



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

Dear Supporter,

Here's the latest from Wyoming Pathways, as well as other people-powered movement stories from around the Cowboy State that we thought you would find interesting. If there is something happening in your area that others around the state might find interesting or inspiring, please let us know. We would love to hear about it.

### **Pole Mountain Trail Project - Phase One Success and Next Steps**

Phase one of the Pole Mountain Trail Project was substantially completed during May and June with excellent results. The four Wyoming Conservation

Corps crews and many volunteers put in over 3,000 hours work on the System Trails to improve trail drainage and reroutes necessary for trail sustainability on Pole Mountain.

Located between Laramie and Cheyenne, Pole Mountain on the Medicine Bow National Forest has evolved into the go-to outdoor playground for these two large Wyoming communities, and increasingly is a destination for visitors from the Colorado front range and travelers along Interstate 80. From casual recreation visits to large athletic events, Pole Mountain trails are experiencing high, and increasing, year-round use.

Like many public land trail systems in Wyoming, the trails used today on Pole Mountain evolved over time and were never designed to function as a modern front country trail system. The Laramie community and the Forest Service also lacked a robust trail partnership program, such as Jackson Hole has developed with the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

Read the full article on the Wyoming Pathways website:

<http://www.wyopath.org/pole-mountain-trail-project-phase-one-success-next-steps/>

View the photo galleries from the Project on the Wyoming Pathways website:

<http://www.wyopath.org/about/gallery/>



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Following the legislative success last year of the passage of the Bicycle and Pedestrian System Task Force Act, efforts have been underway to create a Legislative Report on the "benefits and opportunities" of bicycle and pedestrian pathways and natural surface trails for Wyoming communities.

To oversee the report preparation, Governor Matt Mead appointed a Task Force of 13 people, which includes Wyoming Pathways Executive Director Tim

Young and senior staff at the Wyoming Department of Health, WYDOT, State Parks, Wyoming Business Council, Travel and Tourism, and leading community pathway advocates from around the state. The Task Force has been meeting regularly to develop the report being prepared for the legislature, state agencies, and Governor Mead.

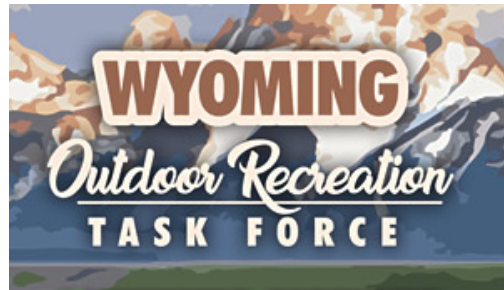
Read the full article on the Wyoming Pathways website:

<http://www.wyopath.org/wyoming-bicycle-pedestrian-system-task-force-update/>

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### **Wyoming Outdoor Recreation Task Force Update**

Wyoming Pathways board member Melanie Arnett also serves as a Non-motorized Recreation representative on the Governor's Wyoming Outdoor Recreation Task Force. Melanie reports that the Task Force held a series of meetings around the state this spring, where the group discussed the many aspects of outdoor recreation in Wyoming, and gathering public input. The Task Force's recommendations are now being prepared into a final report by Wyoming State Parks, which is scheduled to be completed this summer.



We will keep you apprised of the status of the report and any new developments over the next few months.

Read the full article on the Wyoming Pathways website:

<http://www.wyopath.org/governors-wyoming-outdoor-recreation-task-force-update/>



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### **Greater Yellowstone Trail and Teton Pass Pathway Progress**

Wyoming Pathways continues to make excellent progress toward the vision of the Greater Yellowstone Trail, a world-class regional bicycling and walking trail connecting Jackson Hole Wyoming with West Yellowstone Montana. The GYT starts in Grand Teton National Park, crosses Teton Pass on the south end to Victor, then follows the historic Yellowstone rail line and back roads through

communities in eastern Idaho, crossing over the Continental Divide at Reas Pass on the north end and connecting to West Yellowstone and Yellowstone National Park west gate.

In May, the respected American Trails nonprofit recognized the Greater Yellowstone Trail Concept Plan with their International Trail Award for “best large planning project”. Wyoming Pathways led the team that prepared the Concept Plan for the City of Victor, funded by a HUD grant (<http://www.wyopath.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/GYT-ConceptPlanScreen.pdf>).

Then in June Wyoming Pathways was delighted to receive news of a Rails-to-Trails Doppelt Family Foundation Grant for the Greater Yellowstone Trail. This gift will support additional partner meetings along the corridor, and to further help plan, brand, and open more of the Greater Yellowstone Trail.

