



ON THE PAPER TRAIL

Volume 17, Issue 2
Fall 2017

NEWS FOR SITKA TRAIL WORKS MEMBERS

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR

THE SITKA TRAIL WORKS ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 25

5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Centennial Building—Room 6

Annual Meeting and Potluck

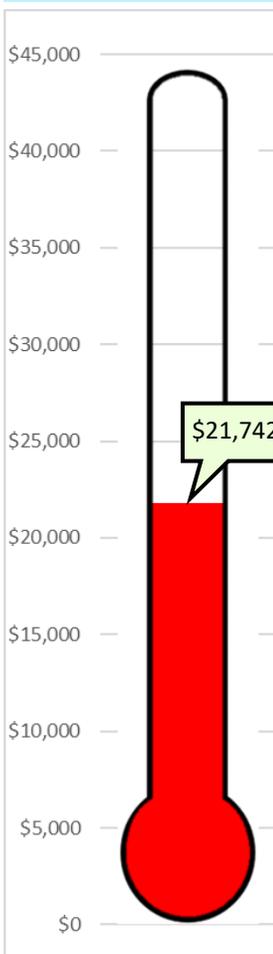
Please bring your own cutlery & plate, if possible

Board Members up for election:

Brian Hanson, Gio Villanueva and Nicole Duclos



Sitka Trail Works hike participant jumps for joy at Picnic Rock on a bluebird day this summer.



Help us reach our goal!

Your membership support has gotten us 49% of the way to our annual goal of \$44,275. If you haven't given yet, please consider making an individual or business donation. Donor dollars allow for staff to support our mission by organizing hikes, applying for grants, and conducting administrative duties.

Thanks to a suggestion by a member, we now have a recurring donation option. Call us for details. As always, one-time gifts can be made on our website, via the mail, or at our office.

Dear Sitka Trail Works Supporters,

*Each year the fall issue of "On the Paper Trail" is mailed to supporters. If you are receiving this newsletter it is because you have been a member or gone on a STW hike sometime within the last three years. **Thank you!***

This year has been another busy one. Thanks to Allen Marine and Sitka Sound Ocean Adventures, Trail Works members got to explore off-island trails with STW Board members leading the way.

As fall approaches, I am thankful and continue to be amazed at the wonderful support of our members, volunteers, the dedicated board and our agency partners. Yes, I am very thankful for you and our incredible community.

Please consider renewing your membership during our fall membership drive so STW can continue to maintain, build and promote Sitka's world class trail system.

Warm Regards,

Lynne Brandon, STW Executive Director

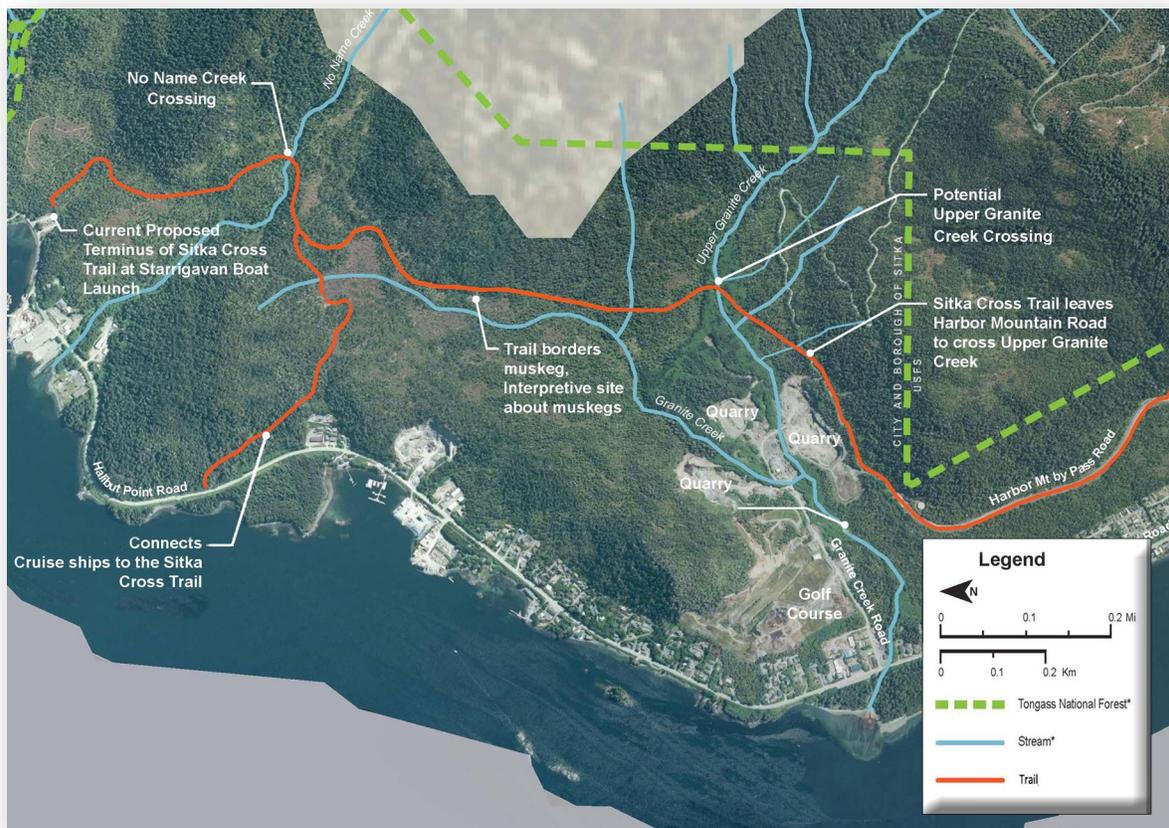
Pre-construction/Design of Phase 6 Cross Trail Near Completion

