Provided technical assistance for updated unigrid brochures at Fort Union National Monument (FOUN) and Pecos National Historic Park (PECO) to include SAFE. Attended planning meetings onsite. Partnered with HFC, FOUN, and PECO.
- Completed audio description contract for seven videos; uploaded onto website. Base funded. Partnered with Post Modern Media Services.
- Coordinated replacement of and additions to Passport to Your National Parks stamp program along trail.

- Printed 80,000 SAFE Mobile Tour rack cards. Funded by CTPP.
- Installed eight site identification signs for sites in McPherson County, Kansas. Funded by SFTA. Partnered with Quivira chapter of SFTA and various private landowners.
- Completed a sign plan for 48 original route, crossing, and historic site name signs to be installed across Douglas County, Kansas, including five miles of original route. Funded by SFTA. Partnered with Douglas County chapter of SFTA, the City of Baldwin City, and Douglas County.
- Ordered three site identification signs for the City of Sugar Creek in support a sign plan completed in FY14. Funded by OCTA. Partnered with OCTA and the City of Sugar Creek. Trails include SAFE/OREG/CALI.
- Ordered 29 original route and historic site name signs for the City of Kansas City, Missouri, based on a sign plan completed in FY14. In combination with signs purchased in 2014, a total of 54 signs will be installed across nine miles of SAFE/OREG/CALI. Funded by OCTA. Partnered with OCTA and the City of Kansas City.
- Provided review and input into New Mexico State Transportation Plan and Santa Fe Metropolitan Area Transportation Plan to include SAFE as a component. These plans are the basis for the expenditure of millions of dollars of transportation funds.
- Entered into three certified partnerships:
 - ➔ Black Jack Ruts, Baldwin City, Kansas
 - ➔ Palmyra Well, Baldwin City, Kansas
 - ➔ Cave Spring Interpretive Center, Kansas City, Missouri



Cimarron National Grassland, Kansas has a 19-mile retracement trail and will collaborate on new interpretive media.

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

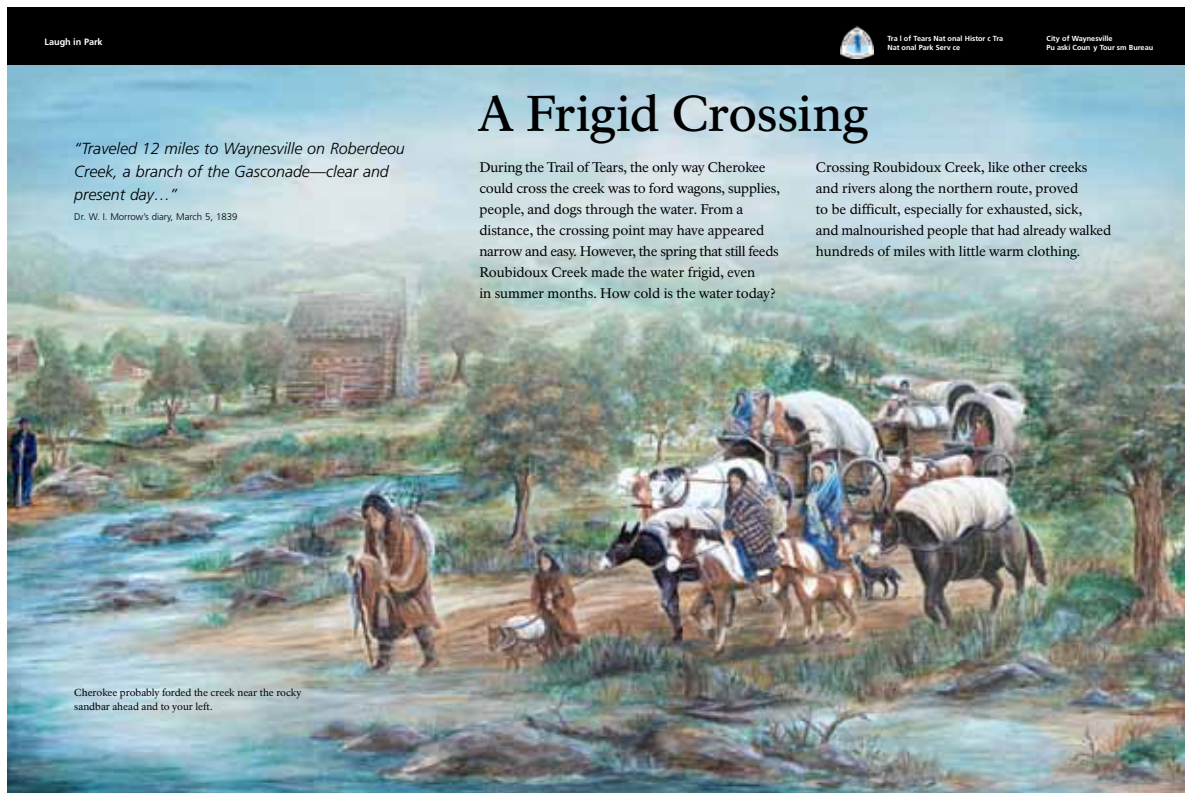
In 1838, the United States government forcibly removed more than 16,000 Cherokee Indian people from their homelands in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, and Georgia, and resettled them in Indian Territory (now Oklahoma). TRTE recognizes the removal of the Cherokee and the paths that 17 Cherokee detachments followed westward. Today the trail encompasses over 5,000 miles of land and water routes, and traverses portions of nine states. TRTE was authorized in 1987.

