

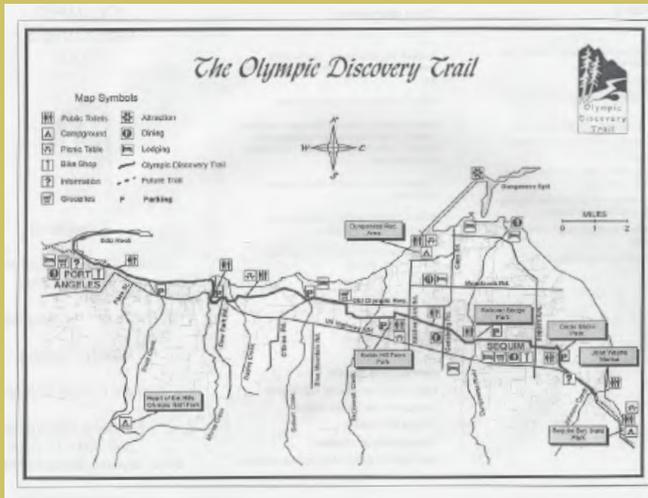
A scenic view of a lake with a wooden railing in the foreground and forested mountains in the background. The railing is made of dark wood and runs along the edge of a paved path. The lake is calm, reflecting the sky and the surrounding forest. The mountains in the background are covered in dense evergreen trees and are partially shrouded in a light mist. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

# Discover

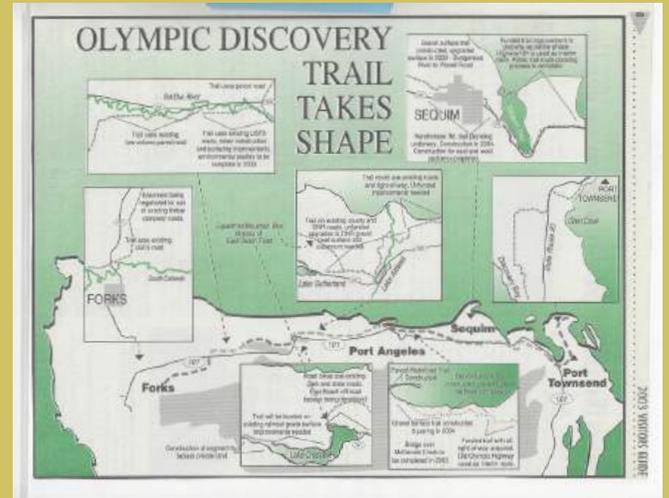
Advocating, Building, Maintaining  
The Olympic Discovery Trail

The Peninsula Trails Coalition  
2024 Annual Report

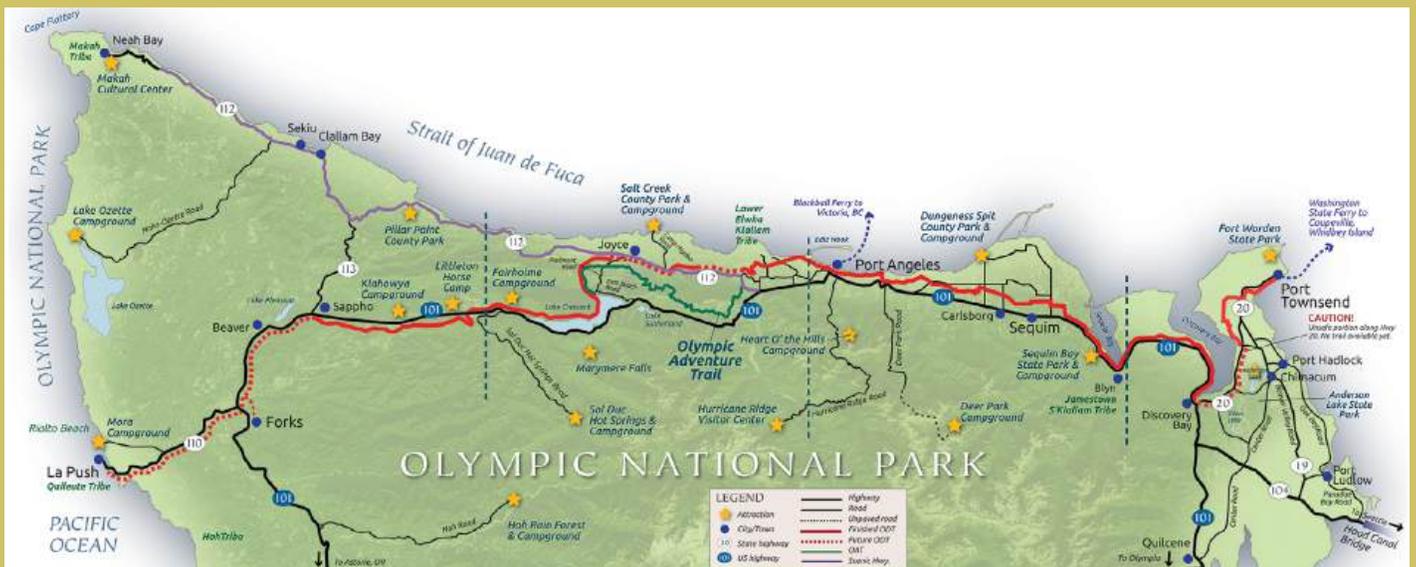
# Olympic Discovery Trail Maps Through the Years



2002 Olympic Discovery Trail map



From 2003 Olympic Peninsula Visitors' Guide



Detail from 2024 Pathway to the Pacific pad map



Detail from 2025 Western Peninsula Cycling brochure

# Welcome to Discovery



## Community Through Shared Purpose

People come from across Washington state, the United States, and even the globe, to see and experience the physical beauty of the Olympic Peninsula. The Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) itself was inspired by the region’s stunning landscape and the dream of navigating it by bicycle, foot, or hoof on a non-motorized pathway.

