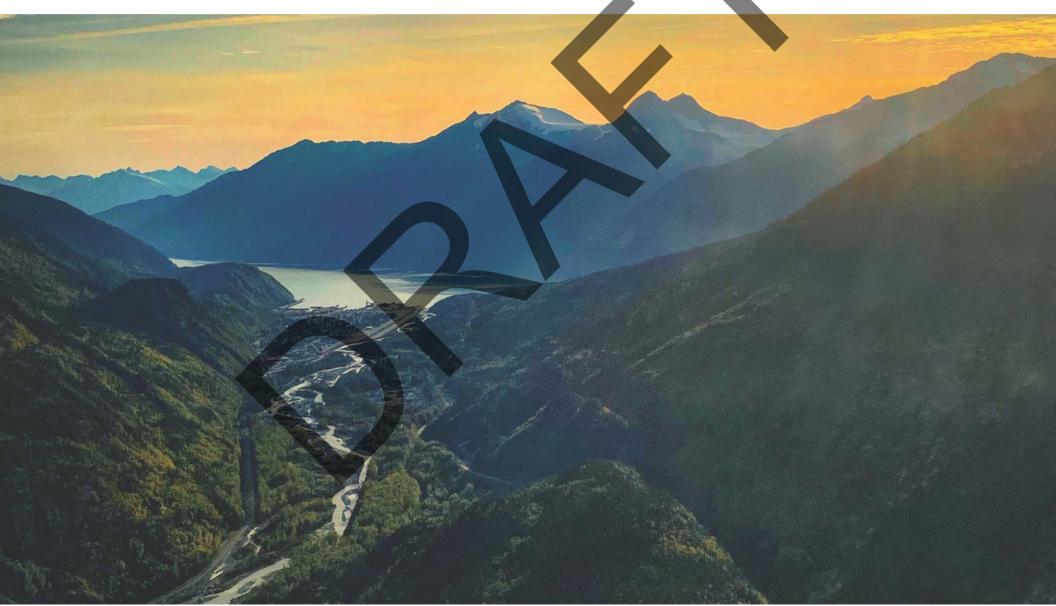
Municipality of Skagway

Comprehensive Trail Plan 2023



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Cover photo: Willeke van den Hoorn

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Introduction

The Municipality of Skagway's trail system is a valuable community resource. The trails allow residents and visitors access to pristine and undisturbed areas within a variety of natural environments. Near town trails provide accessible opportunities for residents to exercise, walk their dogs and decompress as they escape the hustle and bustle of Skagway's busy downtown. This proximity to town allows visitors to experience the spectacular scenery around Skagway. Trails in the Municipality outside of the immediate downtown area can be accessed by bike, vehicle or train.



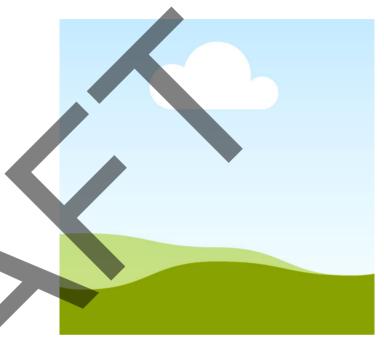
Skagway's trails provide a range of walks from gentle shoreline strolls, moderate climbs to strenuous alpine hikes. These trails provide for a variety of experiences from beginner to those who demand more challenging hikes. Most of the trails within this system are multi-purpose, providing access for a variety of users, include hikers, backpackers, campers, Mtn Bikers, skiers and snowshoewers. Horseback riding, Atv use and snow machine activities are also available on some of the trail and recreation system. however Skagway's topography limits access to the full system. Skagway's tradition of respecting the rights of each group's use of these trails and common courtesy make for a friendly outdoor experience.

The purpose of this document is to record each of these trails, to develop a management plan which ensures the basic trail infrastructure is safe, usable and the best it can be. Priorities are based upon public comment and the desire for safe, enriching outdoor experiences. Proposed projects are based upon improving user safety, developing trail connectivity from the port of Skagway to existing trail systems, improving mapping, wayfinding and trail amenities and including traditional Tlingit place names in current and future trail names and signage.

Executive Summary

Skagway has built one of the most accessible and diverse trail systems in the state of Alaska. The creation of this plan is the culmination of 2 years work and is an update to the original 2003 plan. The first plan was highly effective in planning, prioritizing, managing, protecting and procuring funding for the existing trail system. It has been used for prioritizing repairs, reconstruction of existing trail and was useful in implementation of new trail construction. projects completed include a complete reroute of the backside of the lower lake trail, the flying squirrel and a smugglers cove trail extension. While much has been accomplished there. remains projects that are in construction, existing trails that are in need of repair due to high use and destructive storm patterns. As the community continues to expand and grow there remains a tremendous amount of work to do. The redevelopment of port infrastructure the expansion residential areas and increasing use of existing trails have created a need and opportunity to update the existing plan.





In addition to the projects that are under construction, are slated for reconstruction and or repair we have identified one major goal that we would like to achieve under that planing effort. It is the desire of the community to create greater connectivity between existing trails so that users may move thru the system in a safer and more diverse manner. as the community grows it is important to establish new safe corridores for travel around the community and to Dyea.

Natural Environment

Geology

Southeast Alaska sits on the boundary of 2 major tectonic plates: the Pacific plate in the West and the North American Plate in the East. The collision of these two plates has caused the uplift of the Coastal Mountain Range which runs the length of Southeast Alaska. Skagway sits nestled among glacially carved valleys and fjords at the northern end of the Lynn Canal, a 90-mile fjord that slices deep into the heart of the Coast Mountains. The community is surrounded by mountains risingto 6,000 feet in altitude, glaciers and icefields, and dynamic river systems. Geologically, the area is extremely active; current processes affecting the region include glacial outburst flooding, glacial erosion and deposition, earthquakes, landslides, avalanches, and tsunamis.

Climatology

Because of Skagway's location deep within the coast mountain range, the area is influenced both by the rainforest climate of Southeast Alaska and the continental climate typical of interior Alaska and Canada. As a result, Skagway is much drier than the rest of Southeast Alaska with an average of 29 inches of precipitation. Temperatures usually range from 50-60°F in the summer and 20-30°F in the winter. Named after its howling winds, windy days of 5-20mph are frequent in Skagway and days gusting over 40mph are not uncommon. With the changing climate, Skagway has seen heavier and more frequent precipitation events leading to increased erosion, landslides, and flooding



Natural Environment



Ecology

There are two major river systems in the area, the Taiya and Skagway; these valleys provide short routes to glacier free mountain passes, which link the coast to the interior. Thus, this is the northern-most and interior-most conduit for ecological exchange between the temperate rainforest and interior continental ecosystems. It has been an important avenue for plant and animal expansions in the past and continues to be the site of species interchange today.



Flora & Fauna

Skagway hosts unique communities of flora and fauna. Near Skagway are a surprising variety of habitat zones. By exploring our local trails, one may experience tidal zones with some of the largest fluxes in the world, coastal rainforest, alpine tundra, and boreal forest in quick succession. Skagway also enjoys a diverse faunal community. Some species uncommon in other parts of Southeast Alaska are found in the Skagway region, including the arctic ground squirrel and the pika. Other wildlife that may be seen throughout the area include bears, eagles, whales, salmon, mountain goat, lynx, wolves, and river otters.

Pre-Gold Rush

Long before the search for gold lured Euro-Americans to Dyea and Skagway, the Tlingit of Southeast Alaska flourished in this area of rich natural resources. The mild climate, protected harbors, and an abundance of fish and wildlife fostered a rich native culture lasting for thousands of years. This wealth enabled the Tlingit to maintain a strong cultural foundation and to dominate their trading partners.

The Tlingit exercised control over several different trade routes through the coastal range of mountains into the interior of Alaska and Canada. Two of these routes were at the head of the Lynn Canal and both led to the headwaters of the Yukon River. The White Pass route, although known, was seldom used. The other route, which had been used for generations, followed the Taiya River Valley. This latter route was the Chilkoot Trail.

