SCORP Conference

Scottsdale, Arizona
May 2, 2016

What it takes to be a successful
TRAIL PLANNER
Trails Unlimited LLC

- Training the Next Generation of Trail Managers

The next step
Trails Unlimited LLC

Has been a trail planner, designer, manager for 44 years.

BA - Recreation Management
MA – Wildland Recreation Planning & Design

Has worked for the FS, BLM, HCRS, NPS, BOR
States of CA, AZ, NV, CO, TX, MN, HI, AL, AK, FL and 26 other states.

Retired in 2016 began LLC January 4, 2016
Trail Planning

- What's the biggest single reason trail systems fail?
- Where do you get started?
- How much does it cost?
- Who will implement?
- Who will do the construction?
- Who will do the maintenance?
Trailologist: a combination of

- Biologist
- Hydrologist
- REDI
- Sociologist
- Geologist
- Botanist
- Archeologist
- Landscape Arch.
- Engineer
- Forester
- Surveyor
- Real-estate agent
- Cartographer
- Social Worker
- Recreation Planner
- Anger Mgt. Councilor
Vision

- A Vision Statement is the big picture of where you want to go, it is the long term goal.
- Know the user
- Understand the use
- Have a unifying identity
- Understand the difference between want and need
- Used as a filter
Trail Management Objectives:

- The next step in Planning on the Ground
- Contract between the Land Managing Agency and the Advocates & Planning
- Defined and understandable information for the public
- Backbone of Trail Plan
Type of Enthusiast “user”

Motorized Trail Users –

Mountain Biking -

Fishing -

Equestrian -

Walking -
# TRAIL USER MATRIX

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Recreational</th>
<th>Competitive</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
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<td>Trail Rider - Family</td>
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<td>Gnarly Dudes/ Dudedets</td>
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How is a Trail (route) to be used

- **Recreational**
  - Heavy
  - Moderate
  - Light

- **Competitive**
  - Races

- **Commercial**
  - Special use permits
Level of Difficulty

- By Type of Vehicle
  - Easiest
    - More Difficult
    - Most Difficult
  - Double Diamond
Facilities

- Trail Heads
- Camp Grounds
- Intensive Use Areas
- Staging Areas
- Interpretive Sites
- Trail Systems
Operations and Maintenance

- Who will Patrol
- Adopt-a-trail
- How often
- What type of Patrol
  - Maintenance
  - Law Enforcement
  - Monitoring
Who will Do the Maintenance

- How often will the trail be Maintained
  - Weekly, Monthly, Yearly
- Who will do the Maintenance
  - Force Account, Contractor, Volunteers
How will it be Maintained

- Mechanized
  - Trail Tractor
  - Mini-Excavator
  - Rock Rake or Drags

- Hand Work
  - Primitive Skills
  - Motorcycle
  - ATV
Facilities:

- Retaining Walls
- Bridges
Facilities

- Signage, Information & Interpretive
- Trail Hardening
- Drainage Structures
Monitoring:

- What type of Monitoring
  - Photo Point
  - Trail Condition Survey
  - Soil, Wildlife Cultural resource

- How Often
  - Weekly, Monthly, Yearly, Multi-year
  - Who will do the Monitoring [a name]
  - Recorded Date
Trail Design
“bottom line”

- Develop a Vision before construction
- Design with resources in mind (TMO)
- Design with Maintenance in mind
- “Design a Trail they WANT to stay on NOT have to stay on”
“Happy trails to you, until we meet again”

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