The \$1.8 million in Federal Lands Access Program funding to construct the Phase 6 Cross Trail extension from Harbor Mountain Road to Starrigavan Boat Launch is secured and agreements are being completed. Originally, the funds were going to be allocated during the 2018 re-authorization of the Federal Transportation bill. Funding became available when another project was unable to be completed so the grant will come from the 2016 Transportation Bill "FAST Act".

Our partner, the US Forest Service, is nearly done with the biological and cultural reports and wetlands delineation for the National Environmental Protection Act. Western Federal Lands will receive all the reports by November. Western Federal Lands will use the information to make the NEPA determination.

Once these reports are completed and our consultant, LEI Engineering, completes the hydraulics analysis, Sitka Trail Works will secure an Army Corps permit and determine mitigation for the project on behalf of the City. LEI will also provide final construction plans for crossing No Name and Granite Creeks. Sitka Trail Works will be completing a grant and will fundraise for the 9.03% match. Construction of the last 2.6 miles will begin in spring 2019 and take two years to complete.

Map of Phase 6 Final Route



Join the team and help
Keep Sitka Trail Works strong.



Did you know that Sitka Trail Works members enjoy discounts at three wonderful local retailers?

Show your *current year* member card to enjoy 10% off selected items. Thank you to Murray Pacific, Russell's, and Orion Sporting Goods which will all be continuing this discount program in 2018!

Murray Pacific: Outdoor clothing, gloves, boots | **Russell's:** Store wide excluding guns & ammo | **Orion Sporting Goods:** Outdoor clothing, backpacks, water bottles, camping gear | *May not be used in combination with other discounts or sales & other restrictions may apply.*



Phase II Mosquito Cove Repairs Project Complete

Sitka Trail Works received a \$51,369 grant from the State Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for a Phase II Project to Alaska State Parks' Mosquito Cove Trail to complete repairs to "the back side" of the trail. The four-week project was completed by the US Forest Service trail crew on September 7. Since Alaska State Parks no longer has local staff, it is a goal to get the State Parks trails in safe and sustainable maintenance shape to last for many years to come.

A helicopter was used to lift 45 bags of rock and six loads of lumber for the repairs. It was a challenge to get a weather window this year to get the helicopter work done. Much



Before



After

of the work was to improve drainage to prevent wash-outs and replace rotten wood structures.

This winter we plan to coordinate a project with the US Coast Guard crew to help with a final Mosquito Cove project. The US Forest Service will help with that project,

too. Stay tuned for details!

Sitka Trail Works uses membership dollars to clear the inevitable blow down on the trail during the rest of the year. It's only with your support that this beautiful trail remains open and accessible.

More ways to support a fabulous trail system! We participate in the Pick.Click.Give. program! Fifty members chose to contribute a portion of their Permanent Fund Dividend to our mission. Collectively, these generous donors pledged \$2,825 to Sitka Trail Works. In the first two quarters of 2017, we also received \$51 from AmazonSmile Foundation due to customers designating STW as their charitable organization. Thanks to everyone that gave using these programs!



Thank you to the City and Borough of Sitka & to the Assembly for providing us with a \$7000 non-profit grant! The funds they provide will help to sustain our operations.

2017 Summer Season - By The Numbers

Thanks to everyone that joined Sitka Trail Works events this summer for making fun memories!

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Hikes Offered During summer 2017 – made possible by member support</p> |  <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">11</p> |  <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">36</p> | <p>Volunteer Hours Donated Brushing Thimbleberry Lake Trail on National Trails Day</p> |
| <p>Participants Visiting Sea Lion Cove</p> |  <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">42</p> |  <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">144</p> | <p>Total Hikers Summer 2017 Thanks for coming!</p> |

Thank you Larry Calvin!



Larry is a generous supporter of Sitka Trail Works and an avid hiker. This year we installed a bench on the Ben Grussendorf, Forest and Muskeg Trail in memory of Larry's wife Maryann Calvin.

Benches are a great way to memorialize a loved one or to share a meaningful message. Contact us for details.

See more photos of our events and get the latest updates



fb.com/sitkatrailworks

Become a member. It's easy online at: sitkatrailworks.org