

## PNTS Action Alert – “AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS INITIATIVE LAUNCHED - VOTE FOR NTS!”

Sent May 24, 2010, resent June 9, 2010

### AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS INITIATIVE IS LAUNCHED PLEASE ACT TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM

#### VOTE FOR "COMPLETE THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM"

During a White House Conference on April 16th before 600 conservation and environmental leaders from throughout the country, President Obama signed a Memorandum establishing the **America's Great Outdoors Initiative** to promote and support innovative community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces and to reconnect Americans to the outdoors. The Initiative will support a 21st century conservation agenda that builds on successes in communities across the country.

The number of votes cast for proposals and the number of comments that support or elaborate them will be **used to help determine which ideas are incorporated in the report to President Obama, essentially setting the land and water protection agenda for this administration.** Your vote and your comments about our national scenic and historic trails, about your community's and organization's efforts to protect them, and your ideas on how local, State, and Federal government can support local land and water conservation efforts will inform collaborative Federal agency reports and frameworks for a 21st century conservation agenda. **This is our big opportunity to put the National Trails System on the agenda- don't miss it!!!**

#### VOTE TO "COMPLETE THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM" (Submitted by PNTS) by:

1. Go to <http://ideas.usda.gov/ago/ideas.nsf/> and register (top right of the page)
2. Once you are registered, go to:  
<http://ideas.usda.gov/ago/ideas.nsf/0/5660B258BA71BDD68625772A0068BAB0?OpenDocument>

The page should show the idea submitted by PNTS entitled: "**COMPLETE THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM - CONNECTING PEOPLE TO OUR NATURAL, HISTORIC, AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THROUGH CITIZEN STEWARDSHIP**" (under the topic "Reconnect with the Great Outdoors").

3. About halfway down the page on the left is a small box outlined in orange with the word "Promote" written in green. Click on **PROMOTE** to vote in favor of this proposal!!!

You can also support this proposal by submitting comments that elaborate and amplify it for the whole Trails System or about your individual trail.

#### Please also support proposals for **Full LWCF Funding**:

<http://ideas.usda.gov/ago/ideas.nsf/0/BEC6645EC84EAF728625771A006BD800?OpenDocument>

#### and for **Full Funding of the Historic Preservation Fund**:

<http://ideas.usda.gov/ago/ideas.nsf/0/B1782624F31EC05A86257723005D0F27?OpenDocument>

You can also record your own ideas, make comments and vote for other posted ideas at that website <http://ideas.usda.gov/ago/ideas.nsf/>. Make sure you are registered and logged in. Take a look at the other ideas if you wish, or go to "Post My Idea" to begin. You may choose to comment on any of three topics:

- Reconnect with the Great Outdoors;
- Private lands conservation;
- Public lands conservation.

Another major activity of the Initiative is to ask for public participation and to conduct a series of listening and learning sessions, engaging the full range of interested groups, including tribal leaders, farmers, sportsmen and women, communities, foresters, youth groups, educators, State and local governments, and recreation and conservation groups. The **first listening session** is scheduled for **June 2 in Montana** -- simultaneously in

Missoula, Bozeman, and Helena -- coordinated by the US Department of Agriculture. [Click Here](#) for a PDF of information on the first listening session. A second listening session has been mentioned for Los Angeles in mid-July. The President's Executive Order on this initiative requests a summary report of the listening sessions by November 15th.

These will be important opportunities to share your ideas for the National Trails System and the work you are doing for the places you love. We will alert you to other listening sessions as they are announced.

So please comment and vote and **share this message** with other activists in your organization, encouraging them to vote for **"Complete the National Trails System."**

Thanks!

Gary Werner  
Executive Director  
Partnership for the National Trails System