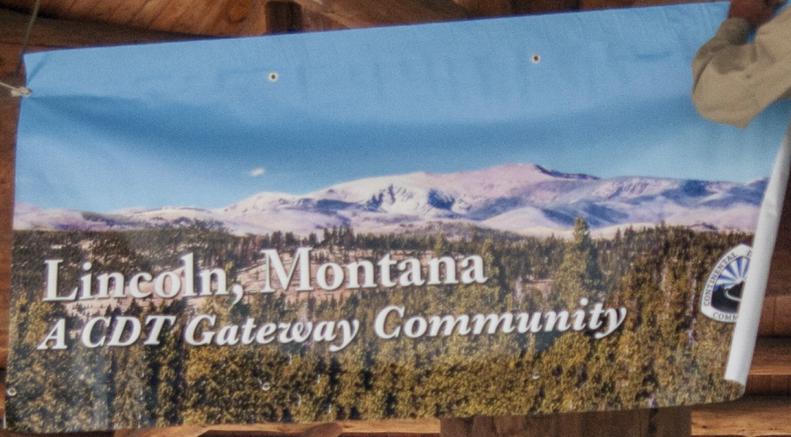


October 2017

GATEWAY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Content & Design:
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Lincoln, MT photos
courtesy of Roger Dey

For more
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- Rachel Brown**
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- Morgan Anderson**
Field Coordinator
- Amy van der Kamp**
Bookkeeper

News, stories, and inspiration from the towns that protect and promote the CDT!

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Gateway Community Spotlight..... p.3
The CDT makes a splash in the media.

Upcoming Events p.4

Trail Adopters p.5
Learn why Carol and Richard Martin have committed to maintaining 28 miles of the CDT.



Dear Gateway Communities,

The lucky employees of the Continental Divide Trail Coalition spent most of the summer on the road (or trail), visiting many of you along the way. We attended events, held meetings, and got our hands dirty with awesome volunteer trail projects. We ate at many of your restaurants, and heard a bunch of your local bands. It was a blast; thanks for having us!

It was a tough year on the CDT, between heavy snow and fires. We enjoyed hearing stories from hikers about all the wonderful experiences they had in town and with trail angels along their journeys.

We're in the process of conducting a survey to get your feedback, and applying for grants to expand our program. Over the next few months, we will develop a business toolkit, and explore ways to build a strong Gateway Community network so that you can share ideas and resources. Now that we have at least one of you in every state, it's time to collaborate!

The program is growing fast, and we're anticipating many more towns joining us in the coming years. The mobilization around public lands in response to new political threats has been astounding. We've heard from so many of you that the CDT is important to your community, and that you're willing to fight for it. I urge you to keep raising your voices, now more than ever.

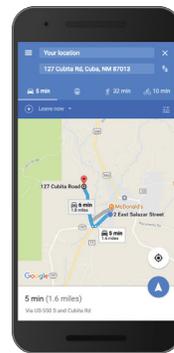
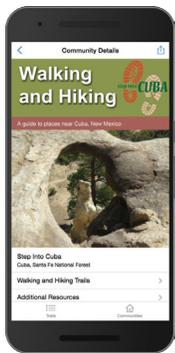
As always, please be in touch with questions and ideas!

Happy trails,
Jenny Gaeng
Gateway Community Coordinator



Trails Across New Mexico

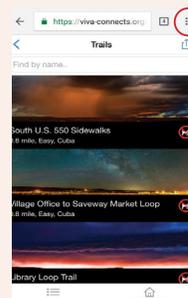
Find your path in the Land of Enchantment



Access New Mexico's trails and walking paths in the palm of your hand or online, with the Trails Across New Mexico mobile and web app.

