

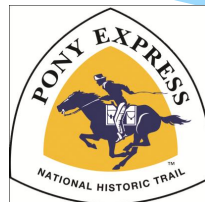


Welcome!

National Trails Intermountain Region Public Scoping Meeting

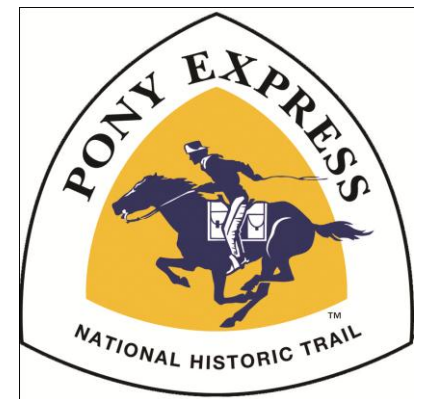
April, May, June 2011

Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Utah, Idaho,
Washington, Oregon, Nevada and California



Public Scoping Regarding...

Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express National Historic Trails Feasibility Study Update and Revision/Environmental Assessment





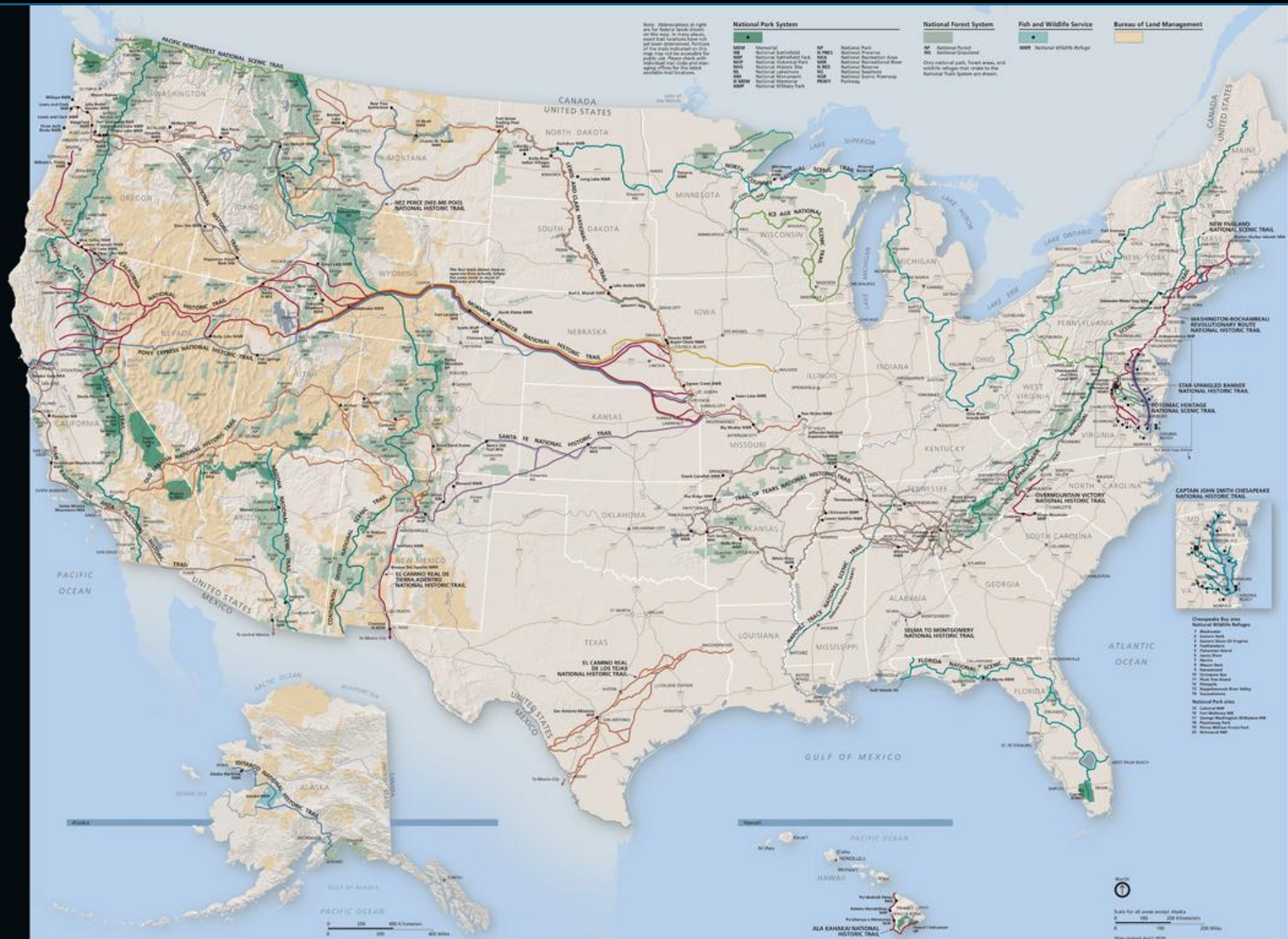
What is a National Historic Trail?

