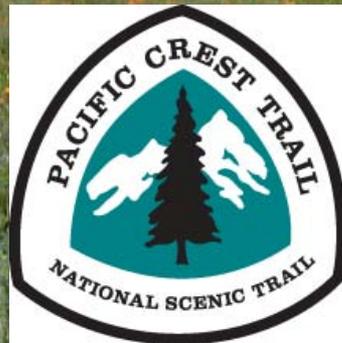


Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail Land Protection Inventory



April 23, 2009
Alta Planning + Design



The Pacific Crest Trail



- 2650 miles of trail
- Accommodates hikers and equestrians
- 3 nations
- 3 states
- 45 counties
- 26 National Forests
- 3 California State Parks
- 2 BLM Districts

Pacific Crest Trail History



- 1930's – exploration began
- 1935 – 1938 – YMCA relays
- 1940's – work halted due to WWII
- 1950's – advocacy work continues
- 1968 – designated as National Scenic Trail
- 1993 – completion ceremony



Pacific Crest Trail Association



Mission:

Protect, preserve and promote
the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
as an internationally significant resource
for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians,
and for the value that wild and scenic lands
provide to all people

Project Goals



- Address problem areas threatening the trail route or experience
- Quantify for partners and potential funders what it will take to fully protect the trail



Project Objectives



1. Inventory parcels needing acquisition or an easement to:
 - accommodate the trail (priority 1);
 - protect the trail experience (priority 2 – viewshed or proximity – within ½ mile)
2. Provide detailed maps and tables to support further trail protection and funding
3. Estimate the acquisition cost/value

Study Team

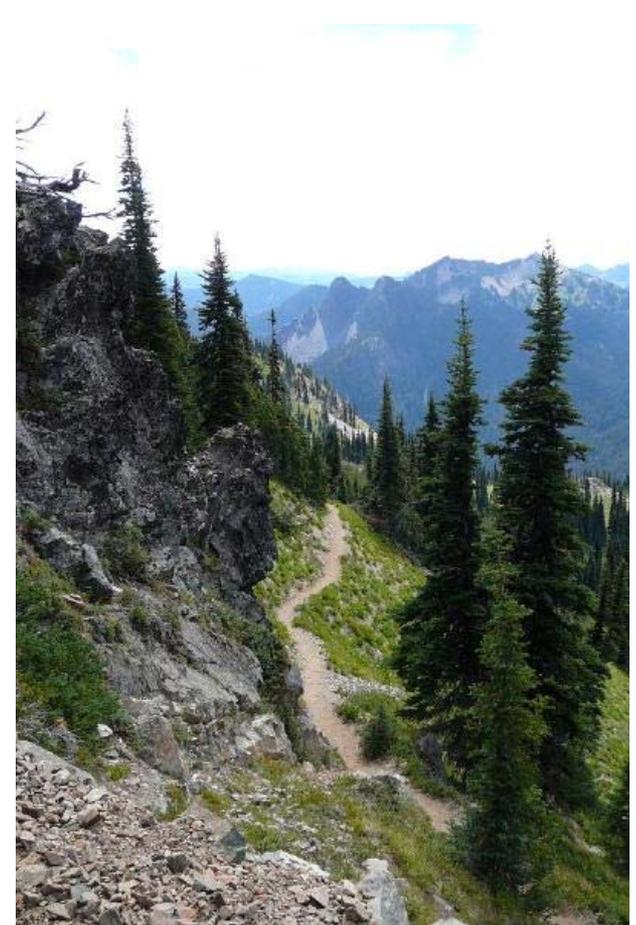


Pacific Crest Trail Association:

- Liz Bergeron, Executive Director
- Mike Dawson, Trail Operations Director
- Dana Berthold, Regional Representative
- Ian Nelson, Regional Representative
- Justin Kooyman, Regional Representative
- Suzanne Wilson, Regional Representative

U.S. Forest Service

- Beth Boyst, Pacific Crest Trail Program Manager



Methodology - Approach



Use GIS (Geographic Information System) to map and analyze:

- The only way to organize such vast geographic data;
- Allowed project to build on and integrate with USFS GIS PCT database (essential to make the project feasible and useful);
- Allows relatively easy standardization of map format;
- Tables linked to map data – updating one can update the other.