That dream quickly gave way to the reality that behind every trail system is a group of people who come together voluntarily and with great purpose. So it was that thirty-six years ago the Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC) was born. As we reflect on the PTC’s accomplishments in 2024, our abiding thought is of the thousands of volunteers, civil servants, supporters, as well as many other community leaders, who advocate for building and maintaining the ODT. You’ll read about their efforts in these pages.

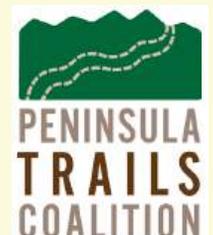
We recognize especially the substantial contributions of three individuals who stepped down from the PTC board in 2024. Together Andy Stevensen, John Dolansky, and Brian Anderson volunteered nearly 35 years of board service to the PTC. If you’ve been to any PTC event or meeting over the past fifteen years, chances are you ran into Andy, John, or Brian. Their collective fingerprints are everywhere on this organization and on the Olympic Discovery Trail. We’ll recognize their service and that of another former PTC Vice President, Jeff Selby, publicly at our 2025 annual meeting.

Our PTC coalition is the sum of the organizations – governmental, voluntary, private, public, and tribal – and their members, volunteers, and supporters, who also contribute mightily to our ODT community. The practical work of organizing and advocating for building and maintaining the ODT is a case study in how diverse individuals and communities can work together with a shared purpose to accomplish great things.

Looking back on 2024, we’re proud of the work that the PTC accomplished, and we are grateful to everyone who contributed their time, voice, or treasure to our shared community enterprise. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey R. Bohman".

Jeffrey R. Bohman,  
President, Peninsula Trails Coalition



### **2025 Board of Directors**

**Jeff Bohman**  
President

**Merrily Mount**  
VP Jefferson County

**Gordon Taylor**  
VP East Clallam County

**Jan Whitlow**  
VP Middle Clallam County

**Molly Erickson**  
VP West Clallam County

**Bob Petersen**  
Treasurer

**Judy Sarles**  
Secretary

**Rich James**

**Jeni Little**

**Don Willott**

# A Coalition

# Of Advocates

**A**dvocacy takes many forms. Meeting and greeting trail users through our Trail Ambassador Program is one type of advocacy. Poring over maps and walking acre after acre of potential trail to prepare for some future public hearing is another. Getting neighbors together to envision a safer and more sustainable community with active transportation corridors is yet another type of advocacy. The PTC, as you'll read below, engaged in all of these forms of advocacy, and many others, in 2024.

## The ODT: An Economic Engine

**For the second year running, PTC Trail Ambassadors greeted and surveyed hundreds of Olympic Discovery Trail users, showing strong economic impact.**

Stationed at busy ODT trailheads during the summer and fall months, eight PTC Trail Ambassadors created a welcoming and informative experience for local and visiting ODT users. From portable information kiosks, Trail Ambassadors distributed detailed recreation and trail segment maps; assisted with route planning and transit; helped locate amenities such as shopping, dining, and lodging options; and, perhaps most enjoyably, made personal connections with trail users (our Trail Ambassadors are always eager to trade adventure stories!).

Trail Ambassadors also encouraged trail users to share their visit and photos on the PTC's social media platforms. Facebook and Instagram play a big role in attracting other visitors to the ODT – 26 percent of survey respondents learned about the ODT online!

Trail Ambassadors also collected valuable information by conducting over 1,250 trail user surveys. These voluntary surveys help us learn more about who uses the ODT, how they use it (i.e., their mode of transportation – most people walk or run but many also ride bicycles and horses), and what their experience using the trail is like. We also find out if trail users will be pitching a tent, renting a house, or staying the night in a hotel.

By recording user activities, demographics, and experiences, we can identify potential trail maintenance concerns, better understand where new trail amenities are needed, assess the ODT's impact on local lodging and businesses, and supply prospective ODT project

supporters with relevant trail data. In 2024 in Jefferson County, for example, trail users accounted for nearly 22,500 lodging nights. In Clallam County, almost 30,000 lodging nights were registered by overnight trail users. This is one way of showing how the ODT is an economic engine in our region.

Understanding the ODT’s economic impact is important to the jurisdictions that fund the PTC’s Trail Ambassador Program. In 2024, the program was funded by lodging tax grants from Port Angeles as well as from Jefferson County and Clallam County.

Many visitors told us that their interaction with a Trail Ambassador greatly enhanced their trail experience, and that they’re grateful for the program. That’s not surprising to us. We know that the North Olympic Peninsula is a stunning place to visit. What makes the ODT and our home distinctive, however, are its people. That’s why we’re grateful in 2024 for lodging tax dollars that support the PTC’s Trail Ambassador Program. Putting a friendly face on the ODT is an invaluable trail enhancement and investment in our communities that always pays dividends.

It’s good to know that 94% of all survey respondents would recommend the ODT to a friend or colleague.