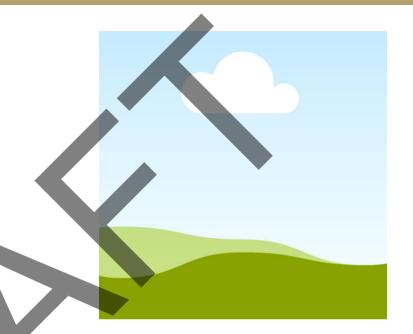
The Chilkoot Trail was a vital trade artery for the Tlingit; but served the Athapascan peoples of the interior as well. The Tlingit bartered precious eulachon oil, dried fish, and other commodities in exchange for valuable fur pelts and animal hides. Following a series of political events, the Tlingit opened the Chilkoot trail to Euro-American prospectors in 1880. As time went by, gold discoveries in the Yukon and the interior of Alaska rapidly brought an end to the Tlingit monopoly of trade routes through Alaska's coastal range.

Gold Rush 1897-1900

The discovery of gold in the Yukon brought major changes to the Taiya and Skagway valleys. With the sudden influx of thousands of stampeders, Dyea soon became a major port as people made preparations to make their way up the 33-mile Chilkoot Trail into Canada and on to the goldfields. To make transportation easier, a 7.5 mile long wagon road was constructed to Canyon City, and there were as many as three different tramway companies hauling supplies up certain sections of the trail.

A similar situation was occurring in the Skagway Valley. It exploded into a metropolis of thousands as people began making their way up the 45-mile White Pass Trail into Canada and the goldfields. A wagon road was constructed by George Brackett from Skagway to White Pass City. From there a sled route led to the summit itself.

During the time of the gold rush, it was possible not only to walk from Skagway to Dyea, but to telephone as well. To facilitate communication between the two cities, a trail and telephone line was established.



Other construction occurred above Skagway and around Lower Dewey Lake. A reservoir was built to provide the city with water, and extensive woodcutting supplied the town with fuel. A trail network was put in place to accomplish these tasks.

Construction of the White Pass & Yukon Route Railway (WP&YR) began in Skagway in 1898. A little over two years later trains were running the line's full length from Skagway to Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. Access through the coastal mountains into the interior was now easy and relatively inexpensive.

Post Gold Rush

With the completion of the WP&YR Railway, the Chilkoot Trail became obsolete and the town of Dyea began to fade. A decade after the gold rush, only a handful of people were living in Dyea and both the Chilkoot and the Skagway/Dyea Telephone trails fell into disrepair.

The population of Skagway also declined after the gold rush, but with its deep-water port and the WP&YR transportation link to the Yukon, the town survived. With the construction of the railroad the White Pass Trail soon fell by the wayside while the Brackett Wagon Road was bought out by WP&YR. Remnants of these routes can still be seen today further up the Skagway River valley.

Although the population of Skagway dwindled, its needs as a modern city were growing. The first two decades of the twentieth century saw more water and hydroelectric power work occur on Dewey Mountain. During this period, the facilities at the Lower Dewey Lake and Reservoir were improved, and the Upper Dewey lake Dam, Reid Falls dam and pipeline, and the Icy Lake dam and pipeline were built. The Upper Reid Falls trail and many of the Dewey Lake trails are an outgrowth of this early industrial activity. At the same time, woodcutters like Garland Sturgill were continuing to cut trees for fuel in the Lower Dewey Lake area. The Sturgill's Landing trail is an extension of this activity.



More development occurred on Dewey Mountain in 1908 when Peter Kern erected a lodging house for tourists. The house, called "Kern's Castle", was built between Lower and Upper Dewey Lakes close to Dewey Falls. During the Castle's construction, a new trail to the structure was built and work on an aerial tramway was begun.

The post gold rush period saw the creation of new trails largely for recreation purposes. During Skagway's early years, such attractions as the Lower and Upper Dewey Lakes, Burro Creek, Smuggler's Cove and Denver Glacier were popular spots for outings.

Early Trail Development & Management

It is unclear when the original trading routes were established, but we do know that indigenous native bands used the Chilkoot and White Pass for access to the interior for trading with first nations in what is now Canada.

The gold rush of 1898 and the mass influx of people that used Skagway and Dyea as a jumping off point for access to the gold fields developed a network of trails used to log timber build Skagway, Dyea and build the Chilkoot trail and White Pass trails. Additional areas such as Lower and Upper Lake were a source for lumber and hydro. Denver and Laughton were used for timber extraction for the railroad construction and as an access route to Atlin. During those days there were toll roads, bridges, and even a tram on the Chilkoot.

After completion of the railroad, use dwindled and maintenance was minimal if at all. As a result many if these trails fell into a state of disrepair and some have been taken back by the forest. While others continued to be used, it is unclear how they were maintained over time.

The establishment of the National Park was instrumental in maintenance of the Chilkoot Trail. The Forest Service established cabins in the Denver and Laughton Valleys. Skagway Public Works, private companies and volunteers worked on the trail system up until the establishment of the 2003 trail plan.

Presently there is a management system in place and trail maintenance and management is completed by Skagway's public works department, the National Park Service and Forest Service with help from volunteers.

Statement of Need for Trail Plan

Purpose

This plan is being created to update the existing trail plan taking into account the trail system as it stands today. It will identify existing conditions, areas in need of repair or reconstruction and prioritize projects in both the short and long term. The plan will focus on creating connectivity projects that establish safe walkable corridor's around the community of Skagway that are multiple use in nature where it is possible. The plan will include new trail that has been constructed and updated mapping of trail system for integrated use by the public. It will also map and establish corridors for new trail construction focusing on development projects either in planning stages such as the Dyea trail, and or are areas proposed for development such as the AB mountain subdivision. Safety, connectivity and access are of primary concern in developing this plan. A multiple use strategy will be implemented in development where it is achievable or makes sense.

Current & Projected Community Needs

Maintenance, repair and reconstruction of trail that recieves heavy use or has been impacted by recent flooding events. Completesion of Lost Lake trail presently under construction. Connectivity sidewalk, pathways or trail on the east and west side of Skagway from the docks to the north end of town. Identify, map and construct multiple use trail from Skagway to Dyea. Accurate integrated mapping. Expanded cabin site location identification expanded cabin system. Management plan for Seven Pastures area.



Overview of Planning Process

May 2001 – January 2005 City of Skagway develops first Comprehensive Trail Plan

February 2005

The Comprehensive Trails Plan is adopted by the Skagway City Council

May 6, 2021

Mayor Andrew Cremata appoints five residents to the Comprehensive Trail Plan Ad Hoc Committee with the goal of completing an update to the 2005 City of Skagway Comprehensive Trails Plan by the end of 2021. Assembly approves the appointments

May 2021

Initial meeting of the Comprehensive Trials Plan Ad Hoc Committee. Invitation to participate is extended to other local organizations that will be directly or indirectly be involved in the development process. These organizations include Alaska Fish & Game, Alaska Power & Telephone, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Skagway Development Corporation, Skagway Traditional Council, US Forest Service and White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad.

June 2021 - January 2022

Committee holds public meetings twice monthly, inviting citizens to share ideas, questions & comments. Public meeting notices are distributed through the Municipal notification email list, posted on the Municipal website and community notice boards. During these meetings, unmet needs for existing trails and potential new trail routes and challenges are identified for east, center and west sections of the Municipality.

Overview of Planning Process

July 2021

Committee members Anderson, Bourcy & Kollasch host public information table at the Skagway Arts Council's Blues, Brews & BBQ festival at Seventh Pastures to raise awareness and increase community participation in plan update.

March 2022

Municipality of Skagway applies for NPS-Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program (NPS-RTCA) to assist with production of the Skagway Comprehensive Trails Plan update, sending letters of support from Skagway Development Corporation, Skagway Recreation Center, Skagway Traditional Council, Skagway Visitor Department and the US Forest Service.

May 2022

NPS-RTCA accepts Skagway's project. Establishes work plan beginning in June 2022, ending March 2023.

May 2022 – October 20232

Monthly public meetings with NPS-RTCA participating via video conference. Committee identifies trails priority list, maps created identifying potential future trials, draft plan sections assigned to committee members for updates.

November 2022

Comprehensive Trials Plan Ad Hoc Committee begin formulating a first draft of the plan update

TBD

A public meeting was held to review the final draft and to collect the final public comment.

TBD

The Comprehensive Trails Plan update is adopted by the Municipality of Skagway Assembly

Public Involvement

Methods

Committee Meetings

The Comprehensive Trails Plan Ad Hoc Committee held public meetings regularly from May 2021 through March 2023 Community members were encouraged to participate in person or writing. Public notices were issued through City Hall for all meetings.