Read the full article on the Wyoming Pathways website:

<http://www.wyopath.org/greater-yellowstone-trail-teton-pass-pathway-progress/>

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### **Kids' MTB Camps at Curt Gowdy State Park are Enjoyed by Campers and Coaches Alike**

“These kids are amazing!” was a common sentiment expressed by volunteer coaches at the Stone Temple Mountain Bike Camp, held this past June at Wyoming’s Curt Gowdy State Park. As is often the case at the camp, the coaches were amazed at the growth the kids displayed, both as mountain bikers and people, over the course of the annual 5-day camp. All were left feeling confident that the future of mountain biking was in good hands. The only thing open for debate was whether the kids or the coaches had more fun at the camp.



Once again in 2017, Wyoming Pathways was well represented at the camp, with Board Member Todd Thibodeau and Educational Programs Director, Rich Vincent organizing and managing the camp and Wyoming Pathways board members and staff volunteering their time as coaches for the camp. The Stone Temple camp is one of three camps that are organized by Thibodeau and Vincent and are held each year in early June at the historic Hynds Lodge and on the IMBA Epic trails at the park.



Read the full article on the Wyoming Pathways Website:

<http://www.wyopath.org/kids-mtb-camps-curt-gowdy-state-park-enjoyed-campers-coaches-alike/>

You can see photos from this year’s camp on the Wyoming State Parks website:

<http://wyoparks.state.wy.us/index.php/stone-temple-mountain-bike-camp>.

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### **Counting every step while walking through Wyoming in summer**

-By Bill Sniffin, longtime Wyoming journalist from Lander who has written six books.

Is there a better place in the world for a morning walk than a nice path in Wyoming?

Especially quite early in the morning. This time of year, you can actually start walking about 5:30 a.m. but you might need a layered approach with a sweatshirt over your t-shirt.





Most Wyoming cities and towns have wonderful walking paths. Cheyenne has done an amazing job. Greybull has a superb walking path. Sheridan, Lander, Casper and Worland are into providing spaces for walkers. Evanston has transformed itself into a walker's paradise.

I know a lot of folks in these cities and towns who are dedicated walkers. There are also some dedicated hikers (and there is a difference!).

This column is for people like my wife, Nancy, and myself. We are a little older than average and, in my case, overweight. My exercise of choice these days is to walk 12,000 steps a day.

Read the full article on the Casper Star Tribune website:

[http://trib.com/casperjournal/columns/counting-every-step-while-walking-through-wyoming-in-summer/article\\_dd4a0853-9e4d-52bd-8a93-8f8da61ea24b.html](http://trib.com/casperjournal/columns/counting-every-step-while-walking-through-wyoming-in-summer/article_dd4a0853-9e4d-52bd-8a93-8f8da61ea24b.html)

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### **Laramie Enduro Gets an Epic Face Lift**

The Laramie Range Enduro originated in 1998 with a start/finish line located within the City of Laramie, Wyoming and climbed the west flank of the Laramie Range more than 1,300 feet into what has become the heart of this annual event - the Pole Mountain trail system.



Over the years, the race course has changed three times, and after 12 years of the same loop, we're very excited to offer a new challenge. The course is a ~28 mile loop that includes the familiar Happy Jack area trails mixed in with trails that will wind you through the beautiful Vedauwoo rock formations to the south. From wildlife trails to single track to dirt roads, the course is equally well suited for geared bikes and single speeds. All at elevations over 7,500 feet, you'll race over high grass plains and down through serene aspen and pine forests.

Read the full article, with registration information, on the Wyoming Pathways website:

<http://www.wyopath.org/laramie-enduro-gets-epic-face-lift/>



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### **Jurassic Classic Mountain Bike Festival Coming to Lander this August**

This coming August 24-26th, Wyoming mountain bikers and outdoor enthusiasts will be treated to the new Jurassic Classic Mountain Bike Festival in Lander, WY, hosted by Lander Cycling. Growing from the Jurassic Classic mountain bike race, the revamped event expands to also include live music, food, beer, bike demos, clinics, group

rides and “ridiculous shenanigans”. The event will benefit trail building and cycling awareness efforts in the Lander area. If you have not ridden the trails in Lander, including the iconic Johnny Behind the Rocks, you should attend this event. If you have ridden there, then it’s a no-brainer.

Read the full article, with registration information, on the Wyoming Pathways website:

<http://www.wyopath.org/jurassic-classic-mountain-bike-festival-coming-lander-august/>

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**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:

**Friends of Pathways** - [Blog](#)

**IMBA** - [Blog](#)

**NCBW** - [Newsletter Archive](#)

**People For Bikes** - [Blog](#)

**Platte River Trails** - [Website](#)

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

**Rails to Trails Conservancy** - [Blog](#)

**Sheridan Community Land Trust** - [Website](#), [Newsletters](#)

**Safe Routes to School** - [Newsletter Archive](#), [Blog](#)

**WY Public Lands Initiative** - [Newsletter Archive](#)

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We hope that you find this information useful and will take action to make Wyoming a better and safer place to bike and walk. If you have any suggestions for improvement, please be sure to [contact us](#) and [please also consider becoming a Wyoming Pathways member or partner](#).

Sincerely,

Tim Young  
Executive Director  
Wyoming Pathways

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