



News on the

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Missouri River Regional Trails Plan

Work to Date—Guiding Principles

- Trails will highlight the wide variety of recreational and interpretive experiences offered by the region. All possible trail uses, including walkers, runners, bikes, snow trails, water trails, ATV, horse riders, and mountain bikers will be included.
 - This plan will concentrate on the opportunities offered by recreational trails as a way to improve the quality of life for local residents and the economic benefits of attracting visitors to the region.
 - Trail design policies will be based upon known trail designs that make trails accessible, sustainable, attractive and safe.
 - Optimally, trailheads should start in communities or parks. Users will need gas, food, gifts, and services while traveling; we want to make it easy for visitors to spend money.
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- Design trails for year-round use.
 - Integrate trails that minimize impact on the natural environment and existing infrastructure.
 - Establish a common theme and logo for all public trails in the Missouri River Region; including private trails.
 - Maps will show all the trails with their locations and amenities, as well as the various ecological, cultural, and historical points of interest.
 - Create connections and alternative trail routes to minimize trail users sharing a road with motor vehicles. Utilize 'minimal maintenance' roads for alternative routes. Employ traffic signs warning of trail use along heavily traveled roads.

The Missouri River Regional Trails Plans are now underway. We welcome everyone interested in trails to attend.

The next meeting will be in August at Springfield, SD.

Watch your email for more details coming soon.

Special points of interest:

- Tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in both Nebraska and South Dakota.
- There are trail activities for people of all ages and abilities.

► For more information contact:

Mary Hanson, Outdoor Recreation Planner
National Park Service
Call: 402-661-1554
E-mail: mary_hanson@nps.gov



Greg Henderson, Director
Planning & Development District III
PO Box 687
1808 Summit Street
Yankton, SD 57078
Call: 800-952-3562 or 605-665-4408
E-mail: districtiii@districtiii.org

Does your community, county, or park, have a trail?

Do you have a farm or ranch business where trails are one of the activities on your land?

Please let us know so these trails can be recognized as part of the Missouri River Regional Trails.



<http://www.districtiii.org>

Final Notes:

A successful regional plan will require a good network and communication between all communities, parks, and contacts in the region, state park systems, and related agencies to maximize funding and marketing opportunities.

The greatest need during and after completing the planning process is a regional trails advocacy organization to maintain this initiative. This group of private citizens and public officials must be motivated to stay involved with the state and local entities to keep pushing for trails in the Missouri River Trails Region.