## New Landowner Brings Big Trail Possibilities to Western Clallam County

Long-time PTC board members have toiled for decades mapping potential trail routes, walking acres of land, and imagining what could be. In 2024, a change of land ownership in Western Clallam County saw decades of preparation and advocacy bring new opportunities. The readiness is all.

Land ownership on the Olympic Peninsula is ever changing. Tracts of land suitable for establishing the new Olympic Discovery Trail route, whether privately or publicly owned, change hands from time to time. With new landowners come new possibilities.

Property owners who are uninterested in negotiating a sale or easement for trail development will sometimes sell, trade, or donate their land to a new owner with a different vision. One of the key roles of the PTC in advocating for the Olympic Discovery Trail is to remain informed about opportunities for land acquisition and to investigate potential trail routes. The PTC undertakes these efforts in close collaboration with jurisdictions across the Olympic Peninsula.

*By monitoring and responding to land acquisition opportunities across various jurisdictions, the PTC helps to ensure that new construction opportunities on the ODT are pursued promptly and efficiently.*

In 2024, EFM, a private forest manager that had recently purchased a substantial tract of timberland located in western Clallam County along the Calawah River, approached the PTC. We had previously studied this land for its trail possibilities. We knew its potential for trail development.

In support of EFM’s sustainable land management, the PTC assisted in obtaining letters of support from congresspeople, state legislators, and trail partners. Our advocacy helped to bolster the landowner’s applications for conservation easements from the U.S. Forest Service. Later in 2024, EFM acquired additional land that could potentially accommodate another section of the ODT.



The PTC’s advocacy, fieldwork, and collaboration helped to secure over 30 miles of potential ODT development in western Clallam County. In 2024, in support of Clallam County staff, the PTC also examined a route proposal from the Washington Department of Natural Resources that would close approximately one-third of the “Joyce gap”— a stretch of proposed trail that runs approximately from the Elwha to Lake Crescent.

By monitoring and responding to land acquisition opportunities across various jurisdictions, the PTC helps to ensure that new construction opportunities on the ODT are pursued promptly and efficiently.

## East Jefferson Trails Connection Gives Voice to Local Community Trail Planning

Trail planning starts when people begin to imagine how their communities might be safer, healthier, and better. In 2024, the PTC helped breathe life into the East Jefferson Trails Connection, a voluntary association that helps to ensure that development of the ODT takes into consideration local places and voices.

When it comes to building new trail segments along the ODT, there are always obstacles to contend with – strategic, financial, ecological, political, and more. The PTC’s role as the lead advocate for the ODT is carried out, in part, through hundreds of meetings that navigate these obstacles.



Every year, the PTC conducts countless meetings with landowners, stakeholders, and government agencies with the single goal of connecting our North Olympic Peninsula communities through a non-motorized, pedestrian trail: the ODT. These meetings help to ensure that local communities have a voice in the long-term development and planning of their communities.

Enter the East Jefferson Trails Connection: a community organization formed in 2024 by PTC representatives and community leaders in Chimacum, Port Hadlock, Port Ludlow, and surrounding areas. The group’s purpose is, in part, to help formulate a plan for connecting the ODT from the Hood Canal Bridge to Discovery Bay.

Every month at public meetings hosted by Finnriver Farm and Cidery, East Jefferson County community members share their vision for extending the ODT to their communities. They also develop strategies and tactics for ensuring that trail planning and active transportation is prioritized in county and city comprehensive planning. City and county representatives along with partner organizations, like the Jefferson Land Trust, also contribute their expertise and insights.



In 2024, the East Jefferson Trails Connection featured guest presentations that gave context to the regional ODT trail system and to the trail planning process. Long-range planners from Jefferson County, for example, discussed prioritizing non-motorized transportation in the county’s comprehensive plan. Leadership from the Puget Sound to Pacific initiative discussed alternatives to aligning trails along the highway system. PTC board members showed how Port Ludlow and Quilcene could integrate into regional trail networks.

The ODT is a trail system linking together many communities. As the system incorporates more community voices and participants, it grows stronger and more vital. By making their voice heard through the East Jefferson Trails Connection, stakeholders in East Jefferson County ensure that the ODT will serve their communities, which will in turn make the whole trail system better.

## In 2024, We Welcomed Visitors From Over:



**84 Cities**

Across Washington State

---



**38 States**

Across the United States

---



**10 Countries**

From around the world

---



**Online Visitors**

Unique Visitors: 208,335  
 Number of Visits: 818,634  
 Page Views: 4,271,105

---

Source: 2024 PTC Trail Ambassador Survey Data

# A Coalition

# Of Builders

**I**t's easy to spot trail building in its end stage. Dump trucks, graders, caution signs, and flaggers dot the landscape. Finally, there's a ribbon cutting ceremony. The roots that support trail building run much deeper than the fruits that we enjoy. Trail building is about visioning and planning and meeting and more meetings. Many more meetings. In 2024, the PTC celebrated both the fruit of trail building and its root stock. We're proud of all of the seen and unseen contributions of our coalition partners and supporters in building the ODT in 2024.

## Hall Baetz Viewpoint Takes Shape on Discovery Bay in 2024

The late Hall Baetz, for whom the viewpoint is named, was an attorney, avid cyclist, and a person whose adult years were dedicated in part to advocating for the creation of the Olympic Discovery Trail. The Hall Baetz Viewpoint embodies the spirit of community collaboration and long-term commitment that are at the heart of trail building.