Stakeholder Meetings

An invitation to participate is extended to other local organizations that will be directly or indirectly be involved in the development process. These organizations include Alaska Fish & Game, Alaska Power & Telephone, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Skagway Development Corporation, Skagway Traditional Council, US Forest Service and White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad.

Results

Draft Review and Comments

A draft of the Comprehensive Trails Plan update was presented for public review on DATE & PLACE. Comments from public are included in the Comprehensive Trails Plan Update. THE MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY INVITES YOU TO HELP SHAPE THE COMPREHENSIVE TRAILS PLAN UPDATE.



JOIN THE AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETINGS EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY 4:30 PM IN ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

Next meeting Wednesday, June 30

VISIT WWW.SKAGWAY.ORG/MEETINGS TO LEARN MORE

Vision

The vision of the Skagway Comprehensive Trails Plan 2023 update is to provide a guideline for achievable maintenance and improvements to Skagway Trails System for the next decade to maintain an outstanding trail system and ensure access for Skagway's residents and visitors, contributing to their physical and mental wellbeing.

Goals

Goal 1: Public Safety.

Priority is given to trail development & improvements which have been identified as potential public safety hazards. Annual assessment and inventory of trails and amenities by the Skagway Public Works Department is recommended.

Goal 2: Trail Connectivity & accessibility

Creating connectivity from dock to trails, through town walking paths & connecting existing trails to improve Skagway's status as a walkable community.

Goal 3:Improved mapping. Update trail maps with new trails and trail distances. Add updated map signs at trailheads.

Goal 4: Adding signage and amenities.

Wayfinding signage along the trails should be assessed and updated yearly. Identify additional, manageable outhouse locations to accommodate the increased trail usage.

Goal 5: Include traditional Tlingit place names in future train naming, signage and mapping The Skagway Traditional Council requests the Municipality add traditional Tlingit place names to the trail map and trail locations.

Trail Users

Horseback

Equestrians require specific trail characteristics, including, stable surfaces that allow a horse to maintain its footing, easy trail access with space for horse stalling or a parking area with sufficient space for trailers. Equestrians prefer safe roadway crossings and whenever possible, maintaining separation between the horses and the other trail users. Much of the horseback activity in Skagway occurs on AB Mountain and at Lower Dewey Lake.

Hikers

Skagway is very hiker friendly and the trail system is easily accessable from town. the majority of the trail system has elevation gain. Due to topography some of the trails are steep limiting some hikers. The trails access shoreline, lakes, temperate, boreal, sub alpine, alpine and glacier eco systems. There is something for everyone!

ATV

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), motorcycles not licensed for use upon the highways. In Skagway, ATV's are the predominant off-road vehicle used. In most areas this material is generally 6-12 inches thick and acts as topsoil, beneath which lies a rocky base. Due to their contribution to erosion and effect on plant life, trails supporting ATV use can most benefit from maintenance and rehabilitation features that help the trail maintain its longevity, while minimizing impacts on surrounding natural resources.

Bicyclists

The needs of trail bicyclists vary based on their experience and familiarity of the trail network. Casual trail bikers might prefer a wide trail that allows passing and side-by-side riding. Bicyclists may also prefer smooth, compact surfaces or paved surfaces with gentle to minimal slopes. Aggressive trail bikers, on the other hand, might enjoy more challenging trail experiences including the thrill of a narrow, single track trail, just wide enough to allow passage of one bicycle.

Trail Users



Skiers

Skiing is a primary form of winter recreation and will continue to grow as trail improvements and grooming efforts improve. Thanks to the dedication and efforts of the LCSS groomed nordic trails in Dyea and Skagway are becoming a reality. There are several areas that are being proposed for trail expansion and establishment. There is world class Backcountry Skiing in and around skagway and cabins to support shelter in these areas. There is a desire from he backcountry community to explore and expand areas within the skagway Borough. Three areas have been identified for expanded backcountry ski opportunity expansion.

Snowmachiners

Snowmachiners technically do not require actual trails to operate, many snowmachiners prefer to operate along trails for orientation and familiarity. It is preferable for snow machines to operate along trails, minimizing the potential damage to vegetation with thin snow cover. Snowmachine trails consist of heavily compacted snow and are typically 10'-15' in width. General routes have been developed over time, though these routes change frequently due to conditions.

Snowshoers

Snowshoers typically prefer to walk on snow with at least an 8" base. Snowshoers often travel off trail for a more primitive experience however they also use existing trails to gain access to the backcountry. Snowshoes perform poorly on ice and steep terrain. Therefore, most snowshoers will prefer to walk along trails that have minimal changes in grade or go off-trail to maintain level elevations and avoid ice.

Trail Amenities

Trails within the Skagway Borough are maintained by Three different governmental agencies so the infrastructure and amenities vary depending on where users go. The trail system is built in a very dynamic environment within often steep topography. Conditions change season to season and sometimes day to day, It is best to grab a trail map and get latest conditions before you head out.

The National Park service Maintains the Historic Chilkoot Traik which has established warming huts outhouses campgrounds and Ranger and trail staff during the summer months. Permits are required for all multi day trips

Signage

Trail heads are signed, Municipal trails use color coded directional arrows to assist in navigation. National Park service and forest service trails each have their own signage. Alpine trails are not signed, rock cairn are used but are not well developed, use caution!

Restrooms

Outhouse facilities are available on most trails however they are not stocked with toilet paper so be prepared!

Increased trail usage has resulted in increased reports of feces around the trails. Additional outhouse locations should be identified, build and maintained



Trail Amenities

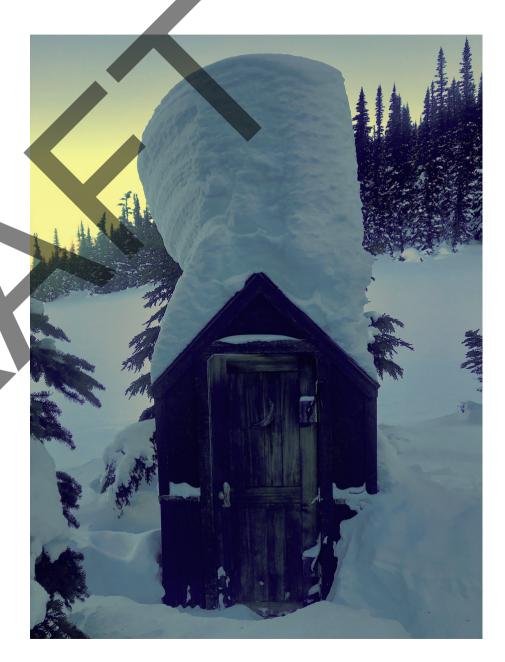
Cabins

The Municipality of Skagway offers a public use rental cabin at Upper Lake through the Skagway Recreation Center. There is also an old cabin at Upper Lake available on a first come, first use basis.

The National Forest Service offers 2 rentals through recreation.gov. A cabin on the Laughton Glacier Trail and a decommissioned train caboose at the Denver Glacier Trailhead. Both must be accessed through the train.

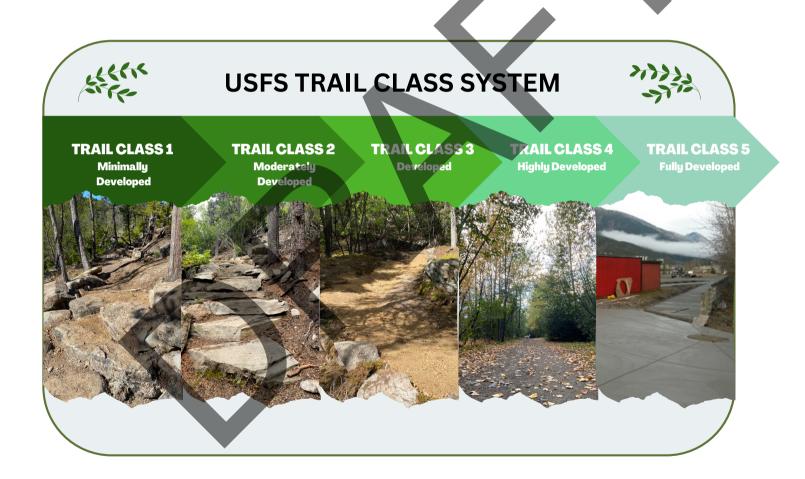
There is a desire to expand the cabin system to include additional cabins within the trail network.



