

File Code: 2350
Date: December 12, 2023

Dear Interested Citizen:

I am writing to share news that the Forest Service released the final Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan today. This marks a significant milestone in the development and preservation of this iconic trail. The plan outlines a vision for the trail and provides guidance for its future management, protection, and use.

The comprehensive plan guides the development of the nonmotorized trail throughout its entire length, from the Continental Divide to the Pacific Ocean. The plan contains recommendations for trail maintenance, visitor services, and resource protection. It includes items defined by the National Trails System Act for consistent administration of the trail across local, state, federal, and tribal lands to ensure managers develop the trail and preserve its natural beauty.

The completion of the comprehensive plan is a testament to the dedication and collaborative effort of all governments and stakeholders involved in its development. It represents a critical step forward in the preservation and responsible management of this trail, which holds immense value for both recreational opportunities and conservation efforts across the landscape.

For questions specific to Idaho and Montana sections of trail please reach out to Kent Wellner, Region 1 Deputy Director of Recreation, at kent.wellner@usda.gov. For Idaho and Montana press related communications, please direct questions to Daniel Hottle, Region 1 Media Relations, at daniel.hottle@usda.gov. For all other questions or inquiries, please contact Kristin Carver, at kristen.carver@usda.gov.

For more information about the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan, as well as the Regional Forester signed Decision Notice and Final Environmental Assessment, please visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52259>.

Sincerely,



ELIZABETH BERGER
Acting Regional Forester

cc: Leanne Marten, Joe Alexander, Kent Wellner, Sally Butts, Tracy Calizon, Richard Pringle, Joe David