In 2024, the log structure of the Hall Baetz Viewpoint (HBV) on Discovery Bay began to take form. Like all trail projects, the HBV is a long-term, multi-year collaboration involving numerous entities and many supporters, volunteers, and trail advocates and builders. While 2024 represents the first stage of building, the project in its entirety will continue to unfold for years to come.

Designed with the donated services of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's retired senior totem carver, the HBV will be an ADA accessible structure along the ODT. The structure itself is a central component within the complex of cultural, ecological, and community building projects that make up HBV.

Overlooking an estuary at the scenic and much-beloved head of Discovery Bay, the shelter will be a place for wildlife viewing and community gathering. It will serve residents, visitors, travelers, and ODT users. The interpretive media within the shelter, which will be developed in collaboration with partners like the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, will also make the viewpoint a source of environmental and cultural education.

Since its conception in 2020, HBV has been a collaborative community project. The materials used in the construction of the wildlife viewing shelter, including the cedar logs, were acquired, transported, and stored with the aid of PTC partners and supporters, including the Jefferson Land Trust (the HBV site landowner), the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, and Finnriver Farm

and Cidery. Many hands supported this first-phase of construction.

This highlights an important feature of how trails, including trail features like the HBV, are built. Private citizens, volunteers, municipalities, counties, tribes, federal and state agencies, voluntary associations, cyclists, runners, equestrians – can and must work together in their shared quest to build the community in which we all want to live.

The HBV is more than a memorial to its namesake. It is an enduring testament to the collaborative and far-sighted spirit of our North Olympic community of trail builders. It represents the best of us.



## 2024 Makes Milo Curry to Anderson Lake Trail Extension A Reality

It's been a long time coming. Extension of the Larry Scott Trail to Anderson Lake State Park will be completed in 2025 thanks to a culmination of efforts that came to fruition in 2024.

Creating a new segment of the ODT extending from the south end of the Larry Scott Trail at Milo Curry Road to Anderson Lake State Park, has been a dream of many trail planners and users for years. Some adventurous trail users have even been making the trek along an undeveloped utility corridor. In 2025, they'll no longer have to bushwhack their way to Anderson Lake State Park.

In 2019, the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners authorized the Anderson Lake extension project, allowing the county's Public Works Department to begin land acquisition and preliminary engineering. Funding for the planning, acquisition, and development of the shared-use trail was awarded to Jefferson County through the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office's Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program.

Major land acquisition occurred in 2021, when Jefferson County closed on its purchase of 35 acres of forestland from Rayonier, securing 1.9 miles of the future trail. In 2024, after passing a six-year transportation plan that budgeted for the Anderson Lake Connection project, the Board of Commissioners approved \$3.8 million for trail construction, which is expected to be completed in 2025.

The progress made on the Anderson Lake extension in 2024 was the result of efforts made by devoted volunteers, citizens, and public servants – including those who attended public hearings, wrote letters of support, circulated petitions, passed resolutions, drew-up plans, or simply spread the word about efforts to complete the ODT.

Completing this non-motorized and multi-use trail segment, spanning over 3 miles, will be a significant step towards the objective of extending the ODT from the Four Corners area all the way to Discovery Bay.



## City of Port Angeles and Clallam Transit Install New Bike Lockers at ODT Waterfront Entrance

You want to ride the ODT from Sequim to Port Angeles and then hop on the Blackball ferry to Victoria on foot for the night. But where to park your bike in a safe and secure location? Clallam Transit has you covered.

In 2024, new bike lockers were installed at the City Pier parking lot in Port Angeles. These lockers, donated by Clallam Transit, are designed to accommodate both daily commuters and recreational users, such as overnight campers. Located at an ODT entrance, these lockers enable ODT users – whether they are heading west from Sequim, or east from Lake Crescent – to store their bicycles at no cost while they continue their adventures. Trail users can rest assured that their bicycles are safe and secure as they hop on a bus to Hurricane Ridge, jump on a ferry to Victoria, B.C., or go explore the City of Port Angeles. These new bike lockers are the result of a partnership between the Clallam Transit System, the Peninsula Trails Coalition, and the City of Port Angeles Parks & Recreation department. This project builds on past collaborations that brought integrated bike accommodations to Clallam and Jefferson County buses.



## Construction Begins on the PTC in 2024

There's an essential part of trail construction that often goes unnoticed: building the institution that supports and advocates on behalf of trail building. The PTC maintains the ODT, but who is maintaining the PTC?

Since its inception, the PTC has been managed and operated by an all-volunteer board of directors with occasional contracted help. What you may not know is that much of the PTC's work, whether it's accounting, membership mailings, or clearing brush, is done by volunteer board members. Some dedicate more than 100 hours per month to the PTC.

As the ODT and the PTC have grown, the tasks associated with both enterprises have become too numerous and, in some cases, specialized, for an all-volunteer organization. This is a good problem to have.

In 2024, the PTC took a hard look at itself as an institution. The Board of Directors worked with a consulting firm to create a situation analysis that led to a facilitated board retreat. The result of this analysis and planning is a clear set of action steps to transform the organization from a working board to a management board that will oversee a professional staff.

One of the first steps is identifying and recruiting the organization's first executive director in 2025. Some of the most important construction in the coming year will be on the PTC itself.



# Puget Sound to Pacific Initiative Takes Big Step Toward Trail Development in 2024.



The PTC is one of three organizations — along with the Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation and the North Kitsap Trails Association — that make up the Puget Sound to Pacific (PS2P) initiative. The PS2P took one big step toward securing \$16.3 million in federal planning funds in 2024.