- Compatible with all devices
- Trails and walking paths for people of all walking/hiking abilities and fitness levels
- Information on parking
- Directions straight to trailhead or walking path
- Suitability for dogs
- Link to additional resources on viva-connects.org/

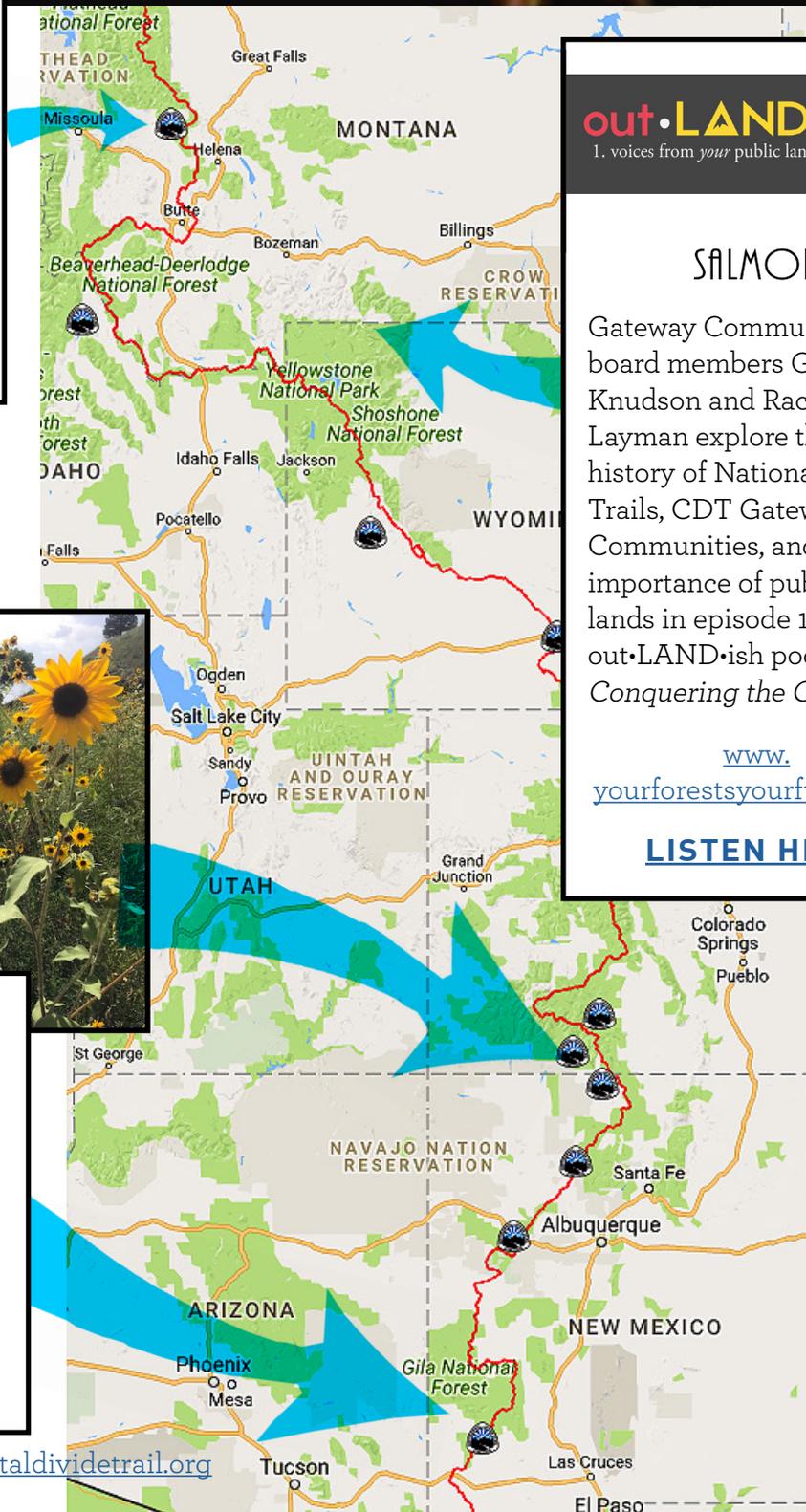
Navigate to viva-connects.org/nm-trails then tap the overflow button (three vertical dots) and select Add to Home Screen, then tap Add.



GATEWAY COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

LINCOLN

Montana kickoff: Josh Lattin of the USFS lauds the efforts of CDT partners and volunteers in establishing MT's first Gateway Community.