Study Team



Consultants:

- Alta/LandPeople
Randy Anderson, Landscape Architect, Principal
- Alta/LandPeople
Roy Harju, GIS Analyst
- Land Conservation Brokerage, Inc
Ann Van Leer



Methodology – Start Up



- Alta collected and reviewed existing Forest Service GIS data for PCT
- Gathered parcel data from/for relevant counties (GIS or best available). Trail passes through 47 counties, on or near private parcels in 27 counties
- Mapped all private parcels within ½ mile of trail corridor
- Created an initial series of maps and tables identifying parcels of interest
- Internal team review and revisions

Regional Field Meetings

- PCTA Trail Operations Director, Regional Representatives, relevant agency staff, and consultants met
- Reviewed maps, specific parcels for visibility from the trail, threat to trail experience, and general development of area
- Parcels in highly developed areas given a lower priority to parcels in undeveloped areas.
- Local knowledge comments added to database – e.g. “parcel recently logged” or “owner put up No Trespassing signs despite easement” or “John Doe wants to sell his land”



Regional Field Meetings



Washington/Northern Oregon (Dana Berthold, PCTA Rep)

- Mt. Hood Ranger District (Sandy), Mt Hood National Forest
- Vancouver-Gifford Pinchot NF, Mt. Adams Ranger District

Southern Oregon/Northern California (Ian Nelson, PCTA Rep)

- Klamath National Forest
- Bureau of Land Management, Medford Office
- Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest
- Shasta-Trinity National Forest
- Castle Crags State Park

Regional Field Meetings



Central California (Justin Kooyman, PCTA Regional Rep)

- Lassen National Forest, Susanville
- Plumas National Forest, Quincy
- Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
- El Dorado National Forest and Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
- Tahoe National Forest

Southern California (Suzanne Wilson, PCTA Regional Rep)

- Anza Borrego State Park
- Cleveland National Forest
- BLM, Desert District
- Los Angeles River Recreation District
- Sequoia National Forest

Summary of Land Acquisition Needs

Category	No. of Parcels	Acres	Value
Washington	62	9,821	\$5,473,373
Oregon	99	14,201	\$15,828,641
California	1393	179,522	\$127,945,587
Totals:	1554	203,544	\$149,247,601
Congressional Districts			
WA #2	15	283	\$15,420
WA #3	19	2,118	\$3,213,751
WA #4	18	5,465	\$1,650,280
WA #8	10	1,956	\$593,922
OR #2	99	14,201	\$15,828,641
CA #2	173	49,139	\$7,604,034
CA #3	3	855	\$34,367
CA #4	141	22,725	\$11,114,861
CA #21	31	1,413	\$3,254,655
CA #22	709	65,943	\$43,752,835
CA #25	58	2,037	\$11,638,577
CA #26	6	488	\$713,826
CA #41	120	7,530	\$20,301,905
CA #45	84	4,248	\$9,772,276
CA #49	13	21,754	\$14,930,829
CA #51	14	1,411	\$2,019,896
CA #52	41	1,979	\$2,807,526
Totals	1554	203,544	\$149,247,601
Management Units			
Washington:			
COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA	6	1,009	\$716,737
GIFFORD PINCHOT NATIONAL FOREST	10	296	\$2,420,196
MT BAKER SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST	14	2,063	\$1,223,642
OKANOGAN NATIONAL FOREST	15	283	\$15,420
WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST	14	5,358	\$1,020,560
YACOLT BURN STATE FOREST	3	813	\$76,818
Oregon:			
COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA	3	45	\$0
BLM - CASCADE SISKIYOU NATIONAL MONUMENT	51	7,798	\$8,378,809
BLM - MEDFORD DISTRICT	4	402	\$189,190
KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST	9	607	\$444,840
MOUNT HOOD NATIONAL FOREST	6	1,483	\$380,253
ROGUE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST	26	3,866	\$6,435,549
California:			
ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST	78	6,162	\$14,073,703
ANZA-BOR REGO DESERT STATE PARK	81	3,368	\$5,754,417
BLM BAKERSFIELD OFFICE	10	2,802	\$400,880
BLM EL CENTRO FIELD OFFICE	4	379	\$451,457
BLM PALM SPRINGS FIELD OFFICE	58	4,637	\$8,129,172
BLM RIDGECREST FIELD OFFICE	598	56,866	\$39,137,656
CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST	23	22,367	\$16,113,798
EL DORADO NATIONAL FOREST	12	1,260	\$180,328
INYO NATIONAL FOREST	2	190	\$86,978
KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST	23	10,396	\$1,024,158
LAKE TAHOE BASIN MANAGEMENT UNIT (USFS)	10	39	\$1,520,095
LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST	66	13,133	\$2,193,989
PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST	10	1,972	\$691,642
ROGUE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST	1	51	\$5,678
SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST	111	6,474	\$20,059,922
SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST	111	3,558	\$4,984,342
SHASTA-TRINITY NATIONAL FOREST	112	30,676	\$5,151,160
TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST	83	15,193	\$7,986,212
Totals	1554	203,544	\$149,247,601