When you head out on any stretch of the ODT, the long-term work and vision that went into building the trail is never quite apparent. Even now, however, hundreds of private citizens, civil servants, and elected officials are planning greater ODT trail networks and systems that will be enjoyed by our children and our children’s children for years to come. Trail building is an intergenerational endeavor. We enjoy today what others envisioned and built yesterday.

The Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC) is a regional leader and collaborator in various initiatives aimed at establishing a comprehensive trail network that extends beyond the Olympic Peninsula. One of these projects is the Puget Sound to Pacific (PS2P) initiative, a partnership involving the PTC, the North Kitsap Trails Association, and the Bainbridge Island Parks and Trails Foundation.

The primary objective of the PS2P initiative is to develop 200 miles of non-motorized, multi-use

trail connecting Puget Sound—beginning at the ferry docks in Bainbridge Island, Kingston, and Port Townsend—to the Pacific Coast at the Quileute tribal reservation in La Push, WA.

In 2023, the 14 jurisdictions encompassed by the PS2P project were awarded a \$16.3 million federal RAISE grant, authored by the PS2P collaborative, to plan and design 34 multi-use trail components addressing approximately 100 miles of trail gaps within those jurisdictions.

In 2024, the PS2P collaborative focused on the administrative tasks necessary for RAISE grant co-recipients to begin receiving funding. This included helping each of the jurisdictions implement the RAISE grant by entering into agreements with the Federal Highway Administration and Washington State Department of Transportation.

Signing federal paperwork may not sound like much of a year-end highlight. Trail building, however, is as much about signing papers as it is about laying gravel or concrete. We celebrate new trail segments with ribbon cuttings and speeches. Yet, the securing and allocation of large federal grants that fund new trail building, are worthy of their own celebrations. In 2024, we count this as an important accomplishment and another big step forward.

# A Coalition

# Of Volunteers

**I**t's easy to think about the ODT as a static trail with a beginning, a middle, and an end. That's how many of us experience it when we ride, hike, or hoof it. That's not how maintenance volunteers experience it. To them, the ODT is a dynamic, living system. Now it's covered in slippery, culvert clogging leaves. Now it's overgrown with grass and noxious weeds. A bank gives way and now blocks the pathway into Port Angeles. And now a port-a-potty needs servicing. Coordinating an army of volunteers that helps to maintain the ODT and that supports the tireless work of jurisdictions, is a central function of the PTC. In 2024, more volunteers contributed more hours maintaining, servicing, and repairing the trail than any year prior.

## PTC Trailer Adopters Volunteer Over 5,000 Hours in 2024

PTC volunteers have a multitude of responsibilities. Some assist with trail events, like marathons and bicycle tours. Others help with raising money or greeting trail user groups. Trail Adopters are another, special breed of volunteer. They make a long-term commitment to keep the trail clean, navigable, and safe.

In 2024, PTC Trail Adopters volunteered more than 5,000 hours to maintain the ODT and Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT). Trail Adopters are our front-line volunteers and are the essential element in the PTC's overall trail maintenance program.

Trail Adopters are passionate individuals, families, clubs, organizations, and friends that volunteer to monitor and maintain sections of the ODT all year round. Since the maintenance needs for each segment of the ODT can vary, Trail Adopters use a variety of tools, equipment, and skills to keep the ODT open and safe for users. They engage in a variety of maintenance activities, including clearing fallen trees and other debris from the trail, trimming back vegetation, controlling noxious weeds, monitoring erosion and water damage, and repairing or refurbishing infrastructure.

Some Trail Adopters are responsible for reporting damaged or missing guide signs and replenishing map kiosks. Serving as the "eyes and ears" of our trail maintenance program, Trail Adopters also alert their Section Managers of any hazards or conditions on the ODT that require additional equipment, workers, or expertise.

Those who adopt sections of the ODT or OAT are frequent users of the trail, and they often live close to the section they maintain. Some of them have spent decades helping to maintain the ODT. At any time of the year, the Peninsula Trails Coalition usually has less than 5 of the 116 trail sections available for adoption. Trail Adopters embody the spirit of the PTC: publicly spirited individuals and communities coming together voluntarily to support a cause greater than themselves.

We're proud of the work of our 2024 Trail Adopters.

## Invasive Species Meets Its Match in 2024: Broom Busters

Those who volunteer to maintain the Olympic Discovery Trail organize under a variety of banners, with support from a variety of organizations. Meet the Dungeness River Center's Broom Busters.

Broom Busters, a group organized by Dungeness River Center volunteer Gretha Davis, has been removing invasive and noxious Scotch broom from locations across the ODT for over a decade. Broom Busters borrow tools from the Dungeness River Nature Center, the Clallam Noxious Weed Control Program, the Peninsula Trails Coalition, and fellow volunteers. Money raised for Broom Busters helps to fund environmental education programs at the Dungeness River Nature Center. We're grateful for the untold hours of work the Broom Busters invest annually in helping to keep invasive plant species off the trail.



## Who Are We Working With?

The Peninsula Trails Coalition coordinates with and supports the 14 federal, state, county, city and tribal jurisdictions that are the public owners responsible for segments of the Olympic Discovery Trail.