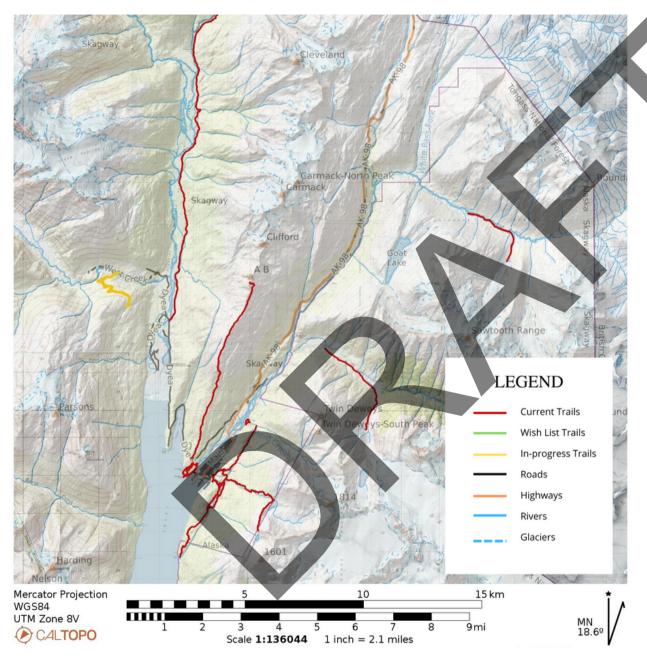


Trail Classification

Trail Classes are general categories reflecting trail development scale, arranged along a continuum. The Trail Class identified for The Municipality of Skagway (MOS) trail system prescribes its development scale, representing its intended design and management standards. Deviations from any Trail Class descriptor may be established based on trail-specific conditions, topography, or other factors, provided that the deviations do not undermine the general intent of the applicable Trail Class. This matrix is based on the established system used by the United States Forest Service (USFS). All MOS trails will have an identified class and are maintained to such standards:



Existing Trails



Description

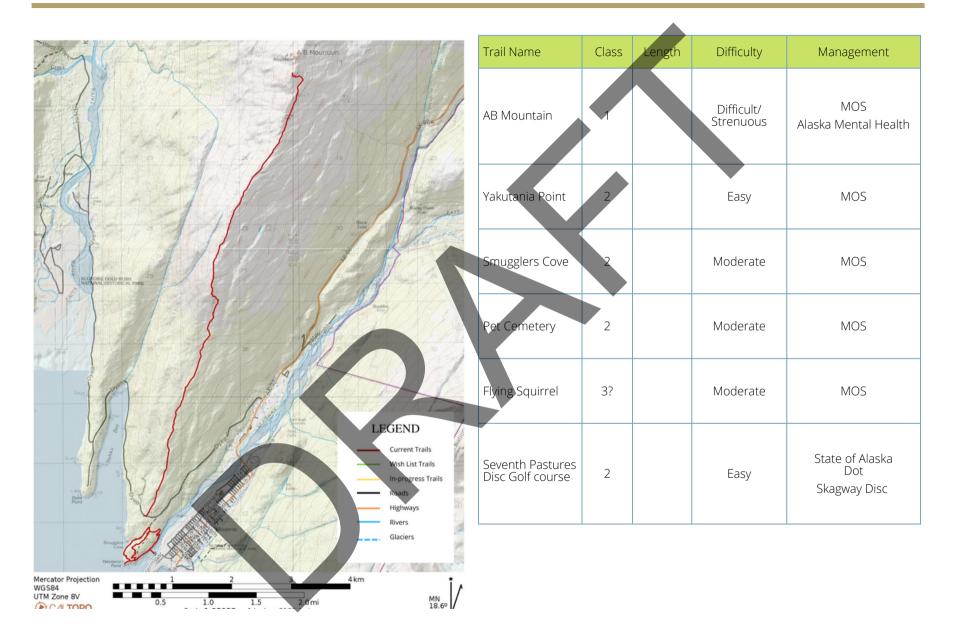
Skagway trails are the crown jewel of the community. There is nowhere else in Alaska that trails of such variety, history and challenge exist. They are easily accessible for locals and visitors, with miles of trails just a short walk from downtown or the docks. The trail system as a whole is well maintained and signed. Due to the ease of access many of the trails receive heavy use especially the Lower Dewey Lake trail and the Yakatania Point area trails. While there are a number of trails within the system that are considered relatively easy there remain many trails that require a greater level of physical fitness and preparedness



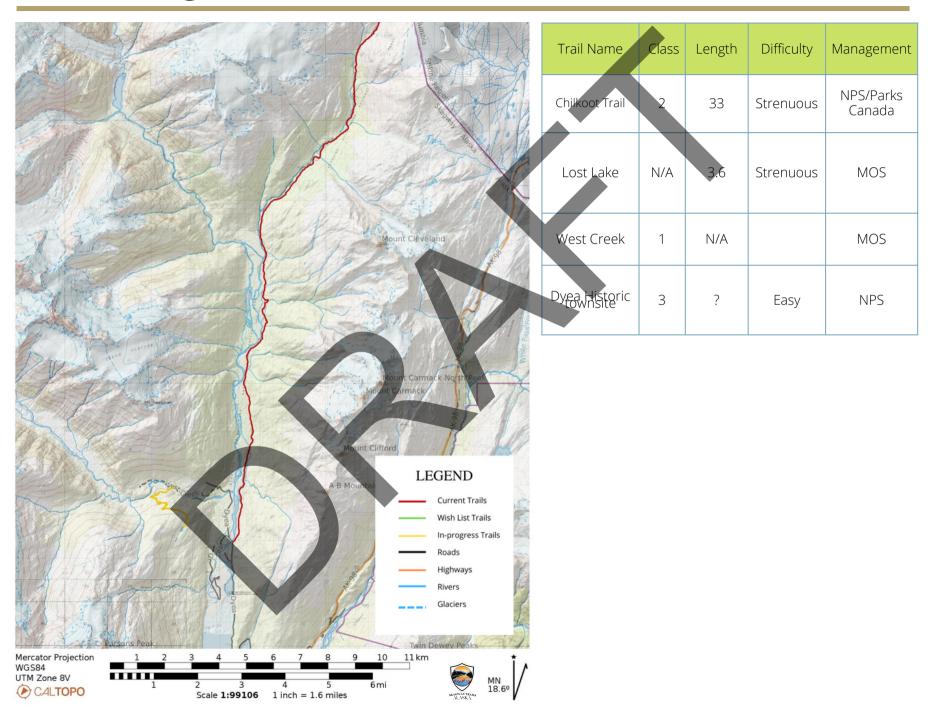
Existing Trails - East Side

| | Trail Name | Class | Length | Difficulty | Management |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mount Clifford | Lower Dewey Lake | 2 | | Moderate/ Strenuous | Municipal |
| Bart Goat | Upper Dewey Lake | 2 | | Strenuous | Municipal |
| A B Mountain | Devil's Punchbowl | 1 | | Strenuous | Municipal |
| Sawtooth Range High Point | Sturgil's Landing | 2 | | Moderate | Municipal/USFS |
| Twin Dewey Peaks | lcy Lake & Upper Reid Creek | 2 | | Moderate | Municipal/ Private |
| Twin Dewey Peaks-South Peak | Lower Reid Falls | 3 | | Easy | Municipal |
| LEGEND Current Trails Ush List Trails In-progress Trails Roads | Service Road | 3 | | Moderate/ Strenuous | Municipal/AP&T |
| Peak 1601 Peak 1601 Szd Highways Rivers Glaciers | Denver Glacier | 2 | | Moderate | USFS |
| Mercator Projection 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9km WGS84 UTM Zone 8V 1 2 3 4 5mi Image: Scale 1:84012 1 inch = 1.3 miles MN 18.69 | Laughton Glacier | 2 | | Moderate | USFS |

Existing Trails - Center



Existing Trails - West Side



Recommendations

Prioritization

Prioritization of the maintenance and improvements to Skagway's trail system drafted in this plan are based upon consideration of the following variables, listed in descending order of importance:

- Public Safety
- Frequency of Trail Use
- Availability of Trail for Multiple Use
- Proximity to Town
- Ease of Project Completion
- Expense/Availability of Funds

Top trail projects are identified as:

#1 Gold Rush Cemetery Riverwalk Trail.