Established under the National Trails System Act of 1968, national historic trails commemorate historic (and prehistoric) routes of travel that are of significance to the entire nation. Such trails are established by an Act of Congress.

<http://www.nps.gov/nts/>



National Trails System





Congress has established 19 national historic trails

Some national historic trails include:



El Camino Real de los Tejas
National Historic Trail

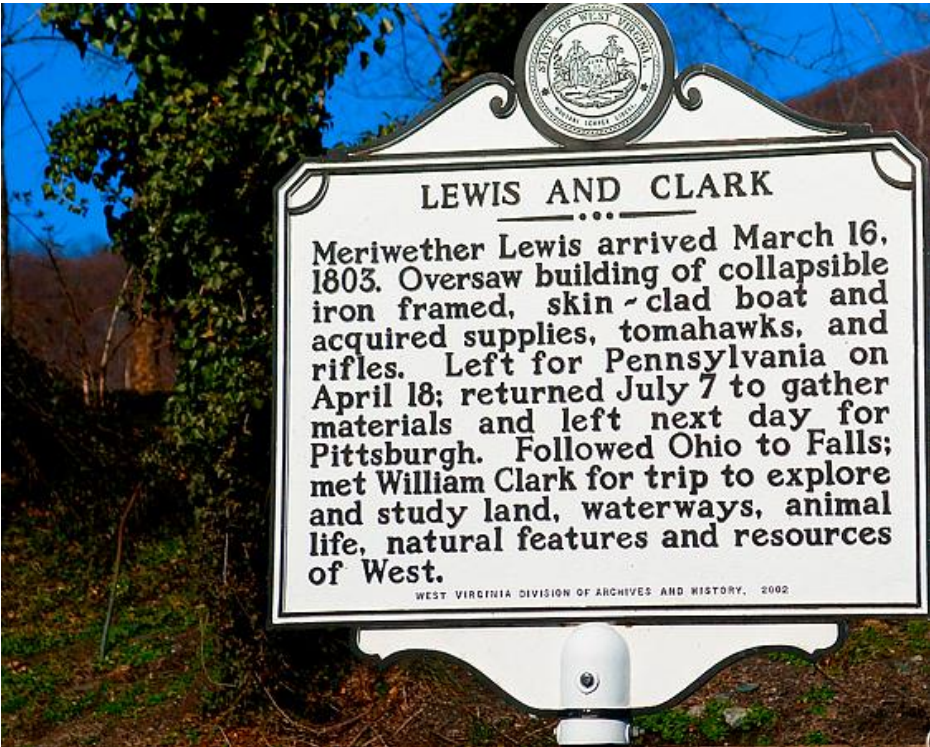


Santa Fe National Historic Trail





Trail of Tears National Historic Trail



Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail



Old Spanish National Historic Trail



Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail

Partnerships

National Historic Trails are administered in partnership with...