### Two Federal Agencies

U.S. Forest Service  
U.S. National Park Service  
(Olympic National Park)

### Three State Agencies

Washington Parks and Recreation Commission  
Washington Department of Transportation  
Washington Department of Natural Resources

### Two County Governments

Clallam County  
Jefferson County

### Four City Governments

Port Townsend  
Port Angeles  
Sequim  
Forks

### Three Tribal Governments

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe  
Quileute Tribe

## Clallam County Volunteers Replace Whiskey Creek Bridge

Many organizations and governments contribute to the maintenance of the ODT and OAT. When a major piece of infrastructure on the trail fails, it's all hands on deck. Replacement of the Whiskey Creek Bridge in 2024 shows how governments, voluntary associations, and private individuals work together to maintain the ODT and OAT year in and year out.

In April 2024, the Whiskey Creek bridge on the Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT) collapsed. The deteriorating bridge, which was constructed around a fallen Douglas Fir tree, failed after twenty years of supporting pedestrians and cyclists.

Prior to the bridge's collapse, the Clallam County Public Works Department – with support from the Peninsula Trails Coalition, the Clallam County Trails Advisory Committee, and Peninsula Adventure Sports – applied for a lodging tax grant to pay for a new and improved replacement.

The Whiskey Creek Bridge Replacement and Improvement Project, as it was named, proposed the construction of a new 60-foot-long by 6-foot-wide fiber-reinforced polymer bridge located at the equestrian crossing downstream of the collapsed log bridge. The use of a low weight material like reinforced polymer would make it possible for volunteers to haul materials along the trail to the job site, which was necessary based on the remote location of the project.

The Clallam County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee recommended the application's approval, the Clallam County Board of County Commissioners approved the grant award, and volunteers set to work realigning the trail to the bridge's new location. By August, the appropriate permits were approved by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and construction on the bridge began.

On September 5th, the bridge was completed. Twenty-four volunteers, led by former Clallam County Volunteer Coordinator Jeff Ralston, spent over 800 hours executing the project. The new crossing, unlike the previous log bridge, is suitable for all trail users,



including equestrians. By spanning the full floodplain and active channel erosion areas, the new bridge is also designed to avoid stream impacts and, ultimately, serve Olympic Adventure Trail users for many years to come.

## Making Bollards Safe for Cyclists

In 2024, jurisdictions and volunteers along the ODT continued the work of replacing damaged trail signs and hazardous bollards, as well as creating new speed limit and trail etiquette signage.

If you've never had the misfortune of running into a bollard at speed, you probably haven't given them a second thought.

Bollards are the vertical, and (ideally) high-visibility posts that mark trail entrances. They play an important role in trail safety, including the deterrence of unauthorized vehicles from recreational pathways. Some bollards, such as concrete or low-visibility bollards, can also pose safety hazards for bicyclists.

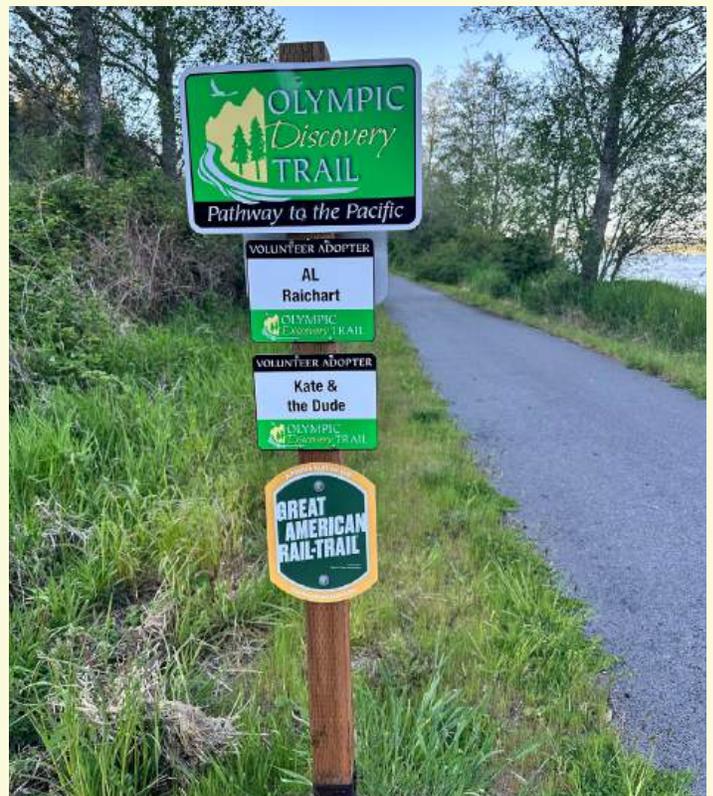
Replacing potentially dangerous bollards is a priority of ODT stewards. In 2024, The Jefferson County Public Works department removed numerous decaying wooden bollards, replacing them with high-visibility, flexible ones that feature street and trail identification. These new bollards deter unwanted vehicles from entering trailheads without posing a safety threat to cyclists.



## GART Anniversary Signs Installed

In 2019, the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy chose the Olympic Discovery Trail as the western terminus of the 3,700-mile Great American Rail Trail (GART). The GART spans the American continent from Washington, D.C., to La Push, Washington.

In 2024, signage identifying the ODT as a part of the GART was added to locations across the ODT, including Discovery Bay and the 10th Street trailhead in Port Angeles. The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy distributed 600 of these signs across the national trail in 2024.