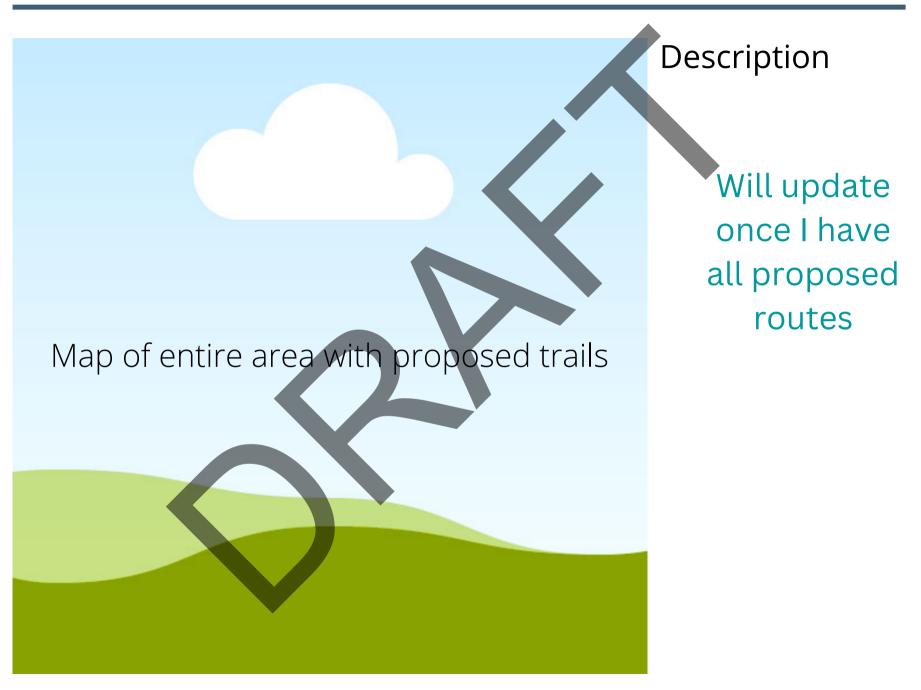
#2 reroute reconstruct AB mountain trail

#2 Alaska Road Commission Trail.

- #3 Skagway Streamwalk Stage 3.
- #4 Creating a management plan for the Seventh Pastures area.

#5 Complete new Lost Lake Trail

#6 AB Mountain Dyea Access Trail

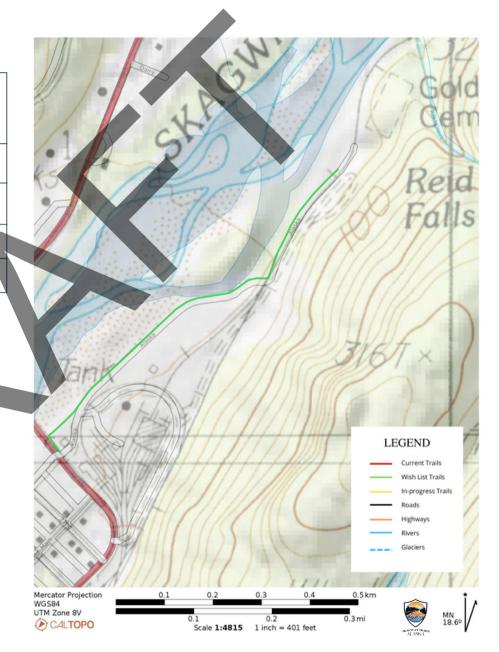


Description

| Trail Name | Gold Rush Cemetery River Walk Trail |
|------------|--|
| Use | walking/hiking |
| Class | 4 |
| Length | 0.55mi |
| Partners | MOS, WP&YR, DOT |

Complete trail from the Skagway River Bridge to the Gold Rush Cemetery. Currently, heavy pedestrian and vehicle traffic share a dirt road to access the cemetery. A partial trail exists north of the Skagway River Bridge extending just south of the railroad tracks. Completing the trail and installing signage directing foot traffic off the road will provide all users safe access to this highly used location.

This is part of a larger wish list trail to complete a walking path connecting the harbor to the north end of the valley. Potential future trail extension would include the river dike south of the Skagway River Bridge to 15th Avenue, which may involve DOT in crosswalk discussions to cross the highway

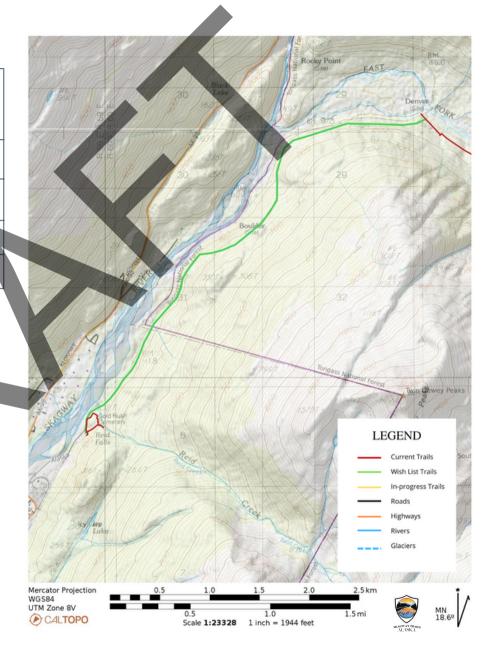


Description

| Trail Name | Alaska Road Commission Denver Valley Access Trail | | |
|------------|--|--|--|
| Use | Multi-use | | |
| Class | 3 | | |
| Length | 3.25mi | | |
| Partners | MOS, USFS, WP&YR | | |

Complete trail from Gold Rush Cemetery to the Denver Glacier Trail, providing users with a safe alternative from walking or driving ATVs on the railroad tracks.

This project has been identified in the Statewide SCORP project as a priority for the area. This is part of a larger wish list trail to complete a walking path connecting the harbor to the north end of the valley.



| escription | | Мар |
|------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| Trail Name | Skagway Stream Walk Stage 3 | |
| Use | walking/hiking | |
| Class | 4 | |
| Length | .25 mile | |
| Partners | MOS & WP&YR | |

the McCabe Building at 7th Avenue providing users with a safe alternative from walking on the railroad tracks.

Stage 3 completion will also improve visitor traffic flow to the north end of the business district. This is part of a larger wish list trail to complete a walking path connecting the harbor to the north end of the valley

Extension of the Steam walk north from McCabe to the white pass shops and over to the gold rush cemetary river walk trail

Description

| Project Name | Create Seventh Pastures Management Plan |
|--------------|---|
| Use | Multi -use |
| Partners | MOS, State of Alaska, Skagway Arts Council, Skagway Disc Golf Association, Skagway Softball League, Skagway Soccer League, |

A management plan needs to be developed for this area. This need has increased with the MOS regaining management of a portion of the old Clark Farm property. Plans for developing and maintenance the property are needed if the MOS is to make the most of this valuable recreation space.

Future development of this area could include event space, community gardens, walking paths for all abilities and mobilities, dog parks, trails around the ballfields & into the woods to the west, exercise stations and more.

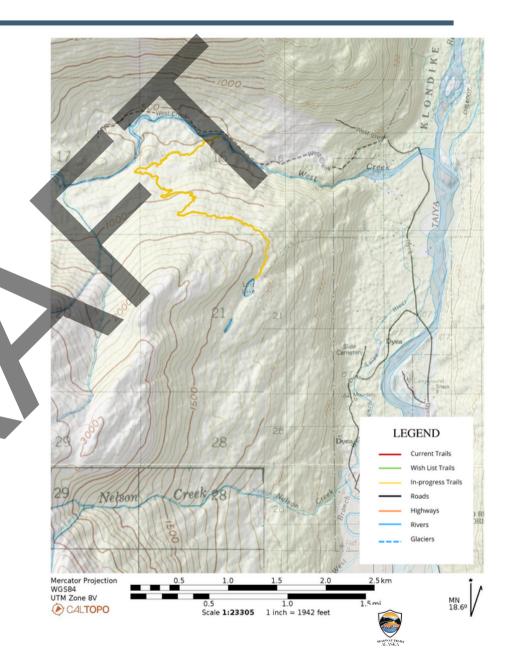


Description

| Trail Name | Complete New Lost Lake Trail Access |
|------------|--|
| Use | Multi-use |
| Class | 1-2 |
| Length | 3.6mi |
| Partners | MOS |

Under construction. A new access trail from the West Creek Pedestrian Bridge to Lost Lake has been established. The route was flagged and brushed in 2020 and requires funding for completion. Given the remote location and rapid brush growth in the area, completing construction of this new trail reroute is a proriority.