Key Partners/Cooperators: TOTA and its chapters, Cherokee Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Chickasaw Tribe, Cherokee National Forest, Tennessee DOT, City of Waynesville, Western Carolina University, Pulaski County Tourism Bureau, Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park, Trail of Tears State Park, Hiwassee River Heritage Center, Bradley County, Cherokee Garden, Shilo National Military Park, Ozark Greenways, Post Modern Media Services, Pannier Graphics, Gecko Group, USFS, and MTSU.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Finalized: (1) a Historic Building Survey and Condition Assessment for sites through all nine states. Data will be used to track condition and preservation priorities for extant buildings and structures associated with TRTE; (2) a Historic Structures Report for Crider Corn Crib in Kentucky; (3) two preservation booklets for owners and preservation advocates on historic log cabins and historic masonry buildings on the trail; and (4) review of amended Multiple Properties Documentation Form for TRTE. Base funded through a CESU agreement. Partnered with MTSU.
- Initiated: (1) National Register nominations—one in Kentucky and one in Tennessee; (2) three Historic Structures Reports in Illinois and Missouri; and (3) cultural resource workshops—one in Georgia and one in Missouri. Base funded through a CESU agreement. Partnered with MTSU.
- Initiated archaeological remote sensing at Fort Cass, Tennessee to locate and document a Cherokee Indian emigration encampment associated with Indian removal. Base funded through a cooperative agreement. Partnered with Western Carolina University.
- Entered into a cooperative agreement with Southern Illinois University to prepare three National Register nominations for sites associated with the Trail of Tears in southern Illinois. Base funded.
- Facilitated a TOTA Communications Workshop in Brentwood, Tennessee. The two-day workshop covered capacity building that focused on how successful nonprofits communicate internally and externally. Attendees included 20 board and association members from four states. Funded by and partnered with TOTA.



- Completed seven new wayside exhibits in Laughlin Park, Waynesville, Missouri. Funded by CCSP. Partnered with City of Waynesville, TOTA Missouri chapter, Cherokee Nation, Pannier Graphics, and Gecko Group. Placed on TRTE website. Installed and dedicated in April 2015.
- Created a Laughlin Park Call to Action Success Story and posted online. Partnered with TOTA; City of Waynesville, Missouri; Cherokee Nation; Cherokee Remember the Removal bike riders; and Pulaski County Tourism Bureau.
- Conducted site visit at Hamburg Hill, Union County, Shawnee National Forest, southern Illinois for site planning and wayside exhibits. Design charette planned for Spring 2016. Funded by CTTP. Partnered with USFS.
- Assisted with 1823 Nashville Bridge Abutment interpretive planning and two waysides, Nashville, Tennessee. Funded by and partnered with Tennessee DOT.
- Reviewed site bulletin for Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park, to be placed on TRTE website. Base funded. Partnered with Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.
- Completed audio description contract for one TRTE video; uploaded onto website; coordinated with Cherokee Nation to use audio description version. Base funded. Partnered with Post Modern Media Services.
- Initiated North Carolina state TRTE brochure. Funded by and partnered with TOTA North Carolina chapter.
- Submitted dedications and unveiling events for wayside exhibits and family of highway signs to InsideNPS.
- Coordinated replacement of and additions to Passport to Your National Parks stamp program along trail.