# Building

# Community



**C**all it a network, a system, or a connector: The ODT brings our North Olympic communities together. It also links us to communities beyond the Hood Canal Bridge. Yes, to Kitsap County and to Bainbridge Island. Also, to the rest of Washington State and to Washington, D.C., by way of the Great American Rail-Trail. The truth is, people come from far and wide to enjoy the ODT, and many come to participate in events on the trail. The PTC supports over 50 events annually on and around the ODT – that’s nearly an event a week. We didn’t set out to be event planners or organizers, but we’re pleased with our role as a coalition of community builders in 2024.



Aside from a great day cycling in the sun, the Tour de Lavender is the principal community fundraising activity of the PTC. In 2024, nearly 1,000 cyclists contributed through their registration to the PTC’s annual fundraiser.

The Tour de Lavender takes riders through the scenic lavender farms of the greater Sequim region. Participants choose between two routes: the 64-mile

“Metric Century” loop, and the 35-mile “Fun Ride” loop. Both paths lead cyclists through distinctive lavender farms, the back roads of the Sequim-Dungeness Valley, and paved portions of the Olympic Discovery Trail.

As the Tour de Lavender grows in popularity, the PTC looks to expand the event in the coming years to make it a peninsula-wide community trail celebration.



## The PTC Supports Final Leg of Warriors' Cross Country Odyssey

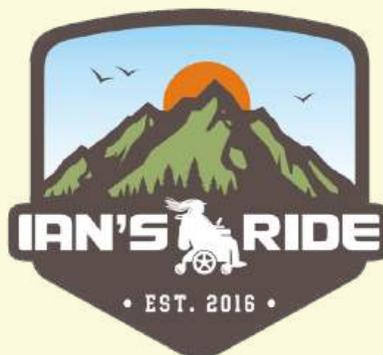
La Push is the last call for combat veterans cycling across America on the Great American Rail-Trail. Every summer, a group of select combat veterans sets off from Washington, D.C., on bicycles as participants in the Warrior Bike Program, a project of Warrior Expeditions.

Warrior Expeditions is a nonprofit organization that has provided outdoor therapy programs for wartime veterans since 2013. These programs are all long-distance expeditions designed to help combat veterans reintegrate into civilian life, improve their physical and mental health, and form lasting bonds. Participants report substantial improvements in their mental health, both during and following their adventures.



Many ODT volunteers and supporters take part in the Warrior Bike Program by offering board and lodging to the veterans on their final leg of their journey, which is coordinated by the PTC. The PTC also helps the veterans transport their equipment back home and coordinate ground transportation from La Push to the airport.

The Warrior Bike Program exemplifies the value that the ODT brings to communities outside the Olympic Peninsula. Both locally and nationally, the ODT has a role to play in connecting communities and improving quality of life.



## Ian's Ride Highlights Accessibility & Grit

The ODT plays host to many events throughout the year. Sea to Sound is a three-day, 74-mile event sponsored by Ian's Ride that emphasizes the accessibility of the ODT.



A longtime PTC partner, Ian's Ride is a nonprofit organization founded by Ian Mackay (pictured above) that advocates for accessible outdoor infrastructure and other services for those with mobility impairment. Events like Sea to Sound encourage riders of different abilities to enjoy the over 100 wheelchair accessible miles on the ODT. Ian's Ride is also a generous financial supporter of the PTC and the ODT.



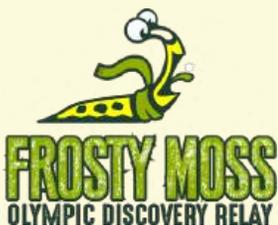
The NODM, along with the entire Run the Peninsula race series, is organized by the non-profit Port Angeles Marathon Association. The Association is a long-time supporter of the PTC. Many of the runners opt to support the PTC’s mission when they register. The PTC is grateful for the generous support of the Association and its runners in 2024.

## North Olympic Discovery Marathon

Among the many running events held on the ODT each year, the annual North Olympic Discovery Marathon (NODM) weekend is the largest and most well known.

In June 2024, over 2,000 participants from Washington State, the United States, and around the globe convened at the Olympic Peninsula for this weekend-long event. Individuals of various ages and athletic abilities participate in the activities, which include 5K and 10K races, a marathon relay, a children’s marathon, a marathon walk, a half marathon, and a traditional marathon.





## Frosty Moss Olympic Discovery Relay

One of the most beloved team events on the ODT and OAT is the Frosty Moss, an annual relay event brought to us by Peninsula Adventure Sports. In the “Full Moss” event, teams of 2-5 undertake an 80-mile, 15-leg relay race that starts at the Camp Creek Trailhead along the Sol Duc River and ends at the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe facilities in Blyn. This route takes participants along some of the most cherished locations in Washington, from Lake Crescent to the Dungeness River Railroad Bridge. After the race, participants convene at the 7 Cedars Resort for an epic celebration. A long-time partner and supporter of the Peninsula Trails Coalition, Peninsula Adventure Sports produces a range of popular events, including the Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT) Run, Gravel Unravel, and the Great Olympic Adventure Trail (GOAT) Run.



## 2024 Traveler’s Journal Series Raises Money for Peninsula Trails Coalition

Traveler’s Journal is an annual series of presentations by world travelers at the Dungeness River Nature Center. The 2024 Traveler’s Journal lineup featured presentations on Patagonia expeditions, bicycle trips up the coast of Maine, Icelandic kayak adventures, and much more. Funds raised through this series pay for supplies for volunteers working on Olympic Discovery Trail projects. In 2025, the Traveler’s Journal extended its slate of offerings to Port Angeles. Traveler’s Journal was the first Peninsula Trails Coalition fundraiser and has continued to operate for nearly 30 years.