- Private land owners
- Local, state, and federal agencies
- American Indian Tribes
- Non-profit organizations



Bidwell Pass, California NHT



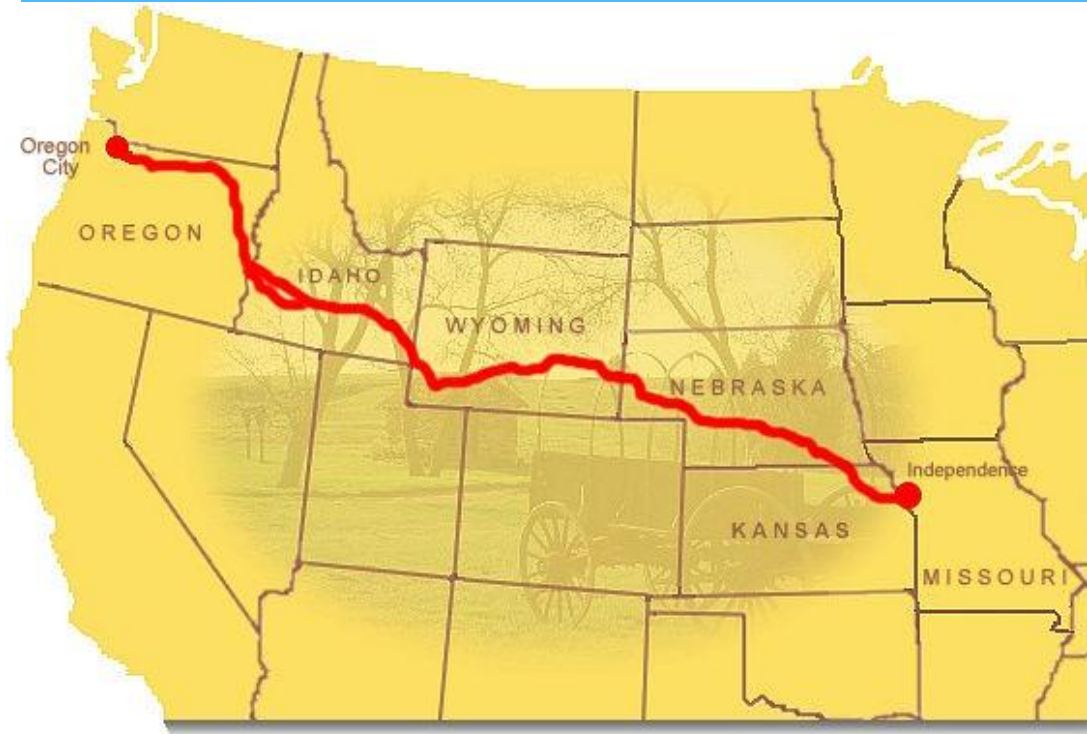


Why are we here today?

President Obama signed the Omnibus Public Land Management Act on March 30, of 2009 (P.L. 111-11).

This law calls for a feasibility and suitability study/ environmental assessment of 64 historic routes of the Oregon, California, Pony Express Trail, and Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trails for potential designation and addition to the existing national historic trails.

The Oregon National Historic Trail



Between 1836 and 1869 the Oregon Trail was the pathway to the Northwest for missionaries, emigrants, and others.

Many historic trails began as American Indian trade and travel routes. The history of the trails extends back into times long past.

The Oregon National Historic Trail was established in 1978. Its current authorized length is 2,170 miles.



Additional routes of the Oregon NHT to be studied

- Whitman Mission route
- Upper Columbia River
- Cowlitz River route
- Meek cutoff
- Free Emigrant Road
- North Alternate Oregon Trail
- Goodale's cutoff
- North Side alternate route
- Cutoff to Barlow Road
- Naches Pass Trail



Goodale's Cutoff

The California National Historic Trail



The routes to California carried over 250,000 gold-seekers and farmers to the gold fields and rich farmlands of California during the 1840s and 1850s—the greatest mass migration in American history.

The California National Historic Trail was established in 1992. Its current authorized length is 5,665 miles.