Summary Tables



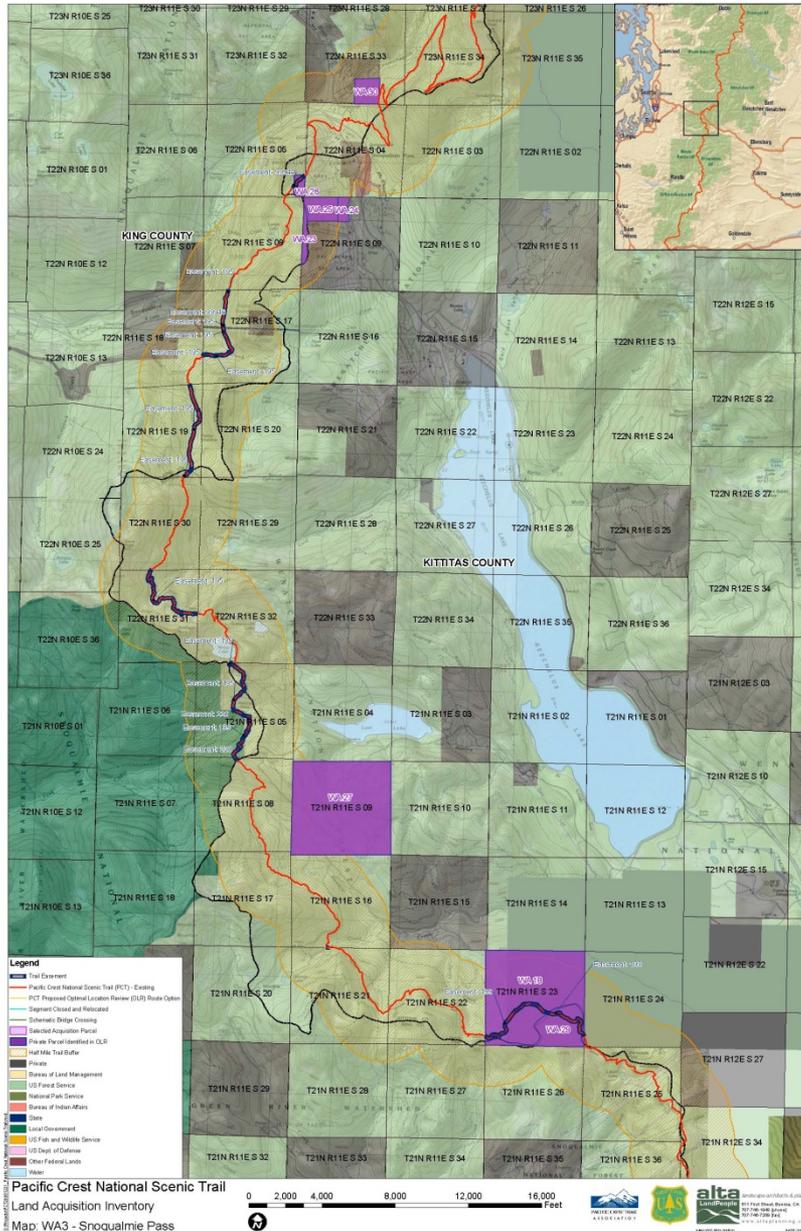
- Id. "gap" parcels by type
- Acreages
- Assessed values
- Totals for each state
- Totals for each Congressional District
- Totals for each Management Unit
- Grand totals

Typical map produced for final product



Map Features

- Pacific Crest Trail
- ½ mile trail buffer each side
- Township/Range
- Parcels and ownerships
- Parcels identified for protection (pink)
- Other private parcels (grey)
- Inset map showing location along trail
- County boundaries
- Geographic features
- Topography



Methodology – Close Out



- Organized introduction, maps and tables into binders.
- Provided Inventory GIS back to Forest Service



Final Overview Map showing Gap Areas



Study Results

- Identified and categorized all gap areas
- Prepared an overview map keyed to detailed maps and tables
- Identified 1554 parcels/203,544 acres that need some form of protection
- \$150 million assessed value
- Has increased ability to prioritize and coordinate with agencies



Lessons learned



- **Allow significant time for data gathering.** County parcel data quality varies from ready to download/email GIS to faxed paper assessor maps and rolls. Compiling ownership records from counties with little or no GIS data or services was time consuming.
- **Partner with/build on efforts of others.** Others may have collected and organized county data – inquire of agencies and organizations that deal with land and resources.

Lessons learned - Continued



- **Use real estate professionals.** A commercial property database service (LandAmerica) through Land Conservation Brokerage was helpful for filling in missing records.
- **Settle on a format early.** For the review meetings 3 versions of each map were produced: an aerial, a topo and a Township/ Range, which was time consuming.

Lessons learned - Continued



- **Need someone knowledgeable in charge.** Having an experienced, decisive project manager (Mike Dawson) to make quick decisions about product format and methodology – SIMPLIFYING – was critical.
- **Consultant attendance at meetings is costly – coordination by email works.** The consultants could just provide the maps to field reps who would conduct the meetings and the field checks.
- **Experienced and resourceful GIS Analyst makes it possible.** Roy Harju's experience, productivity, diligence and creativity made the project possible.

Wrap Up



- **Questions?**
- **Comments?**
- **Thanks for listening!**