



2008

Report to the Coalition,
Members and Friends

Inland Northwest Trails Coalition may be one of the best parts of 2008...if you're reeling between snow damage and stock damage, consider the successes we've had this year:

The Spokane County Regional Trails Plan was adopted by Spokane County *and* City with 'couldn't have done it without you' help from staff (thanks Steve, Pat, John and Ken). A last minute addition of the Iron Bridge meant it could be included in grants and a commercial project in the University District. The plan is the basis for our conservation, trail and funding work and we're seeing a lot of activity in both urban and rural areas. Now adoption is behind us, 2009 invites us to continue implementation, with members' projects in many stages of progress, to mention a few from the plan...

The Dream Trail group continues to meet and strategize about how to secure a trail connecting Iller Creek Conservation Area and Dishman Hills Natural Area (thank you Lorna and Patty).

Fish Lake Trail (thank you Dan) received an REI grant (thank you Sally and Jess) and the project is included in "shovel ready projects" (thank you Jeff and Eve) as well as potential state funding.

Beacon Hill continues to develop as a great example of public/private/non-profit partnership (thank you Penny and US Parks Service). It will be the site of the 2009 Outdoor activity cosponsored by Spokane City Parks (thank you Mike), OutThere Monthly Magazine (thank you Jon) and INTC.

The Centennial Trail's recent plans are moving forward as well (thank you Jon).

The Airway Heights trail link to Riverside State Park is noted in the Motorsports Park and Play Fields purchased by the County.

Important properties have been secured (remember that trail head to access the south hill trails threatened by development? It's yours...as is hundreds of acres on Antoine Peak.

AmeriCorps (thank you Derrick and PCEI) has provided us with Bryan to help with coordinating volunteer efforts and research ideas we may want to adopt as we promote our trails and open space. He's quartered at Mountain Gear (thank you Paul). The Coalition evolved from the Parks to Peaks project, and inherited funding which was used for the AmeriCorps match (thank you Mitch, Carole King, White Cloud Council, and The Wilderness Society).

Leadership Spokane (thank you Linda) provided a scholarship so he could attend the program...a super perk for someone working for poverty wages.

Two community meetings , the website, great calendar/notices (thank you Karen) have brought all of us together to continue advocating for trails and open space.

Our funds are well managed, our 501(c)3 status secure (thank you Margaret) and we're going to be able to use PayPal on our website soon.

We helped Washington Trails Association (thank you Kaye, Loren and Todd) have a superior conference in Spokane, increasing our reputation and demonstrating our expertise while showing off the area as a major outdoor destination. Iller Creek Conservation Futures area was also the site of a WTA trail building event (thank you Ken).

We now have brochures to tell people about INTC (let me know if you need some). It includes important phone numbers because we know not everyone googles.

The Conservation Futures ballot initiative succeeded without any language restricting the length of time it is in effect. This means the Commissioners can cancel it any time, but it seems pretty secure for now (thank you Dean, Jeff, Robbie, Richard, Randy, and Barbee),

We have excellent records and organizational infrastructure so we can help other groups focus on their conservation and trail work without having to worry about pesky administrative details (thank you Eileen).

INTC is a partner with the Spokane County Health District (thank you Cindy, Eve, Barb, Jeff, and Ross...) and Spokane Regional Transportation Council in the SmartRoutes 2010 initiative to double the amount in the Federal Transportation Budget spent on non-motorized projects. An excellent process and priority list was created (thank you Kerry) to help Spokane "speak with one voice"

INTC was selected to create a walking brochure for the Active Living program, sponsored by SCHED and USPS (thank you Heleen and Bryan) available in late February.

And thank **YOU**, for your support, encouragement, presence, lending a hand, bike, name, sweat, contemplation, donations, and all you do to be part of this great project whose time, obviously and finally, has come.

Lunell

President, INTC

www.inlandnorthwesttrails.org

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