Additional routes of the California NHT to be studied

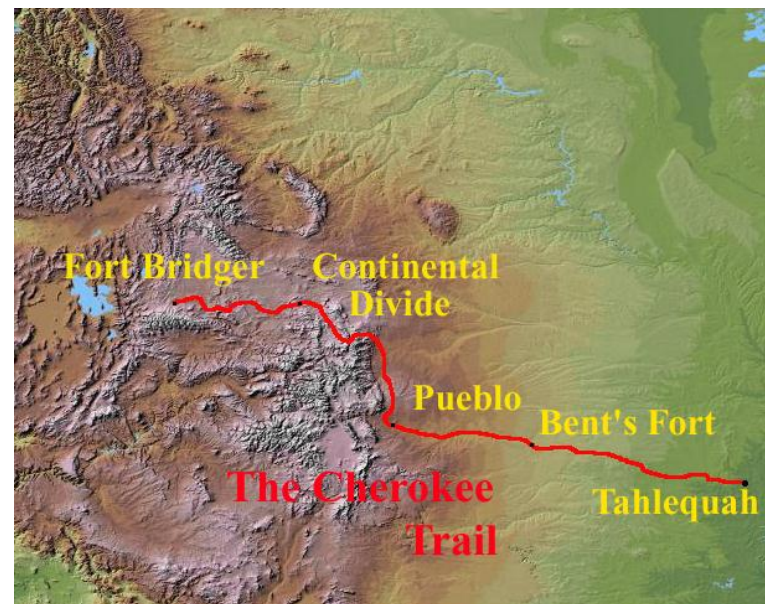
MISSOURI VALLEY ROUTES --

- Blue Mills-Independence Road
- Westport Landing Road
- Westport-Lawrence Road
- Fort Leavenworth-Blue River route
- Road to Amazonia
- Union Ferry route
- Old Wyoming-Nebraska City cutoff
- Lower Plattsmouth route
- Lower Bellevue route
- Woodbury cutoff
- Blue Ridge cutoff
- Westport Road
- Gum Springs-Fort Leavenworth route
- Atchison/Independence Creek routes
- Fort Leavenworth-Kansas River route
- Nebraska City cutoff routes
- Minersville-Nebraska City Road
- Upper Plattsmouth route
- Upper Bellevue route

Additional routes of the California National Historic Trail to be studied

CENTRAL ROUTES —

- Cherokee Trail, including splits
- Weber Canyon route of Hastings cutoff
- Bishop Creek cutoff
- McAuley cutoff
- Diamond Springs cutoff
- Secret Pass
- Greenhorn cutoff
- Central Overland Trail





Additional routes of the California National Historic Trail to be studied

WESTERN ROUTES —

- Bidwell-Bartleson route
- Georgetown/Dagget Pass Trail
- Big Trees Road
- Grizzly Flat cutoff
- Nevada City Road
- Yreka Trail
- Henness Pass route
- Johnson cutoff
- Luther Pass Trail
- Volcano Road
- Sacramento-Coloma Wagon Road
- Burnett cutoff
- Placer County Road to Auburn