- Completed three new wayside exhibits for Georgia historic town sites (Dirt Town, Island Town, Chattooga Town). Partnered with TOTA Georgia chapter and the Cherokee Nation. Sent files to TOTA GA chapter for fabrication. Installed in September 2015.



Georgia TOTA board member Bill Barker stands by the Island Town exhibit at the park in Trion, Georgia. He was persistent in his efforts to locate sites in Chattooga County. Two other waysides cover Chattooga Town and Dirt Town.

- Completed seven new wayside exhibits at the City of Jackson, Missouri, courthouse; Trail of Tears State Park; Bollinger Mill State Park; and Belmont, Missouri. Installed September 2015. Designed programs for unveilings during the TOTA conference in October 2015. Funded by Procter & Gamble, Missouri State Parks, and TOTA. Partnered with Trail of Tears State Park, Missouri.
- Conducted a tribal listening session and design charette in Tellico Plains, Tennessee. Created a DCP for trail development for Fort Armistead and a section of retracement trail from Unicoi Gap to Tellico Plains. Facilitated interpretation concepts and planning for DCP. Base funded. Partnered with the Cherokee Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee, Chickasaw tribal elders, TOTA, Cherokee National Forest, and local tourism and historical society representatives.
- Collaborated with Little River Canyon National Preserve in Alabama for Ticket to Ride Grant educational funding. Park received grant.
- Installed 14 original route signs across 7.5 miles on the Old Federal Road in Georgia. Funded by and partnered with TOTA.
- Installed 22 original route signs across seven miles in Johnson County, Illinois. Funded by and partnered with TOTA.
- Installed 11 directional, custom, and original route signs across 12.4 miles through Bradley County and the town of Calhoun, Tennessee. Funded by a USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) grant. Partnered with the Hiwassee River Heritage Center and Bradley County.

- Installed 18 pedestrian signs across one mile for the City of Springfield, Missouri. Funded by and partnered with Ozark Greenways.
- Installed a site identification sign for Cherokee Garden at Green Meadows Preserve in Powder Springs, Georgia. Reviewed Cherokee Garden brochure. Funded by TOTA. Partnered with Cherokee Garden.
- Created two driving tours for the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee for a sign unveiling event. Driving tours placed on TRTE website Plan Your Visit web page. Base funded. Partnered with TOTA.
- Completed a sign plan for eight original route signs to be placed across six miles from the City of Charleston to the Cherokee Removal Park in Tennessee. Funded by a Volunteer Energy Cooperative grant. Partnered with TOTA.
- Completed a sign plan for Hardin County, Tennessee to place 47 original route signs across 24 miles. Funded by TOTA. Partnered with Shilo National Military Park.
- Completed a sign plan for the City of Pulaski, Tennessee to place 18 original route and directional signs on two miles of trail. Funded by and partnered with TOTA.
- Completed a sign plan for the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee to place nine original route signs across 1.4 miles. Funded by and partnered with TOTA.
- Created a DCP for Fort Cass, Tennessee, utilizing work completed during a design charette held in 2014.
- Conducted site visit at Hamburg Hill, Union County, Shawnee National Forest, southern Illinois for site planning and wayside exhibits. Funded by CTTTP. Partnered with USFS.
- Entered into one certified partnership:
 - ➔ Cherokee Garden at Green Meadows, Powder Springs, Georgia



Cherokee Garden at Green Meadows will preserve and educate visitors about the native plants that were historically significant to the Cherokee. Over 600 native plants were used for medicine, food, weapons, crafts, lodging, canoes, and basketry. All plants will be labeled with common name, botanical name, and Cherokee usage.