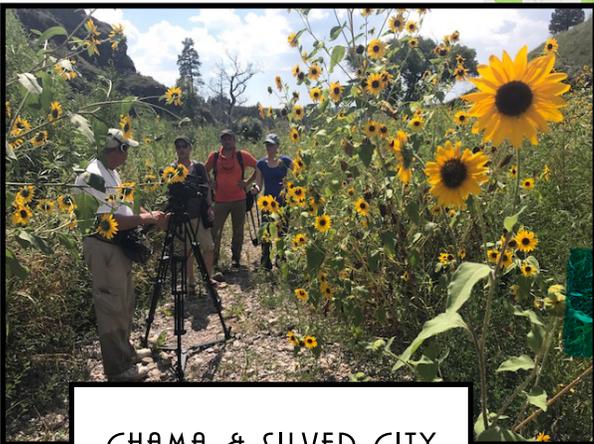
out•LAND•ish 
1. voices from *your* public lands

SALMON

Gateway Community board members Gina Knudson and Rachel Layman explore the history of National Scenic Trails, CDT Gateway Communities, and the importance of public lands in episode 11 of the out•LAND•ish podcast, *Conquering the Continent*.

www.yourforestsyourfuture.org

LISTEN HERE



CHAMA & SILVER CITY

Travels with Darley, a PBS show that highlights lesser-known outdoor destinations, filmed an episode dedicated to the CDT in New Mexico! Look for it next winter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October-December 2017

SILVER CITY

Gateway Community Highway Cleanup

Hwy 180, Mile Marker 116-117

October 9, 9am

email richard.martin101@att.net to sign up

Mark your calendars:

TRAIL DAYS 2018

April 27-29

GRANTS

4th Annual

Historic Route 66 Fall Fiesta

Downtown Grants, NM

October 14-15, 2017

www.grants.org



CDTC WINTER GATHERING

November 4, 5:30-8:30pm

American Mountaineering Museum, Golden, CO

RSVP info@continentaldividetrail.org

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

National Trails System Act
October 2, 1968

**Designation of the Continental
Divide National Scenic Trail**
November 10, 1978

#CDT40



WE NEED YOUR VOICES.

CDTC IS GATHERING INFORMATION ON THE TRAIL'S ECONOMIC IMPACTS ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cdt-survey>

Please distribute this link to business owners in any towns along the CDT. We'll use this information to improve our community-building programs, and find people who want to speak up for public lands.

BOOTS ON THE GROUND: MEET THE VOLUNTEER TRAIL ADOPTERS WHO MAINTAIN THE CDT

Once you build a 3,100-mile trail, who's going to take care of it?

In theory, the CDT is a line on a map. But in reality, it's dirt, it's sand, it's rock; it's always beautiful but sometimes hazardous. Enter the Trail Adopter Program, run by CDTC in partnership with the Forest Service.

Some of our trail adopters are organizations, like the Colorado Trail Foundation and Backcountry Horsemen. But most of the twenty-five currently adopted segments are maintained by individuals or pairs.

Trail adopters are required to visit their segment twice a year, doing less intensive maintenance like lopping branches and digging drains, and reporting larger hazards - like downed trees - to the Forest Service.

"Once you get the trail built, it's fairly easy to keep it going," says Carol Martin of Silver City. She and her husband, Richard, maintain an astounding 28 miles of CDT in the Burro Mountains. "We usually work together as a team, Richard and I, and sometimes we'll bring friends with us. He'll go out ahead and see what needs to be done, and we'll go back and actually do the work." Typically, they reserve entire days for trail maintenance.

The Martins have been trail adopters since well before the CDTC was formed and took over the program. "CDTC has improved the adoption program greatly," Carol continues, "signing people up and mapping which segments are open to be adopted." A recent adopter training in Silver City recruited six new volunteers, including some from the local mountain biking community.



Richard and Carol in front of Burro Peak, which marks the southern end of their adopted segment of CDT.



Richard is adamant that the CDT's future depends on partnerships between different user groups. "I see the Backcountry Horsemen do the heavy lifting for the inaccessible maintenance," he explains. Both the Gila and Rio Grande chapters of Backcountry Horsemen are trail adopters. "And the Backcountry Horsemen, unfortunately, there's not many young ones. The bicyclists can fill in that gap."

"We've started a hiking enthusiast group," he adds. "One way to hook people on maintenance is to get them out to enjoy the trail."

"We know that it will always be there for somebody to hike," says Carol. "Being one with nature is so important to experience. And we know by doing what we're doing, we're making it an easier path for people."

INTRIGUED?

Our next Trail Adopter training will be held Saturday, October 14 in Fraser, CO.

To learn more and sign up, visit:

continentaldividetrail.org/trail-adopters/

or email Chad Angell at:

volunteer@continentaldividetrail.org

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