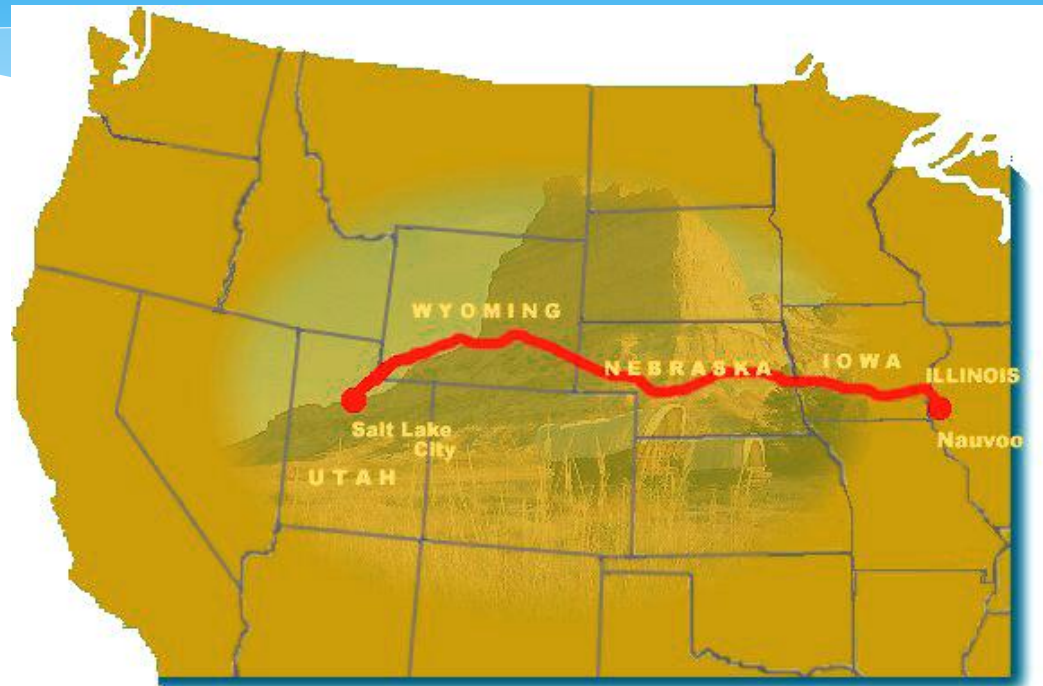
Shared California and Oregon National Historic Trail Routes to be studied

- St. Joe Road
- Council Bluffs Road
- Sublette cutoff
- Applegate route
- Old Fort Kearny Road (Oxbow Trail)
- Childs cutoff
- Raft River to Applegate



The Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail

In 1846-47, Brigham Young led Mormon pioneers from Nauvoo, Illinois, to the Salt Lake Valley to establish an independent, self-governing community of faith in the Great Basin.



Some 70,000 Mormon emigrants followed the route to Salt Lake City in later years and settled throughout the intermountain West.

The Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail was established in 1978. Its authorized length is 1,300 miles.



Additional routes of the Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail to be studied

- 1846 Subsequent routes A and B (Lucas and Clarke Counties, Iowa)
- 1856–57 Handcart route (Iowa City to Council Bluffs)
- Keokuk route (Iowa)
- 1847 Alternative Elkhorn and Loup River Crossings in Nebraska
- Fort Leavenworth Road; Ox Bow route and alternates in Kansas and Missouri (Oregon and California Trail routes used by Mormon emigrants)
- 1850 Golden Pass Road in Utah

In 1860-61, the Pony Express relayed mail between St. Joseph, Mo. and San Francisco in as little as 10 days.

During its 18 months, the Pony Express was the fastest, most reliable means of East-West communications before the telegraph. It played a vital role in aligning California with the Union.

The Pony Express National Historic Trail



This National Historic Trail was established in 1992 with an authorized length of 1,966 miles.

Alternative route of the Pony Express National Historic Trail to be studied

- The 20-mile southern alternative route
 - From Wathena, Kansas to Troy, Kansas



Hollenberg Station,
Hanover, Kansas

Fort Bridger, Wyoming





How a National Historic Trail is Designated

National historic trails require three steps to become designated:

1. Congress amends the National Trails System Act of 1968 (NTSA) to authorize a feasibility and suitability study of a historic route.
2. The study is conducted (often by the National Park Service) to determine if the route(s) meets NTSA criteria and to evaluate how designation may impact communities, private land owners, and public land managers along the route.
3. Based on the study findings, Congress decides whether to designate the route(s) as a national historic trail.



National Historic Trail Designation

A trail must meet all three of the following criteria based on the National Trails System Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-543):

- It must be a trail or route established by historic use and must be historically significant as a result of that use.
The route need not currently exist as a discernible trail to qualify, but its location must be sufficiently known to permit evaluation of public recreation and historical interest potential.



National Historic Trail Designation

- It must be nationally significant.
To qualify as nationally significant, historic use of the trail must have had a far reaching effect on broad patterns of American culture. Trails significant in the history of Native Americans may be included.
- It must have significant potential for public recreational use or historical interest based on historic interpretation and appreciation.