Lost Lake has been identified as a desirable location for instillation of a public use cabin.



Description

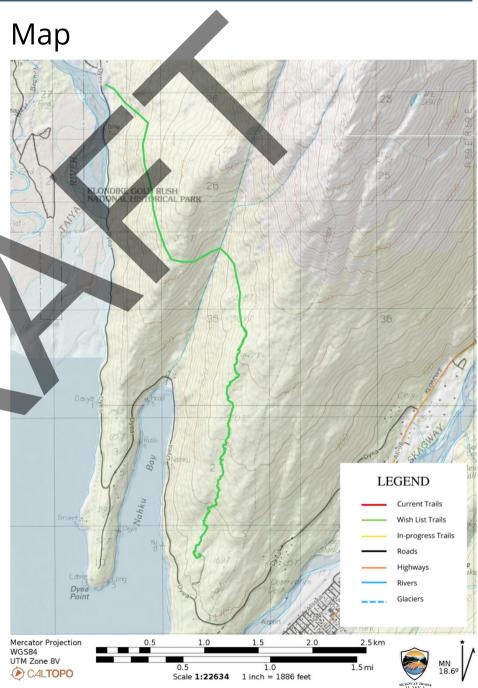
| Trail Name | AB Mountain Dyea Access Trail |
|------------|--|
| Use | Multi-use |
| Class | 1-2 |
| Length | 5 ??? miles |
| Partners | MOS, DOT, Alaska Mental Health Land Trust |

Multi Use access trail from the Skagway Rifle Range Road to Dyea has been identified as a highly desirable addition to the Skagway Trails System. Public Works Trails staff has roughly flagged the start of this trail.

The Municipality is currently working with Alaska Mental Health Lands to acquire a portion AB Mountain for housing development. While the difficulty of developing this trail makes it unfeasible to develop within the next 5-8 years, Trail development should be worked into the planning process of this land acquisition. Priority 6A: AB mountain trail reroute/ reconstruction The lower trail is used by both Mtn bikers and hikers alike. Lower trail needs parking relocation and new access to trail head. The upper trail needs reroute and reconstruction.

Priority 6B:

Lower Ab mountain has a mountain bike system that has been put together by users. This area has identified as an area of mountain trail creation and expansion.



Implementation

Funding Opportunities

One of the limiting factor to any maintenance and construction is the availability of funding. Current trail maintenance and improvements are funded by Municipal sales tax and general funds in the Municipality of Skagway's Parks & Recreation annual budget.

Potential sources for grant funding are:

- State Grants
- Foundation Grants
- Federal Highway Funds
- Public/Private Fundraising
- Cruise Lines/CPV Funds

Deanna Amodea

Maintenance

This is by far the most important and usually the most neglected aspect of trail systems. Trails are exposed to constant environmental conditions and erosional use factors. It is impairative that there is staff and a budget in place to support the trail system. Without this the system will rapidly fall into disrepair especially in this area. The Municipality, NPS and Forest service all play a role in this.

Annual inspection & inventory of trail aspects, especially multi use trails helps ensure that damage is minimized, risks are identified, and repairs can be made. enhancing saftey and protecting investments.

| Routine Maintenance | Function | Frequency | Annual Cost |
|---|---|---|----------------|
| Spring clearing and hazard assessment | Clear dead fall identify and repair immediate hazards | May-June as trails clear, post storm event | |
| Drain work, clear, repair, establish | Erosion control | Spring-summer, post storm event | |
| Tread asessment, trail integrity, hazard removal, grade reversals, outslope repair | trail durability, stablization, erosion control | summer-fall | |
| Brushing | improve sight lines, remove vedgitative encrouchment | summer | |

Maintenance

| Routine Maintenance | Function | Frequency | Annual Cost |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Trail Triage | Essential Trail failure repairs | Spring, summer,fall post storm eventC | |
| Condition assessment | Larger repair improvment planning | 20% assets per year | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Partnerships

National Park Service



The Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park manages the US portion of the Chilkoot Trail. Historically, they have shared trail management and planning resources, as well as partnering in emergency response situations in Dyea.

Skagway Traditional Council



Past partnerships with STC include grant funding opportunities. and providing permissions to use traditional Tlingit place names on trail maps. STC requests traditional place names be included in all future maps and trail names.

State of Alaska

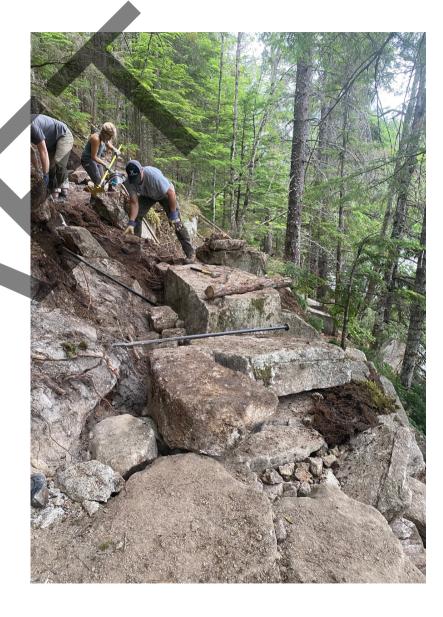


The State has mental health trust lands within the Skagway Borough that are being proposed for a multiple use trail and safety corridor. In addition, the State has contributed on a number of trail funding projects for the community.

US Forest Service



The lower Sturgils, Denver, and Laughton trails are within the forest service trail system. The proposed Alaska road commission Denver trail access extension and the Laughton glacier lateral moraine trail will also be contained within the forest service system.





Skagway Traditional Council Tlingit Place Names Approved by STC Tribal Council on7/14/2022

| TRAIL PROJECT | CATEGORY | LENGTH (MILES) | LEAD | LINGÍT NAME | TRANSLATION |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| City Walking Tour | Cultural | 2.5 | | Aanká Dei | Downtown Trail |
| Lower Dewey Lake | Dewey Lakes Trail System | 2.7 | City of Skagway | Diyěe Âa Dei | Lower Lake Trail |
| Sturgill's Landing | Dewey Lakes Trail System | 3.5 | City of Skagway | Diyée Áadá <u>x</u> Héen | River from Lower Lake |
| Icy Lake/Upper Reid Falls | Dewey Lakes Trail System | 3.0 | City of Skagway | Si.áaťi Áa / Dikée Áa X'áasi | Cold Lake / Upper Lake Falls |
| Upper Dewey Lake / Devil's Punchbowl | Dewey Lakes Trail System | 3.0 - 3.7 | City of Skagway | Dikée Áa / Ģéelák'w Áa | Upper Lake / Mountain Pass Lake |
| Lower Reid Falls | Near Town | 0.25 | City of Skagway | Diyée Áa X'áasi | Lower Lake Falls |
| Yakutania Point / Smugglers Cove | Near Town | 1.5 | City of Skagway | Yaakwdeinyaa / Táaw S'aatí <u>K</u> ú | Canoe Trail Area / Thief Cove |
| AB Mountain | Near Town | 5.0 | City of Skagway | Núkdi Shaa | Grouse Mountain |
| AK Road Commission Road | Near Town | 4.3 | City of Skagway | Gaak Deiyí | Lynx Trail |
| Denver Glacier Camp Area | | | | Áa Akagás' Yé | Place Where It (Lynx) Scratches |
| Lost Lake | Dyea Trails | 2.0 | City of Skagway | Kanagoo Áayi | Kanagoo's Lake |



Skagway Traditional Council Tlingit Place Names Approved by STC Tribal Council on7/14/2022

| Face Mountain Route | Dyea Trails | 4.5 | City of Skagway | Kanagoo Deiyí | Kanagoo's Trail |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| West Creek | Dyea Trails | 5.0 | City of Skagway | S'áxť Héeni | S'áxť (D. Club) River |
| Chilkoot Trail | Dyea Trails | 33.0 | NPS | Aak'é Éesh Deiyí | Denis Isaac Trail |
| Denver Glacier | USFS Trail System | 4-6 | USFS | Jánwu Síť'i | Mountain Goat Glacier |
| Goat Lake | | | | Jánwu Áayi | Mountain Goat Lake |
| Laughton Glacier | USFS Trail System | 3-5 | USFS | Aankada <u>x</u> tseen Sít'i | Bert Dennis Glacier |
| Skagway- Haines Kayak Route | Water Route | 15.0 | City of Skagway | L <u>k</u> ootká | On Chilkoot |
| | | | | Shgagwei | Heartwooded Place |
| Skagway River Kayak Route | Water Route | 2.3 | City of Skagway | Shgagwei Héeni | Skagway River |
| Taiya River Raft Route | Water Route | 4.0 | City of Skagway | Deiyáa Héeni | Pack Trail River |

Could include:

- Full list of proposed projects
- Trail/ Project Costing
- Project Selection / Criteria details, chart
- Detailed community involvement info, comments

Add public comment from Feb/March review meeting?