## Sequim Wheelers Bring the Joy of Cycling to the ODT in 2024

Not everyone can ride a bike for themselves. That doesn’t mean they can’t enjoy the Olympic Discovery Trail. Since 2018, Sequim Wheelers has offered riders and volunteers the opportunity to enjoy an hour of fresh air and sunshine along the ODT on adaptive bikes.

The Sequim-based group has 66 volunteers who take people out on the trail five days a week from May into October. The adaptive bikes are designed to let volunteers do the pedaling while their guest enjoys the view. The Wheeler’s goal is to help others who cannot bike for themselves get out on the ODT.

2024 was the first full year the Sequim Wheelers operated as an affiliate of Cycling Without Age, a worldwide adaptive bike organization that was founded in Denmark. There are chapters in 39 countries that have served more than 650,000 people and provided nearly three million rides.

# Our Community





# Financial Report

## Thank You

The Peninsula Trails Coalition receives funding from governments, foundations, private businesses, and individuals. Because the PTC is an all-volunteer organization, we're a lean operation. As we look ahead to 2025, we'll be hiring our first executive director to lead the organization into a new era with a professional staff. For now, however, we want to extend our gratitude to everyone and every organization that supported the PTC in 2024. Thank you!

## Revenue

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Gifts and Contributions | \$235,422        |
| Grants                  | \$93,194         |
| Events                  | \$130,140        |
| Membership Dues         | \$13,140         |
| Investments             | \$93,583         |
| Miscellaneous Income    | \$6,815          |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>\$572,294</b> |

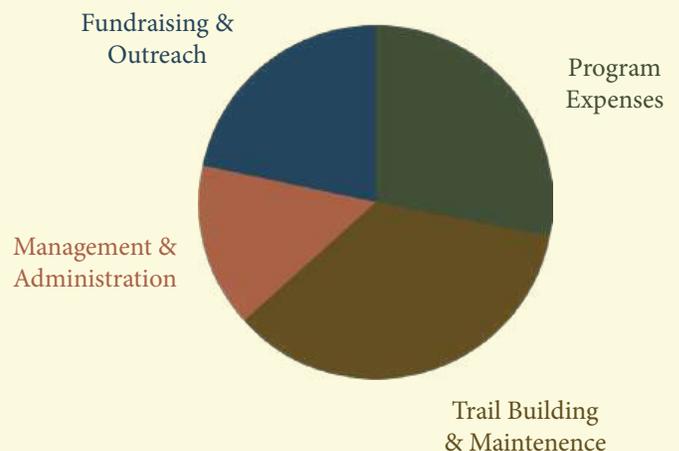
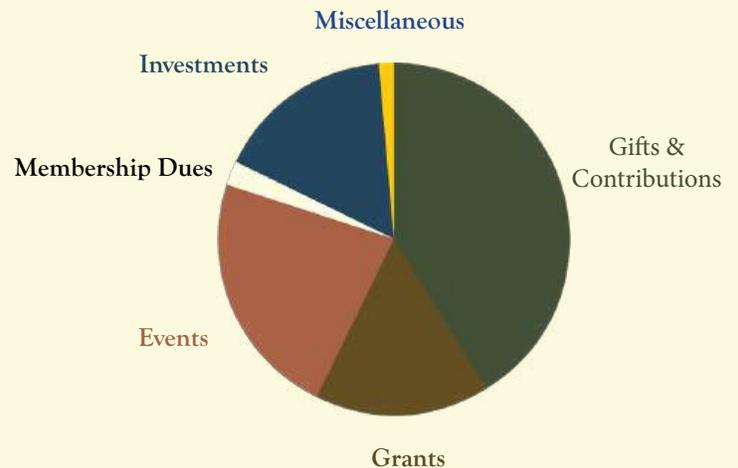
## Expenses

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Program Expenses               | \$143,947        |
| Trail Building and Maintenance | \$181,406        |
| Management and Administration  | \$76,644         |
| Fundraising and Outreach       | \$110,766        |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>\$512,763</b> |

**Net Revenue** **\$59,531**

## Assets

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Cash Investment | \$948,552        |
| Other Assets    | \$48,204         |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>\$996,756</b> |





# 2024 Sponsors



To make a credit card gift online, scan the QR Code or go to:

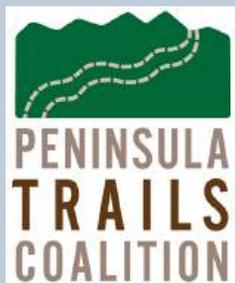
<https://olympicdiscoverytrail.org/donate/>

Peninsula Trails Coalition is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Contributions to the Peninsula Trails Coalition are deductible for federal income tax purposes as allowed by law.

Photo contributors to the PTC's 2024 annual report include Jeff Bohman, Steve Durrant, Robert Neurenberg (cover), Daniel James, Don Willott, Michele Canale (back cover), Sara Tetreault, Merrily Mount, and the PTC's 2024 Trail Ambassador crew. The report was written, edited, and designed by Lemolo Bay Advisors, [lemolobay.com](http://lemolobay.com).



Peninsula Trails Coalition  
P.O. Box 1836  
Port Angeles, WA 98362



<https://olympicdiscoverytrail.org/>