What is 'national significance?'

National Historic Landmarks (NHL) Program criteria are used to assess significance. Meeting any one of the six criteria will make a study route nationally significant.

The six criteria are:

1. Properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified with, or that outstandingly represent, the broad national patterns of United States history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained; or
2. Properties that are associated importantly with the lives of persons nationally significant in the history of the United States; or

NHL Criteria (continued)

3. Properties that represent some great idea or ideal of the American people; or
4. Properties that embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen exceptionally valuable for a study of a period, style or method of construction, or that represent a significant, distinctive and exceptional entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or



Direnfeld Cabin



NHL Criteria (continued)

5. Properties that are composed of integral parts of the environment not sufficiently significant by reason of historical association or artistic merit to warrant individual recognition but collectively compose an entity of exceptional historical or artistic significance, or outstandingly commemorate or illustrate a way of life or culture; or
6. Properties that have yielded or may be likely to yield information of major scientific importance by revealing new cultures, or by shedding light upon periods of occupation over large areas of the United States. Such sites are those which have yielded, or which may reasonably be expected to yield, data affecting theories, concepts and ideas to a major degree.



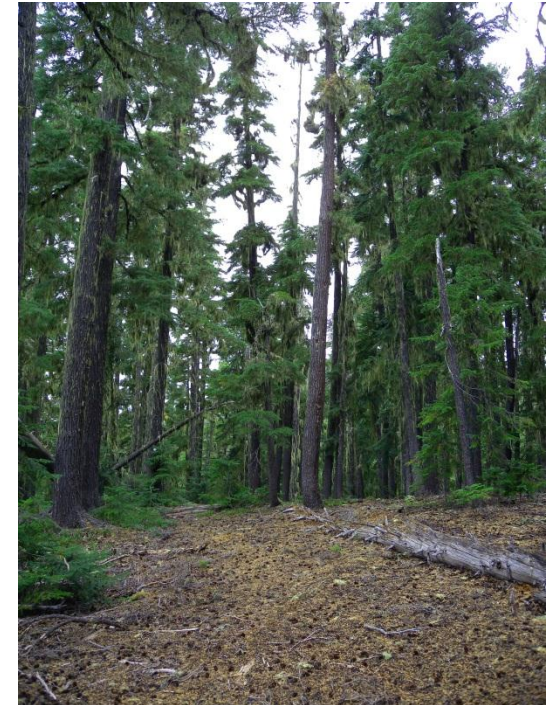
What is an Environmental Assessment?

An environmental assessment (EA) evaluates the impacts of a federal action:

