

Clallam County Trails Advisory Committee (TAC)

March 5, 2025, Meeting Minutes

A. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was called to order and conducted via video/phone conferencing.

- *Members Present:* Charlie Commeree (Chair), Andy Stevenson, Gordon Taylor, Judy Sarles, Lorrie Mittmann, Jim Mraz, Wendy Clark-Getzin, Erik Rohrer, Jennifer Reandeau, Justin Zarzeczny

County Representatives: Steve Gray, County Public Works Dept. (Ex-officio TAC member)
William Habel, Regional Trails & Active Transportation Coordinator
Mike French, County Commissioner

Guests/Public: Lauren Bromely- Washington State Parks, Jeff Bohman- Peninsula Trails Coalition,

- ### B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- There were no requested changes to the meeting minutes during the meeting. The February meeting minutes were approved.

C. MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

- A request was made to add a discussion on the condition of the road surface on Towne Road.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEMBER UPDATES:

- **Member Updates-**

- Member Mittman gave the group an update on upcoming ODT and OAT events. In April, the OAT run, the Dungeness Bridge Run and the Marathon will occur.
- Member Zarzeczny informed the group that another unit will be logged around MP 10 of the OAT, resulting in a full trail closure. The unit will likely be logged during late summer.
- Member Reandeau told the group that the City of Port Angeles police informed her that they could not find any bylaws banning horseback riding within City limits. Chair Commeree said he would do some follow-up research.

E. TRAIL PROJECTS AND MAINTENANCE REPORTS:

- **Signage Update**

William Habel informed the group of soon to be installed warning signs at Bagley Creek, Sieberts Creek, Pristine Lane, and the Thompson/Onella Bridge. These signs include Blind Corner, Grade Warnings, Speed Warnings, among others. Also purchased was a SLOW stencil for use in other areas where signage may not be required, but extra attention is required

- **Infrastructure and Trail Inventory**

William Habel informed the group of an upcoming project documenting and mapping infrastructure resources found on the Olympic Discovery Trail. These will include infrastructure such as bridges, signage, bollards, etc. Documenting these resources will allow resources to be saved in a central location, with the possibility of sharing collected data with the public via the online trail maps. Member Stevenson requested that the data also be available in KML format.

- **County Volunteer ODT/OAT Trail Crew Maintenance Project Reports**

For the entire year of 2024, there were 3800 volunteer hours. I can't emphasize how important this is. Going off of the independent sector's Volunteer time valuation, this is the equivalent of \$153064, or 475 8 hour days. We can't thank the volunteer crews enough for what they do.

For December, the Volunteer crew primarily stuck to the Discovery trail, especially on the Kitchen Dick to Carlsborg Road segment. Much of this was spent trimming & removing trees and running the brush on the trail. For January, the crew spent most of the month doing much of the same, especially in the Carlsborg/Kitchendick/Vautier Road area. Lots of trimming, lots of chipping. On the 30th, the crew went out to the Clearcut site around MP 17.5 with the assistance of the Washington State Conservation Core to help assist with clearing and rebuilding the trail, as the logging operations had severely impacted the route. Member Zarzeczny informed the group that the impacted section should be ready to be re-opened.

- **County ODT/OAT Maintenance Project Reports**

In December, the county spent 3 days on the Adventure trail, and 14 days on the ODT.

Much of this activity was related to the trimming activities in the Sequim area, lots of chipping and trimming. Jeff also did tractor work in the same section, mowing, brushing, etc. He also repaired that section of bridge that got damaged during the early December storms near Sequim Bay Rd.

For January, Jeff Spent 9 days on the ODT, and 4 days on the adventure trail. Lots of mowing and brushing, especially on Gosset-Waterline Rd. On the OAT, Jeff ran the blower, did some tree trimming, and signage repair.

- **Other ODT/OAT Reports**

Next month, Lauren Bromley from Washington State Parks is going to give a presentation on the future of the Miller Peninsula State Park.

The new excavator for the Trails Maintenance Tractor has been ordered using Clallam County Lodging Tax funds.

William Habel gave a brief overview of Public Works' planned 2nd round Lodging Tax funds. Public Works is applying for an E-bike to allow for easier maintenance and access of the Olympic Adventure Trail, and to allow for vehicle free surveying and maintenance on the Discovery Trail when a full sized vehicle is not required, or not appropriate. The application will be for around \$9900, and includes bike racks, equipment trailers, and a tipper rack for transporting the bike.

F. DISCUSSION AND BUSINESS ITEMS

- **DNR Waterline Gate Bypass**

- William Habel highlighted the efforts of Member Zarzeczny and Member Taylor to construct a trail gate bypass on the Waterline Rd section of the ODT. Members also requested additional DNR keys from Member Zarzeczny for adopters. Member Zarzeczny said he would see what he could do.

- **Thanking Jeff Ralston**

- The group thanked Jeff for his years of incredible service to the Olympic Discovery & Adventure Trails. Jeff reassured the group that he would continue to volunteer on Thursday crews.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Member Taylor wished Commissioner French a happy birthday

H. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m.