Wish Lists, Community Concerns & Comments

 \bigvee

| Dewey Lakes to Border Trails | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|---------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trail | Туре | Uses | Land Ownership | Trail Location | Overlapping Mgmt Plans | Trail Classification | Updates Completed | Unmet Needs | Things to Add | Notes |
| Lower Dewey Lake | Current Trail | Foot, Bike, Horse, ATV, Ski | MOS | NA | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area | Current 3, Goal 4. High | Backside traiLimptoyements, dock, designated fire areas, kiosk at trailhead | Drainage problem areas, switchback work (tront-side), update trail markers, review moterized policy, additional outhouse(south end) | | Potential for ski trails - deathrock road - open up some connectivity and more trails |
| Sturgi≣'s Landing | Current Trail | Foot, Bike, Run | MOS, USFS | NA | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area | 3 Medium | Re-route around slide area, route around muskeg bog, outhouse updates, | Heli-pad halfway between south end of lower and sturgills, new- outhouse , interpretive signs, view turnouts | * Cabin (USFS) | Tim - check with USFS on outhouse updates. Heli pad maybe something we can take out with the new trail or keep it on? (talk to FD?), sea route potential |
| Upper Reid Falls & Icy Lake | Current Trail | Foot, Bike, Run, ATV | MOS | NA | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area, Tongass Juneau Ranger District Mgmt Plan | Current 2, Goal 3. Medium | geoblock | viewing platform at the falls, interp signs | toward Denver or Upper Lake | view platform might be inviting people to explore around more and might lead to incidents. GK would like to rename this trail/reroute Reid Creek Trail |
| Upper Dewey | Current Trail | Foot, Ski | MOS | NA | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area | 3 High | phase 1-3 | camping area on east side of the lake, address heli-pad | Bridge repair across the dike, address tred/drainage issues, trail around the lake | Upper Dewey Lake to Dewey Peaks discussed. No passible routes were identified |
| Devils Punchbowl | Current Trail | Foot, Ski | MOS, USFS | NA | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area | 2 Low | | Trail down to Sturgills or backside trail, extension to Paradise Valley(Denver GL) | chairlift (tim) | |
| Paradise Valley Extension | Wish List | Foot, Ski | USFS | From Devils Punchbowl wrapping around into Paradise Valley | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area | | NA | NA | | |
| Punchbowl to Lower Dewey | Wish List | Foot, Ski | MOS, USFS | From Punchbowl on the South side of Snyder Creek, intersecting with the Sturgills trail | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area | | NA | NA | | |
| Icy Lake to Town | Wish List | Foot | MOS | From Icy lake down the hill side to the lower lake to lower reid trail connector | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area | | NA | NA | | Steep - no passible routes were identified |
| Lower Reid Falls | Current Trail | Foot | MOS | NA | Dewey Lakes Recreation Area | 4 High | interp signs, tred work/rock steps | rock work at falls to stabilize bank and create better view landing | | Connectivity to CCC rd |
| Upper Dewey Lake to Dewey Peaks | Wish List | Foot, Ski | MOS, USFS | Upper Lake into the Reid Falls Valley, continueing on that bench and possible extension down into the Denver Valley | | | NA | NA | | Steep - no passible routes were identified |
| AK Road Commission | In Progress | Foot, Bike, ATV, Horse | MOS, USES, WPYR(?) | Lower Reid to Denver Valley | | 4 High | Define route | Agreement between MOS/WPYR, create trail, trailhead kiosk | | Much of this is currently in progress. City Manager is negotiating with White Pass to clear some rock. Trail is flagged. |
| Goat Lake | Wish List | Foot, Sk i | USFS | Different route near APT pipeline? or take the ridge/bench up from Denver area | | | NA | NA | | APT: the public can go up the area. The property is Forest Service. Parking is on the highway shoulder. The trail is currently a goat trail. Trail from West of Glacier Station. (John). Trail from Denver (Nicole) |

Wish Lists, Community Concerns & Comments

Dewey Lakes to Border cont.

| Access Road (APT) | Current | Foot, ATV, Bike | MOS | | 4 Medium | | upgrade/reroute | | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|----------|----|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| metary Road Cutof//iver trail | Current/In progress | | MØS or WPRYR | Starting juit-past the Skagway Bridge, heading along the dirt road to the railwood tracks | 4 High | | Path exsists along part of the route. | Clear signage at the south end directing people off the road. | Currently, people walk in the road, creating a hazardous potential betwe pedestrians and the many vehicles ti travel to the cemetary in the summe (began talking with WP just before covid to get access around the south end of their gas shops to allow peop to get completly off the road. Many currently utuilize the dike trail in plas and already spoke with Tyson about new serfacing along the dike from th airport fence to GR cemetery) Hopefully to be completed next sprii when WP is more staffed. |
| Black Lakes | | | | Wrapping around the hump with views of Denver Valley, West side of black lakes old WP trail | | | | | |
| Streamwalk | Current/In Progress | Foot, Ski, Bike, Wheelchair | MOS/WP&YR ROW | MOS is currently working with WP&YR to create section 2 of thestreamwalk along the stream/tracks from the 3rd Ave bridge to City Hall. | 4,High | | | | Oasis committee explored expandin grenbelt trails in town. Will contact them for findings. |
| Laughton Access | Wish List | | USFS, NPS | From Bridal Veil? From Brackett or White Pass City? - Provide access to Laughton for when train isn't running and to keep off track when it is | | NA | NA | | From goat lake to glacier station? |
| Bridal Veil Falls | Wish List | | USFS, NPS | Highway down to Skagway River - Shorter hike with multiple waterfall view points | | NA | NA | | |
| Laughton Extension | Wish List | | USFS, NPS | La Grand access - Over river and wrap around? Over moraine? | | NA | NA | | |
| Denver Extension | Wish List | | USFS | Towards Glacier - or further up the East Fork valley | | NA | NA | | |
| Brackett Wagon Rd | | | USFS, NPS | Follows old Brackett Wagon Rd path | | NA | Safe access | | NPS will update with trails plans |
| ower Trailhead - Lower Reid (Streamwalk?) | Wish List | Foot, Ski, Bike | MOS | Follows hillside just above the tracks from the Lower Lake trailhead out to Lower Reid falls. Offshoot uptrack for ATV/mth bikes to Lower lake trail system. | | NA | NA | | |

General Notes: As Jaime said in her email, I think it would be great to include native names and language in the signage. AF&G contacted for goat kidding area information. memorial marker process/protocols // USFS Contact: Tristin Flaharty 617-8598

