



Florida National Scenic Trail Coalition Meeting

Monday, June 8, 2015, 10:00 – 4:00

Florida DEP, 3800 Commonwealth Blvd, Carr Bldg., Room 170, Tallahassee, FL 32399

Purpose

- To foster Coalition support and engagement in Florida National Scenic Trail development, maintenance, protection and promotion and cooperatively achieve the [5-Year Strategic Plan](#) Goals for the Trail.
- Topics below are structured around the four main goals of the 5-Year Strategic Plan, and serve as the basis for discussion along with several brief presentations from guest speakers.

For Member Input and Discussion at the Meeting

After each topic/goal, a discussion will be held to identify strategies and deliverables. These discussions will be focused around the items listed below:

- ***Complete The Trail*** – In regards to infrastructure, do land managers have the capacity to review and approve bridge design work?
- ***Standards*** – How do we best monitor trail conditions to standard? Including: boardwalks, bridges, campsites, trail classes, kiosks, puncheons, shelters, signs and trailheads. Should we be performing contractor spot checks?
 - Previously published is our [Minimum Trail Standards and Guidelines for the FNST](#)
 - The June 2014 Coalition Meeting presentation on [Trail Standards](#)
- ***Partnerships*** – How do we improve the engagement of our partners? Additional funding support for maintenance / trail construction to land managers? Inclusion of the FNST in updated management plans.
- ***Promotion*** – Strategies and promotion techniques to encourage Family Day Trips on the FNST.

Handouts

- 2015 Project List
- 2014 Work Plan
- State of Trail Report Sample
- FNST Minimum Standards & Guidelines

Agenda

- 10:00 – 10:15 Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests
USFS - Forest Supervisor Kelly Russell
FNST Program Manager Shawn Thomas
- 10:15 – 12:00 **Complete the Trail:** Add 100 new scenic and designated miles of FNST towards completion of a high quality trail.
- 2015 Status of the Trail – Strategic Plan Update
 - Current efforts to close gaps and status
 - Osceola County reroute – Dale Allen
 - Taylor County reroute – Melody Cox
 - State priority mapping & Greenways and Trails Acquisition Program – Doug Alderson
 - Infrastructure management & construction
 - Kissimmee River Relocation & eliminated boardwalk/roadwalk – Maya Buhler
 - FOC partnership presentation – Joyce Dearstyne
 - Land manager discussion on design plan review – Edwin McCook
 - *Discussion – Do land managers have the capacity to review and approve infrastructure design work?*
- 12:00 – 12:30 **Standards:** 100% of existing designated FNST meets recreational, informational, and interpretive trail standards within its resource classification category of 1-5.
- Current status
 - Potential techniques to assess standards – Taylor Stein
 - *Discussion – Tracking Trail Standards: How do we best monitor trail conditions to standard, specifically for kiosks, infrastructure, and trailheads?*
- 12:30 – 1:15 Lunch Served *The Florida Trail and community health – Caitlin Murphy*
- 1:15 – 1:45 *The White Springs Experience – Dr. Helen B. Miller*
- 1:45 – 2:45 **Partnerships:** Each of the FNST land managers (~50+) proactively contribute to trail development, maintenance, protection and promotion of their segment as part of the larger whole.
- Partnership Update
 - Inclusion in Land Management Plans – Jerrie Lindsey
 - Funding support for routine maintenance – Dale Allen
 - *Discussion – What can we do to improve engagement of our partners? Additional funding support for maintenance / trail construction?*
- 2:45 – 3:30 **Promotion:** 100% of FNST recreationists know they are on the trail, know the significance of the trail, and know how their experience is part of the larger whole.
- Youth outreach and education - Megan Donoghue
 - *Discussion – How can we promote family day trips?*
- 3:30 – 3:45 Other Business – Any set aside topics from the day’s discussion
Next meeting – Set Date and Agenda