NTIR Trails Project Summary

NTIR supports partner trail projects through CCSP, CTTTP, and ONPS base funds. The Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program's cost share grant program is administered separately from the trails' CCSP. The grant program is described in the Route 66 Corridor Preservation section on pages 36-37.

CONNECT TRAILS TO PARKS PROGRAM

The CTTTP provides funds intended to increase public awareness, appreciation, and use of the NTS at NPS areas and other federal lands, state lands, and facilities associated with NPS-administered components of the NTS. FY15 CTTTP projects are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3. New Connect Trails to Parks Projects FY15

<i>Trail</i>	<i>Partner or Contractor</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Federal Share</i>
ELCA	UNM (CESU)	La Bajada Cultural Landscape Report, phase II	\$75,000
ELTE	Cane River Creole NHP	Crossroads Region ethnographic study phase II	\$69,500
OREG/CALI	Humboldt State University	Oglala Lakota educational film	\$16,532
SAFE	SFTA	Mobile tour with NPS sites	\$24,100

Cane River Creole National Historical Park



Work continues on some CCSP and CTTP projects that were initiated in prior years. Those projects that were officially completed in FY15 are listed in Tables 4 and 5.

Table 4. Completed Challenge Cost Share Projects FY15

<i>Trail</i>	<i>Partner or Contractor</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Federal Share</i>
ELTE	Stephen F. Austin State University (CESU)	Cultural landscape project	\$24,999
ELTE	Stephen F. Austin State University (CESU)	History project, phase III	\$19,296
SAFE	Santa Fe County, New Mexico	Santa Fe River Greenway retracement route wayside exhibits and road signs	\$24,710
TRTE	City of Waynesville, Missouri	Roubidoux Spring wayside exhibits and road signs	\$24,710

Table 5. Completed Connect Trails to Parks Projects FY15

<i>Trail</i>	<i>Partner or Contractor</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Federal Share</i>
ELCA	IP contract - Valenzuela Preservation Studio; CLR - University of New Mexico (CESU)	La Bajada Interpretive Plan (IP); Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), phase I	\$99,500
ELCA	Bosque del Apache NWR	Interpretive plan, wayside exhibits, and ADA walkway	\$28,000
ELTE	Cane River Creole NHP	Crossroads Region ethnographic study phase I	\$26,900
All Trails		Interactive maps	\$51,480

ONPS BASE-FUNDED PROJECTS

NTIR provides limited technical and financial assistance to support partner projects. Financial resources may be possible through competitive sources such as CCSP and CTTP or through ONPS base funds. New and completed trails projects funded out of NTIR's base budget are shown in Tables 6 and 7. They typically do not require a partner match.

Table 6. New ONPS Base-Funded Projects FY15

<i>Trail</i>	<i>Partner or Contractor</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Federal Share</i>
ELCA	Pueblo of Isleta	Historic road and trail archaeological survey	\$25,000
ELCA	Cornerstones Community Partnerships & USFS	La Bajada roadbed and retaining wall stabilization, phase II	\$ 9,500
ELCA	UNM (CESU)	Conduct historic properties survey and assessment	\$21,360
OLSP	RECON Environmental	Editing and graphics services	\$20,630
OREG/CALI	Humboldt State U (CESU)	Lakota Tribal stories	\$ 2,937
OREG/CALI/ POEX	OCTA	Sign workshop	\$ 7,000
ROSI	California Preservation Foundation	Property survey	\$35,000
SAFE	Student Conservation Association (intern)	Media tour development	\$24,900
TRTE	Western Carolina University(CESU)	Archaeological remote sensing investigations	\$20,000

Continued on page 29

Table 6. New ONPS Base-Funded Projects FY15

<i>Trail</i>	<i>Partner or Contractor</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Federal Share</i>
TRTE	MTSU (CESU)	Site/structure assessment	\$40,000
TRTE	Southern Illinois U (CESU)	National Register nominations	\$10,000
All Trails	Kolob Industries	NHT original route signs	\$10,448
All Trails	University of Utah (CESU)	GIS support	\$30,000
All Trails	Stephen F. Austin State University (CESU)	Digital interpretive media intern	\$21,500
All Trails	UNM (CESU)	GIS student project	\$21,360
All Trail	UNM (CESU)	Landscape architecture student project	\$21,360