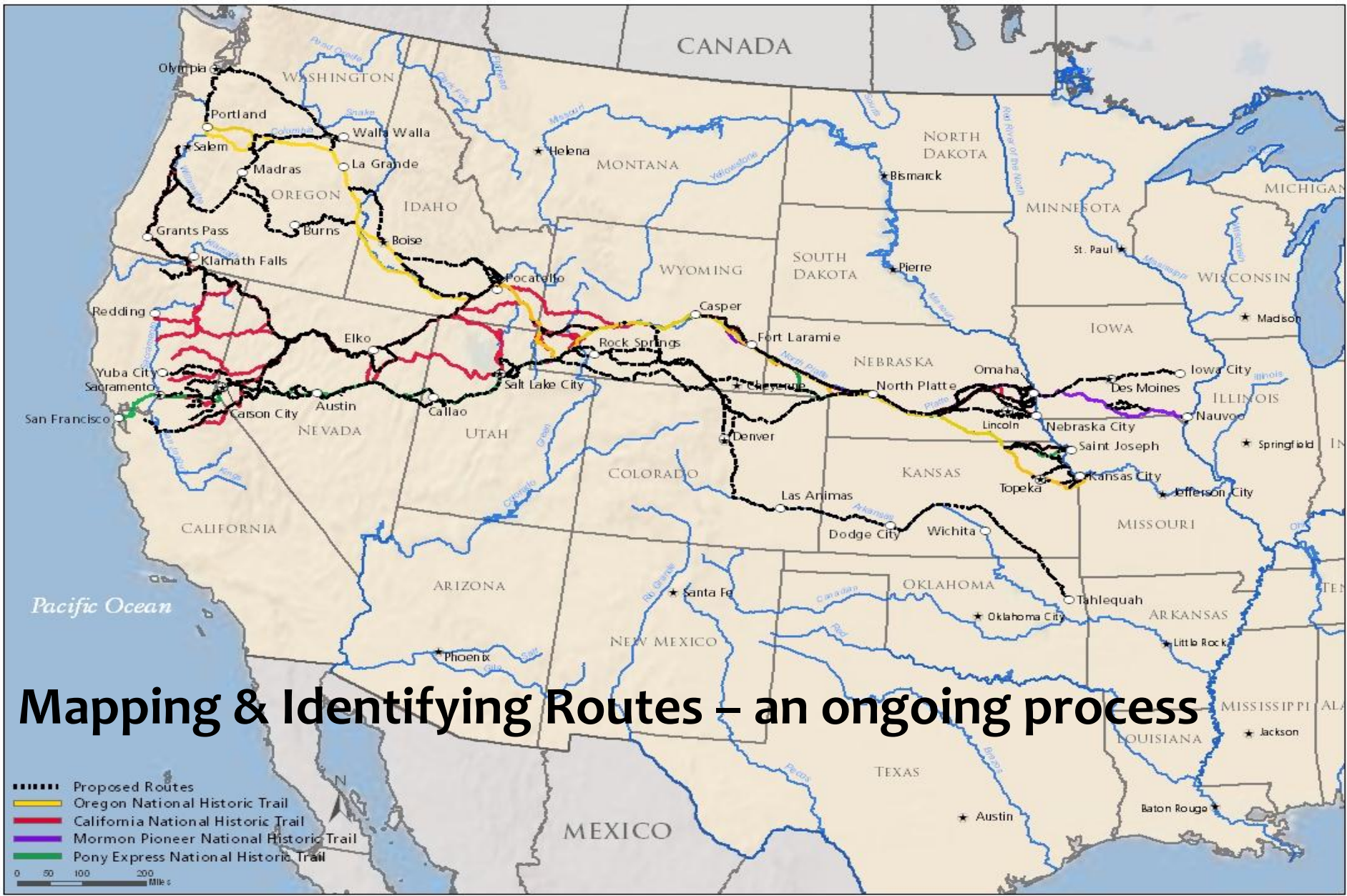
- All federal actions must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- An EA includes:
 - An analysis of the impacts of the alternatives (consequences) on the natural and cultural resources in the area of the federal action –
 - ❖ What are the beneficial and adverse impacts?

What will be included in the study?

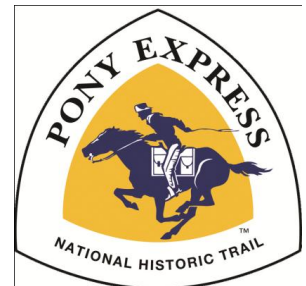
- Purpose and Need
- **Evaluation of Significance, Feasibility, and Suitability**
- Alternatives (no action and action)
- Affected Environment
- **Environmental Consequences**
- Consultation and Coordination
- Glossary, Bibliography, Index



Free Emigrant Road



Your comments and thoughts?





Discussion Topics

1. What do you know about the study routes, their location, uses and places of interest?
2. Are there opportunities for the public to enjoy and visit parts of these routes?
3. How do you currently use these routes?
4. Do you think the routes are historically and nationally significant? Why or why not?
5. How might designation of these routes as national historic trails (NHTs) affect you and your community?



