



Oregon Recreation Trails Advisory Council

ORTAC Overview:

The Oregon Recreation Trails Advisory Council (ORTAC) is a citizen advisory committee that was formed on November 13, 1972 after the Recreation Trails Act was approved in 1971 (ORS 390.977). The Trails Act recognizes that in order to provide for the ever-increasing outdoor recreation needs of an expanding resident and tourist population, and in order to promote public access to, travel within and enjoyment and appreciation of outstanding outdoor areas of Oregon, trails should be established both near urban areas and within, adjacent to or connecting highly scenic areas more remotely located.

ORTAC recommends the designation of state significant trails in order to highlight and celebrate the best scenic and urban trail experiences in Oregon. ORTAC consists of seven members; at least one from each congressional district, and not less than two members from separate counties bordering the ocean shore. Council members are appointed by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission and serve four-year terms and are eligible for reappointment.

ORTAC assists with carrying out the objectives of the State Trails Plan by having regional trail meetings with local trail managers and advocates. In addition, ORTAC advises OPRD and the OPRD Commission on trail related matters pertaining to the selection, erection and maintenance of markers along the trail routes, the administration of trails and the selection of rights of way.

Oregon Recreation Trails Designation Program: ORTAC recommends trail designations for the state designated trail program. The Scenic Trail and Regional Trail designation are primarily the focus. The Scenic Bikeway program has an ORTAC representative and ORTAC reviews recommendations from the Scenic Bikeway Committee.

ORTAC Meetings: 4 times per year, members may be asked to participate in additional meetings on related subjects (grant review committees, planning steering committees, public meetings or trail rating sub-committees). ORTAC usually meets on Fridays and Saturdays, but is subject to change. Meetings are generally two full days, but can be as short as ½ day. The meeting locations vary, ORTAC attempts to meet at various locations throughout the state dependent on projects and local interest.

Responsibilities of Council Members:

- Attend and participate in meetings
- Support the vision and mission of the council and OPRD
- Participate in review subcommittee work
- Represent the council on various funding/grant program committees,
- Participate in various park specific and statewide planning projects,
- Serve as ambassadors for Oregon recreation trails,
- Be involved in local/regional trails planning efforts.

Expenses: Members will be compensated for expenses related to Council business consistent with state allowed rates.