



Hikers pause for a breather at a scenic overlook during SCLT's Public Lands Day outing along a proposed trail in the Red Grade vicinity.

Red Grade Trails System

State Approves Special Use Lease

On August 14th, the Red Grade Trails System came closer to becoming a reality when we received approval of a 25-year Special Use Lease for the 160 acres of State Land located at the base of Red Grade Road. This lease allows us to move forward with plans to build 5 miles of new non-motorized, natural surface trails, as well as improve the two existing parking areas for both non-motorized and motorized users. We plan to start parking improvements and trail construction for the

initial 2 miles in 2015, depending on pending grant applications and fundraising efforts.

Since SCLT's inception, we have heard from community members that they would like to see more trails that provide a sense of solitude and escape but are convenient and easy to access. After over a year of research, planning, and getting professional advice, we determined that the State, Bureau of

Our Mission:

To preserve our heritage of open spaces, healthy rivers and creeks, working ranches, wildlife habitat, and vibrant history, while expanding non-motorized recreation opportunities to connect people with the places they love.

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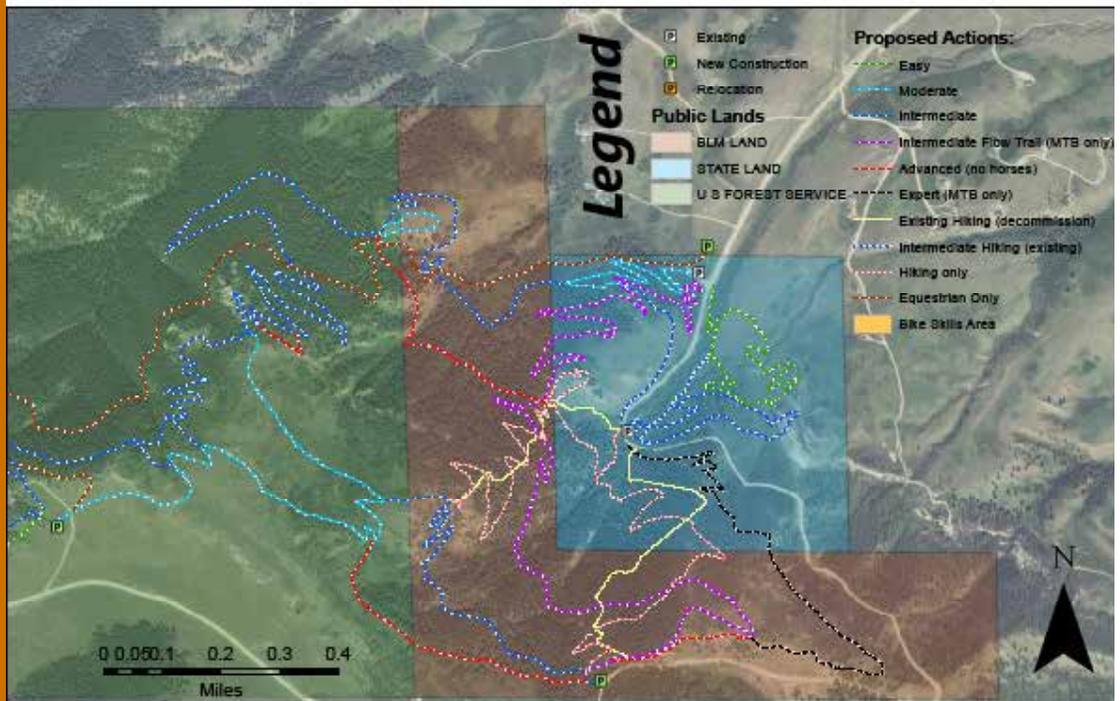
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Land Management, US Forest Service, and State lands in the Red Grade Road vicinity were the ideal location for a new trail system. This past summer we hired Trail Solutions, a professional trail design firm, to create a master plan for the project. The final plan includes 33-miles of

non-motorized trail that maximizes benefit for hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians while highlighting the natural beauty of the Bighorns. “This project is in response to a community desire for high-quality recreation opportunities that are convenient, safe, and scenic. Trails are an

essential ingredient for building and sustaining healthy communities and we are very excited to move ahead with the first phase of this project,” said Executive Director Colin Betzler.

The project includes five phases and could take up to five years to complete.

National Public Lands Day Hike



Participants take in the view near Poverty Flats during the first mile of the hike.

Temperatures dropped steadily and rain started to fall as hikers arrived at Poverty Flats on National Public Lands Day, but the weather didn't seem to dampen any spirits. Sarah Wallick, a member of SCLT's Recreation Work Group and an avid supporter, led 20 hikers of all ages through the crisp fall air along a proposed trail loop. Our goal for the hike was to showcase the vision of the proposed Red Grade Trails System and everyone who participated shared their excitement and support for the new project. Thank you to everyone who joined us on September 27th and we will continue to offer similar events as the Red Grade Trails System project moves forward.

Tongue River Float Trip



The Sinclair family making it look easy!

For the fourth year in a row, we hosted a Tongue River Float Trip on Saturday, July 12th. Fifty people brought out their canoes and kayaks for a day of family fun on the water.

This year was especially exciting because we got to share how

the Tongue River Water Trail Assessment we are working on will increase access to local water recreation through hazard removal, wayfinding signage, new and improved access sites, and provide overall floating and safety information, among other goals.

For more information about this project, visit www.sheridanclt.org.

Science Kids Partnership



The group after our "Paddle Power" class at Kleenburn Recreation Area.

Our Explorer Series, in partnership with Science Kids, challenges local kids to get outside in the name of health, recreation, and conservation stewardship. This past summer SCLT offered monthly outings that highlighted the ranching heritage, rich history, and recreation opportunities in Sheridan County. **To view next year's classes and enroll your child, please visit www.science-kids.org.**

Maurine Carley Memorial Award

On September 6th, SCLT was presented this award in recognition of our Black Diamond Byway project. The Maurine Carley Award recognizes outstanding projects in the field of historic preservation that represent Wyoming's diverse cultural heritage. Special thanks to Judy Musgrave for the nomination.



The Kooi townsite along the Black Diamond Byway.

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Please pass our newsletter on to a friend, recycle it, or let us know if you'd rather not receive a paper copy to help us reduce waste and costs. Thank you!



This Saturday, October 11th!
@ Sheridan County Fairgrounds
2 pm Race day registration
After party 6 pm - 10 pm (open to public)

Not a biker or runner? Come down to the FREE, family-friendly after party at the Exhibit Hall between 6 and 10 pm for live music by Trippin' for Biscuits and The Dave Munsick Band, Oktoberfest food by Eatons' Ranch, beer from Black Tooth Brewing Co., kids' races and activities, and the chance to win great prizes, including a Specialized Fatboy Bike donated by Back Country Bike & Mountain Works. All proceeds support SCLT projects. Hope to see you there!

Thank you to our 2014 event sponsors!