Wish Lists, Community Concerns & Comments

| AB to Border | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Area between Klondike H | ighway and C | hilkoot to the Bor | | | | | | | | |
| Trail | Туре | Uses | Land Ownership | Trail Location | Overlapping Mgmt Plans | Trail Classification | Updates Completed | Unmet Needs | Things to Add | Notes |
| AB Mountain | Current Trail | Bike, Foot | MOS, Mental Health, ADNR | NA | NA | 2 - Lower AB High / Upper AB Low | Markers above treefine, bridges, | Parking for hikers needs to be added so there is still room for people visiting the cemetery. Should the MOS buy Hamiltons property next to the cemetery, a public parking area should be added, along with an easy trial from the parking area to the cemetery | New trail leaving from Pioneer eemetery to AB trail. could be used for better access SAR and shorten trail for hikers. Alpine Route to International Falls? Cabin | Parking at the trailhead - on busy days it can be nuts especially with additional bike traffic (Old Rife Range). Address mountain bike tra - labeling and mapping? Route down towards Black Lakes. right of way? STC Plan |
| Yakutania Point | Current Trail | Bike, Foot, ATV | MOS | NA | NA | 3 High | Outhouse, fire rings | | stroller/bike access - maybe a reroute? (up flying squirrel) | *State gift as a park |
| Pet Cemetery | Current Trail | Bike, Foot, ATV | MOS | NA | NA | 3 High | Hill improvements, re-route, corner improvement | | | cemetry side clean up? |
| Smugglers Cove | Current Trail | Bike, Foot, ATV | MOS | NA | NA | 3 High | interpretive signs, trail extension towards Rabbit Cove, fire pit area improvements | | | APT Line issues or activity limitations? classify new smugglers trail on the west side as a route not a trail. |
| Flying Squirrel | Current Trail | Bike, Foot | MOS | From outhouse to top of Service Rd | | 3 High | NA | | hardening in spots, markers | |
| New-Smugglers-Trail | Current Trail | Bike, Foot | MOS | Old shooting range down to Smugs | | | NA | Signage, trail color & distance- markers. Broken glass from old- rifle range is on path & migrating- to new trail. Possible solution:- wood-chip covering? | | This path was put in for local use to define a route so the whole area- wasn't being trampled down. It wa not intended to be on the trail map or advertised other than that |
| New Trail off pet cemetery trail | Wish List | Bike,Foot | MOS | From middle of service road connects to Pet Cemetery Trail. stays along ridge above trail along Skagway River | | | NA | | | |
| Dyea Trail | In Progress | Bike, Foot, Horse, ATV | MOS, Mental Health, State | Shooting range to Dyea/Hackett Hill area along ~1,200' line | | 3 High | Shooting range to just before Matthews Creek is flagged | | | Parking options? (gate issues?) Multiple options: current shooting range, dyea rd, old shooting range) |
| International Falls | Current Trail | Foot | DNR, (Start is in BC) | NA | | 2 High | | | | US side access - maybe up from North of DOT shops. Cabin. Access from green bathroom - talk with BC |
| Black Lakes | Wish List | Foot | МНТ | Trail around black lakes or wrapping around the backside of the hump with views down the Denver Valley | | | NA | NA | | MOS land just south make a viewin platform? Trail down to Liarsville dike and out to brush pile |
| AB Lakes | Wish List | Foot | ADNR | Off shoot trail just above treeline, follows a bench to's apline lakes with views of the Denver & Skagway. River Valley - could loop it back to the trail up top or make it an out and back | | | NA | NA | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

Wish Lists, Community Concerns & Comments

| Border cont | t. | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|------------------------|----------|---|---|
| er Cemetery Cur | irrent-ish | Foot | | | | 2 Medium | Parking for hikers needs to be added so there is still room for people visiting the cemetery. Should the MOS buy Hamiltons property next to the cemetery, a public parking area should be added, along with an easy trial from the parking area to the cemetery | Parking at recycling/brush area |
| ahku Point Cur | irrent-ish | Foot | | | Nahku Bay Mgmt Plan | 3 High | | viewing platform or picnic spot, loop around the point |
| en Pastures Cur | irrent-ish | | | Walking/running Trail/ Path around the entire ball fields (it could possibly even be used as a track or ski track) | | 5 High | | Outter loop for dog walking, stollers and running. Dog Park near mound? |
| Seven Pastures | | | | | | | | We looked at this and due to the land ownership, no route is possible |
| s Creek Overlook Wi | Vish List | | | | | | | |
| | Current route | Foot, bike, | MOS, State | Walking path along the road from the bridge to the Dyea cutoff and then up and around to the smugglers road | | 4 Medium | | The Dyea Road portion would be a DOT project. Any work on the Dyea road should include a plan for bikes & pedestrians. The current situation is unsafe. |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| otes: Whitewater park o | on lower Sk | agway - Dog park a | at seven Pastures | | | | | |

Wish Lists, Community Concerns & Comments

 $\mathbf{\nabla}$

| Nest Side of Dyea | Area | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|--|------------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
| Trail | Туре | Uses | Land Ownership | Trail Location | Overlapping Mgmt Plans | Trail Classification | Updates Completed | Unmet Needs | Things to Add | Notes |
| Lost Lake | Current Trail | Foot | NPS, MOS | NA | West Creek Mgmt Plan | | | | | To be left as a social trail - no maitenance |
| New Lost Lake | In Progress | Foot, Ski, Bike(?) | MOS | Blue Bridge heading right then gradually up to Lost | West Creek Mgmt Plan | 2 High | Flagging and brushing | construction - three phases | vault toilet in the vacinity | |
| West Creek Trail | Social trail | Foot, Ski, Bike, Horse, Snow machine, ATV, Hunting | MOS, DNR | End of road - continues up river. Kind of tracked in. Easy to follow old trail markers in Winter conditions | West Creek Mgmt Plan | 1-2 Medium | | Kiosk, route/trail to glacier, cabin proposal, road maitenance | | Flag a coridor and let people cut and take wood? Route around the hump |
| Face Mountain | Wish List | Foot, Ski | MOS, ADNR | From big rock at Lost Lake follows the gentle ridge to the top of the ridge above the lake | West Creek Mgmt Plan | | NA | | | Alpine access - main trail will just to high point on the ridge above lost |
| Lower West Creek River Trail | Wish List | foot | MOS | Out and back along the river from blue bridge heading south | West Creek Mgmt Plan | | NA | | | potentially 4 wheeler? pinic spots |
| Norse Valley | Wish List | foot, ski | MOS, ADNR, BLM, NPS | Extension from the Chilkoot | | | NA | | | |
| Yeatman | Wish List | | MOS, ADNR | Starting from West Creek Rd or Brads Rd area and switchbacking up to the bench with lakes around treeline | | | NA | | | Alpine access - main trail will end the bench with the lakes |
| Glacier View Trail | Wish List | Foot | MOS | Cross blue bridge and head north a short ways to a high point with a view down the west creek valley and glacier | West Creek Mgmt Plan | | NA | | | |
| Taiya River Rd | Current Road- Trail | | | | | 3 High | | maitenance, picnic area or camp spots at the end of the road? Cap it it with gravel | | trapping in the area?, maybe just leave the area be? just for locals? |
| West Creek Ski Bowl | Wish List | skiing | MOS | Across blue bridge, follows new lost trail briefly then heads up drainage. Skiing off to lookers right of drainage. | West Creek Mgmt Plan | | NA | | | Bill Glude - Access to protected sk terrain 3.5km to the base of the area. No avi danger on route in. Cabin Site? |
| DOWN | | | | off to lookers right of drainage. | wg.itt ridi | | | | | |

Community Plans included in this planning process

2003 Comprehensive Trail Plan.

https://www.skagway.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community/page/28411/skagway_trail_plan_-_web.pdf

2030 Comprehensive Plan.

https://www.skagway.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/clerk039s_office/page/28411/2030_comp_plan_reduced.pdf

2030 Comprehensive Plan- Action Plan.

https://www.skagway.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/clerk039s_office/page/28411/2030_comp_plan_action_plan.pdf

Dewey Lakes Recreation Management Plan.

https://www.codepublishing.com/AK/Skagway/#!/Skagway16/Skagway1612.html#16.12

Dyea Flats Management Plan.

https://www.skagway.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/clerk039s_office/page/28411/06_17_2010_final_dyea_flats_land_m anagement_plan.pdf

Naku Bay Conservation Area Management plan. https://www.codepublishing.com/AK/Skagway/#!/Skagway16/Skagway1614.html#16.14

Skagway Coastal Management plan.

https://www.skagway.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/clerk039s_office/page/28411/scmp_final_plan_amendment_text_-_march_2007_reduced_size.pdf

Skagway Port development Plan. https://www.skagway.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/clerk039s_office/page/28411/1_final_report_skagway_port_develo pment_plan_reduced_size.pdf

West Creek Master Plan.

https://www.skagway.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community/page/28411/july_2014_approved_west_creek_master_plan_web.pdf

Future trail development could include developing a Skagway Trails logo