Table 7. Completed ONPS Base-Funded Projects FY15

<i>Trail</i>	<i>Partner or Contractor</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Federal Share</i>
ELCA	Pueblo of Isleta	Artifact analysis and report	\$25,975
ELCA	Valenzuela Preservation Studio	La Bajada Interpretive Plan	\$32,577
ELCA	Santa Fe County	Wayside exhibits and road signs	\$23,763
ELTE	Stephen F. Austin State University	Cultural landscape study	\$23,956
ELTE	ELTEA	Cultural resource study of Lobanillo swales	\$ 5,685

Continued on page 30

Table 7. Completed ONPS Base-Funded Projects FY15

<i>Trail</i>	<i>Partner or Contractor</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Federal Share</i>
OLSP	Jicarilla Apache Tribe	Rediscovering trail routes	\$10,000
OREG	Lakota College	Oral histories	\$ 3,744
OREG	BLM Vale Distict	GIS/archaeological support	\$ 7,000
OREG/CALI	OCTA	Tribal listening session Alcove Spring, Kansas	\$12,000
ROSI	The Road Ahead Initiative	Seven public workshops	\$ 7,400
ROSI	MO State University NM ROSI Association	Annual archive and research collaboration	\$17,600
ROSI	City of Sapulpa	Sapulpa Parker truss bridge and rock creek renovation	\$ 5,013
ROSI	Cornerstones Community Partnerships	Santo Domingo Pueblo trading post facade restoration	\$22,180
ROSI	New Mexico Route 66 Association	Route 66 meeting for national collaboration	\$10,709
SAFE	Kansas SHPO	Literature reivew and search for Kansas historic buildings/structures	\$ 4,500
Cattle Trails	Cardno TEC, Inc.	Editing and graphic services	\$ 9,505

Trail Websites

The CMS interface NTIR uses to update nine websites requires constant attention and updating as well as additional information and imagery.

NEW FEATURES:

- ✿ Completed centennial page updates and requirements for nine websites: Plan Your Visit with 12 attendant pages, new navigation, and rotating banners; observed Learn About the Park and Get Involved migration and made sure all links worked; attended to pages in the fifth tier of navigation to make sure they are linked in the landing pages and at the bottom of internal pages; worked with regional webmaster who placed text and links on landing pages.
- ✿ Created three Find Your Park experiences for ELCA, ELTE, TRTE.
- ✿ Wrote and revised FAQs for CALI, ELCA, MOPI, OREG, POEX, SAFE, TRTE.
- ✿ Continued development of NTIR organization website with initiation of Phase II pages for each NTIR discipline. Completed News, News Releases, and CCSP pages.
- ✿ Uploaded GIS interactive maps on 33 web pages including Places To Go, Passport Program, and Places To Go state pages on all nine trail websites.
- ✿ Incorporated Nearby Attractions into Places To Go.
- ✿ Created Education page for ELTE and uploaded curriculum information/images. Partner ELTEA.
- ✿ Reviewed and uploaded new sign planning tool on seven websites.
- ✿ Enhanced Photos & Multimedia by uploading exhibits on CALI, ELCA, SAFE, TRTE.
- ✿ Ordered 11 Shockwave sound tracks for video podcasts.
- ✿ Updated Recreation.gov.
- ✿ Prepared Google Analytics web stats for nine trails.
- ✿ Received 1,364,372 web hits.

Volunteers-in-Parks (VIP) Program

This year's funding expanded the programmatic support NTIR gives to each partner organization.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Provided OSTA with media tour signs
- Provided OCTA with 15 Terrain Navigator Pro GIS software licenses
- Acquired patches for SAFE Junior Wagon Master
- Acquired computer for volunteer program projects
- Reimbursed mileage to NTIR VIP
- Covered background check for two GIS VIP interns
- Acquired camera for VIP and Student Conservation Association project work for SAFE media tour
- Supplied VIP training materials

Geographic Information System

GIS is an integral part of trails programming, as its products are used routinely by in-house and independent researchers, program managers, cultural resource specialists, planners, interpreters, and the public.