Next Steps and Schedule

- Prepare a report of public meetings and comments – *Summer-Fall, 2011*
- Gather data on route locations and interpretive and recreational opportunities, and determine national significance – *Winter, 2011-2012*
- Apply national historic trail criteria and develop draft alternatives – *Winter, 2011-2012*
- Prepare draft feasibility study and environmental assessment – *Summer, 2012*
- Conduct public review of the draft study – *Fall & Winter, 2012-2013*
- Address public review comments and prepare the final study – *Winter-Spring, 2012-2013*
- Transmit the study to the U.S. Congress – *Summer, 2013*



Comments or Questions?

Please submit comments online at
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/FourtrailFS>

or

Contact:

Gretchen Ward

National Trails Intermountain Region

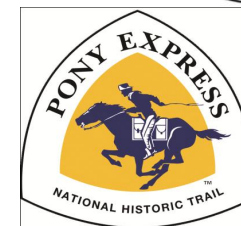
PO Box 728

Santa Fe, NM 87504

gretchen_ward@nps.gov

505-988-6033

The deadline for comments is July 30, 2011





Public Scoping meetings

April 18 – Denver, Colorado

Four Mile Historic Park

6-8 pm – 715 South Forest Street

April 19 – Casper, Wyoming

Central Wyoming Fair and Rodeo -

Arena Bldg -- 5:30-7:30 pm

1700 Fairgrounds Rd.

May 9 – Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Cherokee Nation Complex –

Tribal Council Chambers

3-5 pm - 17675 South Muskogee

May 10 – McPherson, Kansas

The McPherson Public Library

2-4 pm – 214 West Marlin

May 11 – Topeka, Kansas

Kansas Museum of History

10 am-Noon – 6425 SW 6th Ave

May 11 – Independence, Missouri

National Frontier Trails Museum

6:30-8:30 pm – 318 West Pacific

May 12 – Lincoln, Nebraska

Nebraska History Museum –

Blackman Auditorium

6-8 pm – 15th & P Streets

May 13 – Des Moines, Iowa

State Historical Building of Iowa

3-5 pm – 600 East Locust Street

May 31 – Salt Lake City, Utah

The City Library

10 am-Noon – 210 East 400 South

May 31 – Rock Springs, Wyoming

Rock Springs Historical Museum

6:30-8:30 pm – 201 B Street

June 1 – Boise, Idaho

Idaho History Center

6-8 pm – 2205 Old Penitentiary Rd

June 2 – Walla Walla, Washington

Fort Walla Walla Museum at Fort

Walla Walla Park

6-8 pm – 755 Myra Road

June 3 – Vancouver, Washington

Fort Vancouver National Site -

Red Cross Building

6-8 pm – 605 Barnes Street

June 4 – The Dalles, Oregon

Columbia Gorge Discovery Center

10 am-Noon – 5000 Discovery Drive

June 14 – Carson City, Nevada

Carson City Library

5:30-7:30 pm – 900 North Roop St.

June 15 – Sacramento, California

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park –

Distillery Building

5:30-7:30 pm – 2701 L Street

Meek cutoff



Photo courtesy of Hambleton



National Trails System Act - SEC. 3. [16USC1242]

The national system of trails shall be composed of the following:

National recreation trails

- * provide a variety of outdoor recreation uses
- * reasonably accessible to urban areas
- * In 2010 there were 1,150 national recreation trails in the system

National scenic trails

- * extended trails
- * provide for maximum outdoor recreation potential
- * and for the conservation and enjoyment of the nationally significant scenic, historic, natural, or cultural qualities of the areas through which such trails may pass
- * There are 11 national scenic trails

National historic trails

- * extended trails
- * follow as closely as possible and practicable the original trails or routes
- * national historic significance
- * are continuous, but the established or developed trail, and acquisition thereof, need not be continuous onsite
- * Purpose: to identify and protect the historic route and its remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment
- * There are 19 national historic trails

Register Cliff, Wyoming





National Trails System

- * Trails overview

- * Together the 11 national scenic and 19 national historic trails total almost 54,000 miles in combined lengths.
 - * 21 of the 30 trails are administered by the NPS
 - * Six by the USDA FS
 - * Two are co-administered by NPS and BLM
 - * One is administered by the BLM
 - * They are found in all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico