



Wyoming Pathways is the statewide voice of people-powered transportation and recreation in Wyoming.

Dear {{FirstName,DefaultTo=Supporter}},

Here are some of the recent pathways related stories from around the state that we thought you might find interesting:

Greater Yellowstone Trail Concept Plan

The Greater Yellowstone Trail Concept Plan establishes a vision for a world-class regional trail system that would enhance our quality of life, improve access to recreation, and spur economic development opportunities for local communities along the unique and diverse corridor that connects three states.



The 180-mile Greater Yellowstone Trail (GYT) connects Jackson Hole Wyoming with West Yellowstone Montana via sections of the old Yellowstone rail line through Victor, Driggs, Teton, Ashton, and Island Park. Combining existing pathways and back roads, the mixed paved and gravel route is rideable today with roughly 70% complete, and offers an adventure filled experience.

In 2015 Wyoming Pathways helped lead a planning effort with local and regional partners that developed a Concept Plan for the GYT. The Concept Plan includes maps of the proposed route, descriptions of the existing trails and pathways, proposed projects needed to complete the GYT, and implementation steps.

[Read the full article on the Wyoming Pathways Website.](#)

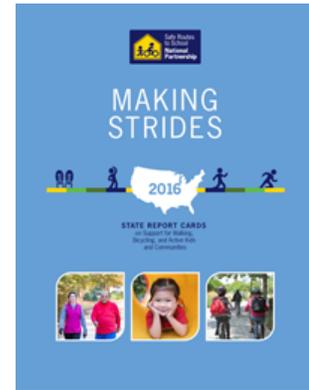
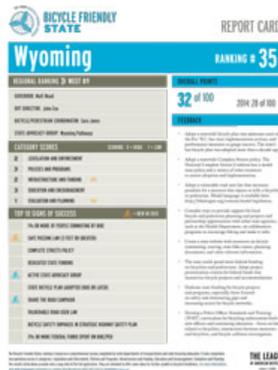
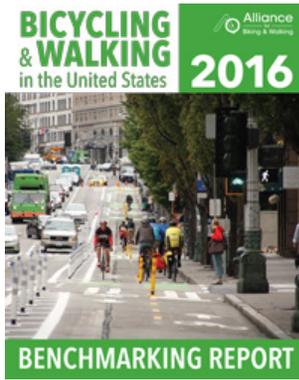
Wyoming Improves one place in National Biking and Walking Rankings

New reports from the **League of American Bicyclists**, **Alliance for Biking and Walking** and **Safe Routes to School** show Wyoming is making progress.



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[Read the full article and download the reports on the Wyoming Pathways Website.](#)

'Quiet recreation' on BLM lands brings millions to Wyoming, new study says



People visited Wyoming's Bureau of Land Management public lands almost 2 million times in 2014 to participate in what a new study is calling "quiet recreation."

And they spent \$102 million in towns within 50 miles of recreation sites, according to the Pew Charitable Trusts. The study defines "quiet recreation" as anything nonmotorized from mountain biking to camping to hunting.

"This is the first time this kind of data has been quantified," said Julia Stuble, public lands advocate for the Wyoming Outdoor Council. "We know plenty of people in-state and from out of state are climbing, hiking, biking, bird watching, all the host of activities out there. Now we have numbers to prove how much they are doing for our rural communities."

BLM lands are often overshadowed in states like Wyoming by the more charismatic national parks such as Yellowstone and Grand Teton. But they still offer incredible and more primitive recreation opportunities, Stuble said.

Wyoming Pathways Tim Young added "There are significant opportunities to enhance biking and walking on BLM lands in Wyoming, like the awesome new mountain bike trails on BLM land adjacent to the City of Cody. Hopefully the next BLM State Director can help create similar partnerships with other Wyoming communities," he said.

[Read the full article on the Casper Star Tribune website.](#)

Pedaling potential: Cycling advocates raising money to support bike park

By Eve Newman - even@laramieboomerang.com

A local cycling group launched a fundraising campaign to raise money for a future bike park in the city. Laramie BikeNet is a bicycle advocacy group hoping to jumpstart development of the Laramie Bike Park, a component of the city's Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Club President Cindy Dywan said BikeNet hopes to raise \$25,000 to use for design, planning and possibly construction. The group gave a presentation to the Laramie Park, Trees and

Recreation Advisory Board in November, and the board voted unanimously to approve a resolution supporting the fundraising efforts.

“The city has said they support us in raising funds to start the groundwork as far as what a bike park would look like,” Dywan said.

A bike park is a dedicated spot for people of all ages to practice cycling disciplines.

[Read the full article on the Laramie Boomerang website.](#)



Free bike share program rolls into Cheyenne



CHEYENNE – A free bike-sharing program for Cheyenne called ReRide will begin Saturday with special kickoff activities.

The pilot program, which runs through Oct. 31, allows people to get bikes from one of seven racks set up mostly in the downtown area. They will return them to the racks when they're done.

The distinctive yellow bicycles have the ReRide logo printed on them. They will be

offered free for people 16 and older to use.

Program organizers trust that people will not damage the bikes, but will bring them back safely to one of the program racks.

Bike-sharing promotes health and is an alternative way to get around, said Amy Surdam, executive director of the Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority/Main Street.

DDA/Main Street is a downtown economic development group that is sponsoring the bike sharing along with Rock on Wheels, a local bike shop.

Cheyenne City Councilman Richard Johnson and the Downtown Cheyenne Business Co-operative also are helping.

[Read the full article on the Wyoming Tribune Eagle website.](#)

Fat Biking Summit Summary

Blessed with a long winter, Wyoming is increasingly becoming a great place to fat bike. In 2016, new groomed trails around the state were enjoyed at Happy Jack and Curt Gowdy serving Laramie and Cheyenne, in Jackson Hole and at Grand Targhee Resort, on Casper Mountain, the new Beck Lake Trails in Cody, some in the Black Hills, and other areas. The sport continues to grow, and the new use has been very proactive in developing best practices and addressing user conflicts.

[Learn more and download the presentations on the Wyoming Pathways website.](#)

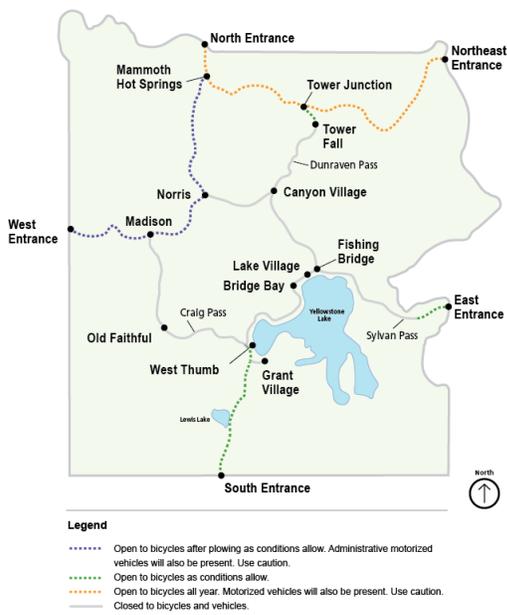
Spring Bicycling Begins on Select Yellowstone Roads

Bicyclists Must Plan Ahead for Safety

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 31, 2016
16-013

Amy Bartlett
(307) 344-2015

YELL_Public_Affairs@nps.gov



Beginning April 1st, bicyclists willing to brave the unpredictable elements of spring in Yellowstone National Park are able to travel 49 miles of park roads from the West Entrance at West Yellowstone, Montana, to Mammoth Hot Springs.

There is no bicycle access to Old Faithful or Canyon until the first interior park roads open to public motorized vehicle access on Friday, April 15.

No services are available along these sections of road. When planning a spring bicycle trip into Yellowstone, visitors should read the information and tips contained at:

<http://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/springbike.htm>.

Cyclists can call 307-344-2109 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays for updated road access information, or call 307-344-2113 for 24-hour weather information before committing to any ride in the park.

Wyoming Pathways notes that Yellowstone Park may try to open the South Entrance to West Thumb, and East Entrance from Cody for a short window of car-free cycling days, once the spring plowing efforts can open the roads. Cyclists should contact the park to confirm when and if these fun routes will open for non-motorized visitors.

Road safety: Cycling Great tips for safe cycling from the Teton Valley News

When I lived in New York City, I often got from point A to point B by bicycle. It was more enjoyable that stuffing myself into a subway car and more affordable than hailing a cab. Plus, the exercise was nice.

Despite what you might think of riding a bike in New York — crazy drivers, traffic, narrow roads, attitudes — it was often a straightforward experience. I paid attention to my surroundings, as did the thousands of drivers on the road.

But since moving back to Idaho, I've noticed a difference. On wide-open roads, with no oncoming traffic, cars still whiz past at close range. Better yet, there are those who intentionally smog cyclists, joggers and walkers with their exhaust, cut them off or fail to see them entirely.

The consequences of crashes between vehicles and bikes are nearly always fatal. In 2014, five cyclists were killed on Wyoming roads, and two were killed on Idaho roads — 14 pedestrians were killed in Idaho in 2014, but that's another matter entirely.

[Read the full article on the Teton Valley News website.](#)



Safer Streets Ahead for Bikers and Walkers with New Federal Safety Rule



Last Tuesday, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) released a new and improved set of requirements designed to increase transportation safety—including safety for people who walk or bike.

When USDOT put forth a draft of its safety performance measures in 2014, the proposed

rule fell far short of its intended goal of creating policies that would reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries resulting from crashes. In particular, none of the criteria required states to track pedestrian and bicycle fatalities and severe injuries separately from other incidents, or to make improvements targeted to reduce those numbers.

Wyoming Pathways will be following the process WYDOT takes to comply with these new requirements. Hopefully Wyoming's new Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force Governor Mead creates will be able to assist in these goals to improve the safety of people that bike and walk.

[Read the full article on the Rails to Trails website.](#)

What's Happening with our Partners - Some of our partner organizations have recently released newsletters/articles that may be of interest to you as well:

Alliance for Biking and Walking - [Biking and Walking Roundup](#) and [Newsletter](#)

Friends of Pathways - [Blog](#)

IMBA - [Blog](#)

People For Bikes - [Blog](#)

Platte River Trails - [Website](#)

Mountain Bike the Tetons - [Website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Newsletter Archive](#)

Rails to Trails Conservancy - [Blog](#)

Sheridan Community Land Trust - [Website](#) and [Newsletter](#)

Safe Routes to School - [Newsletter](#) and [Blog](#)

We hope that you find this information useful. If you have any suggestions for improvement, please be sure to [contact us](#) and [please also consider becoming a Wyoming Pathways Supporter](#).

Sincerely,

Tim Young
Executive Director
Wyoming Pathways

Connect with Us



Wyoming Pathways

PO Box 153

Wilson, WY 83014

www.wyopath.org

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