The NTIR GIS program oversees the development and ongoing maintenance of the GIS data for ROSI and nine national historic trails administered by NTIR. In addition to the in-house hours devoted to GIS, staff continue to work with the University of Utah's Department of Geography DIGIT Lab under a multiyear cooperative agreement established between the NPS and the university. The DIGIT Lab assists in the management of the geodatabase for the nine national historic trails. The DIGIT Lab also serves as an additional repository for trail data and provides technical advice and assistance as needed.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 🌟 Continued implementation of the NTIR GIS Plan.
- 🌟 Continued to colead the NTS GIS Network, a partner forum for discussing GIS topics related to the NTS.
- 🌟 Presented on GIS-based national historic trail planning activities at the ESRI International User Conference.
- 🌟 Developed a sign planning viewer for 23 counties in California through partnership with Caltrans, NPEA, and OCTA.
- 🌟 Developed and shared an interactive map that tracked the 26th NPEA Annual Re-Ride of POEX.
- 🌟 Continued to partner with the IMR Geographic Resources Program to serve public web map services and an interactive map viewer.
- 🌟 Completed over 70 interactive maps that can be embedded into trail and partner websites
- 🌟 Hosted GIS opportunities for current and recent graduates of the University of Utah and University of New Mexico through the Latino Heritage Internship Program and the Volunteer-in-Parks programs.
- 🌟 Provided GIS mapping and technical support for three trail studies: Four Trails FS/EA, Chisholm and Great Western NHT FS/EA, and Butterfield Overland Trail Special Resource Study/EA.
- 🌟 Developed and implemented Intranet GIS viewers for staff that can be used on desktop computers or mobile devices, with or without data connectivity

Resource Advocacy and Protection

Overall, the number of requests to NTIR for consultation on large energy projects has declined over the past couple years, and those requests that do come forward are nonfederal undertakings proposed for private lands. We remain active, however, in a number of large energy projects that were initiated years ago. In addition, NTIR is consulting in environmental compliance processes for several federal land exchanges, mining operations, pipelines, and other developments.

NTIR reviewed over 140 external projects to identify potential impacts to the nine national historic trails. We submitted comments on approximately 50 projects, some of which carried over from previous years.

Key external projects of interest include:

- Consulted with BLM Wyoming on the Moneta Divide Oil and Gas Project, which would permit development of up to 4,250 natural gas and oil wells and a related pipeline that could adversely affect the four-trails corridor in Sweetwater County, Wyoming.
- Consulted with BLM Nevada on several proposed new mines and mine expansions with likely adverse impacts to the POEX and CALI in Nevada.
- Continued consultation with Spaceport America in New Mexico on programmatic agreement that details mitigation projects agreed upon to avoid adverse effects to ELCA in the Jornada del Muerto. Ongoing.
- Consulted with BLM Oregon on review of draft EIS on the Boardman to Hemingway transmission line, a 300-mile corridor that will cross sensitive segments of OREG in the state of Oregon. Ongoing.
- Consulted with BLM Wyoming regarding the Riley Ridge to Natrona CO2 Pipeline, a 243-mile hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide pipeline proposed between Big Piney and Casper, Wyoming, with potential impacts to OREG, CALI, MOPI, and POEX. Ongoing.
- Consulted with BLM Utah concerning the Skull Valley Land Exchange, a proposed trade of 14,058 acres of federal land for 14,401 acres of nonfederal land in western Utah, with potential impacts to CALI. Ongoing.
- Consulted with other agencies in multiple states regarding several oil and gas, agricultural, reservoirs, highways, water system improvement, land conveyance, and mining proposals with potential to affect OREG, CALI, POEX, or MOPI. Ongoing.
- Conducted Section 106 compliance for several DCPs produced by staff in cooperation with partners. Compliance activities for the Alcove Spring, Kansas, DCP included SHPO consultation and a metal detection survey organized by SHPO and assisted by NTIR and numerous volunteers.
- Initiated conversations with four SHPOs (NV, UT, AZ, and WY), in coordination with NTIR GIS, to facilitate data sharing agreements.

Tribal Consultation

Tribal consultation continues to be increasingly integrated as part of NTIR work along the extensive network of overland trails administered by NTIR. Dozens of federally recognized tribes are affiliated with the nine historic trails, ROSI, and the lands through which they pass.

To build new collaborative relationships among associated tribes, NPS, and trail organizations, NTIR will host tribal listening sessions for tribes. Further NTIR will collaborate/consult with tribes on a wide variety of projects along the nine trails and ROSI. Staff works with 166 federally recognized tribes in 20 states.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

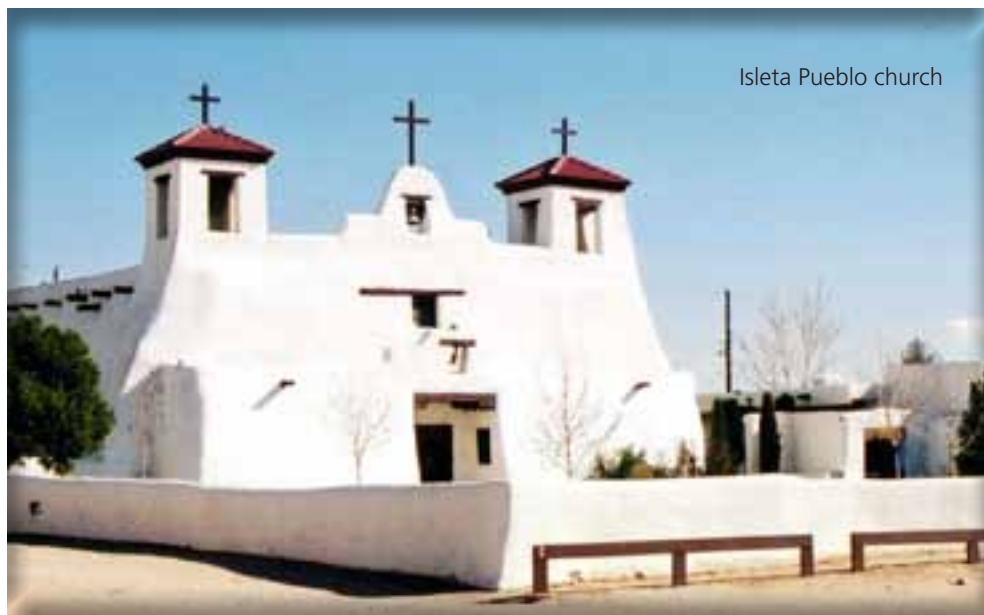
- Conducted a tribal listening session and design charette in Tellico Plains, Tennessee. Created a DCP for trail development, based on charette and tribal participant feedback, for Fort Armistead and a section of retracement trail from Unicoi Gap to Tellico Plains. Discussed Fort Cass, Tennessee and Tuscumbia, Alabama charette concepts; attending tribes: Cherokee Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee, Creek, and Chickasaw. (TRTE)



Conducting a Trail of Tears tribal listening session in coordination with a design charette in Tellico Plains, Tennessee.

- Received online responses to request for comments for Cattle Trails Feasibility Study/EA from Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and the Shawnee Tribe; received support for designation of trail and request for recognition of native stories and histories.
- Gave presentations in Natchitoches, Louisiana, to tribal representatives as well as Cane River Creole NHP staff and partners about opportunities for formal collaboration between NPS and federally recognized tribes; attending tribes: Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Tunica Biloxi Tribe, and Jena Band of Choctaw Indians. (ELTE)
- Consulted with Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde on three wayside exhibits at Manzanita rest stops in Oregon along I-5. (CALI - Applegate Trail section)

- Collaborated with Jicarilla Apache Nation on an ethnographic history of Caracas Canyon in the Carson National Forest, northern New Mexico. Consultation resulted in a mutually agreed upon set of goals regarding the content and format of the final deliverables. (OLSP)
- Consulted with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to receive images and subject matter text to develop waysides in Fort Hall, Idaho. (OREG/CALI)
- Consulted with Koosharem Band of Southern Paiute for review of three waysides at Koosharem Reservoir, Richfield, Utah. (OLSP)
- Finalized an oral history project with the Oglala Lakota College, Kyle, South Dakota. A 10-15-minute interpretive film will be created about how the emigrant trails affected Lakota culture and lifeways. (OREG/CALI/MOPI)
- Collaborated with North Carolina chapter of TOTA (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) for a state brochure. (TRTE)
- Engaged the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma for input on interpretive and pedestrian circulation improvements to the Alcove Springs site in Kansas. (OREG/CALI)
- Consulted with Acoma and Laguna Tribes on National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 initiatives. (ROSI)
- Worked with AIANTA on planning initiatives for American Indians and Route 66 travel guide, including meetings and outreach to numerous tribes along Route 66. (ROSI)
- Developed a cooperative agreement with Isleta Pueblo, Isleta, New Mexico to analyze artifacts at the 17th-century Spanish mission that still stands at the pueblo. The agreement will also provide interpretation of materials excavated to the public. (ELCA)



Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program

Congress created the ROSI to preserve and commemorate the vital history of an American icon, Route 66. The program works with the eight states through which the route passes to raise awareness about the history and significance of the route; identify preservation needs and strategies; and to facilitate collaboration among the states. The program provides technical and financial assistance to preserve the most significant and representative historic properties dating to the highway's period of historic significance (1926-1985). It also assists with preservation planning, research, and educational initiatives.

Key Cooperators/Partners: Route 66 associations; SHPOs; DOTs; local, state, federal, and tribal agencies; statewide preservation organizations; educational institutions; environmental protection agencies; California Preservation Foundation; The Road Initiative; Taylor Made Culture; Missouri State University; and private individuals.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- ♥ Completed ROSI and Historic Negro Motorist Green Book project, including an online multimedia presentation. Partnered with Taylor Made Culture.
- ♥ Published a *New Mexico Historical Review* article about the experiences of African Americans while driving ROSI: “Courageous Motorists; African American Pioneers on Route 66.” Summer 2015.
- ♥ Hosted an intern from the Latino Heritage Internship Program to research Hispanic contributions to the legacy of ROSI. Produced a narrative report and informal interviews with 10 Hispanic Americans in New Mexico.
- ♥ Assisted with ongoing visioning process to develop a national framework for collaboration. Helped organize seven public workshops along ROSI. Partnered with ROSI: The Road Ahead Initiative steering committee.
- ♥ Hosted the annual ROSI Archive and Research Collaboration meeting in Springfield, Illinois. Partnered with Missouri State University and New Mexico Route 66 Association.
- ♥ Continued Arizona ROSI roadbed survey. Partnered with Arizona State DOT.
- ♥ Continued Historic Property Survey in California desert region. Partnered with California Preservation Foundation.
- ♥ Awarded four new grant projects, monitored three ongoing grant projects, and concluded four grant projects.
- ♥ Supervised temporary employee who assisted with ongoing development of GIS database.

ROUTE 66 COST SHARE GRANT PROGRAM

The Route 66 Cost Share Grant Program provides financial assistance for eligible historic preservation, research, oral history, interpretation, and education projects related to the highway. See Table 8 for details of the 2015 program.

Table 8. ROSI Cost Share Projects FY15

<i>Grant Name</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Cost Share</i>	<i>Partner Match</i>
Boots Court Architectural Carthage, Missouri	Restore historic neon to exterior of building	\$20,000	\$20,565
National Guard Armory Sapulpa, Oklahoma	Rehabilitate historic building to a museum that interprets military history on Route 66	\$22,380	\$34,109
Women on the Mother Road Santa Monica, California	Produce interactive website and oral histories on Route 66	\$25,000	\$25,000
Lake Shore Motel Carthage, Missouri	Correct problems with foundation, structure, and drainage	\$30,000	\$30,800
TOTAL		\$97,380	\$110,474

Historic Boots Court, Carthage, Missouri

