



REDDING
T R A I L
ALLIANCE

Annual
REPORT

2019



MISSION To create high quality trail experiences by advocating for, building, and maintaining trails which are progressive, diverse, and promote community.

ABOUT We are a group of mountain bike and outdoor enthusiasts who have a passion to contribute to the growth and improvement of our local trail system. We get excited about new trails, well built trails, trail improvements, pump tracks, community cycling events, and pretty much anything that gets us out on single track. Our team is diverse in skills, day jobs, and interests but we all come to the group with a shared desire for progress and community with regard to Redding's trail system.

We work with local government agencies to plan, maintain and build trails. We connect with the community through hosting volunteer maintenance days and community outdoor events. We also team up with other local outdoor groups to ensure trail efforts are in alignment. Our team is excited to see Redding grow and evolve into a top notch mountain bike location.



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[redding_trail_alliance](https://www.instagram.com/redding_trail_alliance)



[Redding Trail Alliance](https://www.facebook.com/ReddingTrailAlliance)



2019 Snap- shot



over **2000** hours
spent on trail building and maintenance

PROMOTION

of community, education and trail usage through the following events.

Mountain Bike Challenge + Lemurian Classic Mountain Bike Race
Jefferson State MTB Trail Summit

Facilitate community engagement and volunteerism with the following agencies.

- BLM
- FOREST SERVICE
- NPS
- CITY OF REDDING

which included the following projects

Snow-maged-don Recovery

Carr Fire Recovery

Mule Mt. Summit Reroute

Owens Run

OVER \$90,000

Spent on trail building, maintenance and promotion.

2019 Partners



The McConnell Foundation

Helping build better communities
through philanthropy



&Sponsors

ELLIOTT
ACUPUNCTURE CLINIC



New West Medical, Inc.

Living Breathing Solutions

**PLUMAS
BANK**
HERE. For Good.



**COM-PAIR
SERVICES**

NV
pt

North Valley Physical Therapy

NW
Northwest Homes

Owens
Healthcare



Your neighborhood Physicians.

**REMEDY
ENGINEERING**
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS



REDDING PERIODONTAL SPECIALISTS
DENTAL IMPLANTS • REGENERATION • PERIODONTAL THERAPY

Continued Maintenance Carr Fire & Snowmageddon

Exploring the moonscape that was Redding's trails shortly after the Carr Fire.

In the summer of 2018 our community was rocked by a natural disaster. Natural makes it sound like it's something that should happen, something we are used to, but for those that live here in Redding the Carr fire was anything but natural. The fire burned an estimated 90% of our 200 mile trail system, exposing golden paths of dirt through blackened hillsides as illustrated in the image on the opposing page. Something else it exposed was how essential trails are to our community. While the fire was still raging to the north, stumps still smoldering locally, and a thick layer of smoke blanketing us, people constantly questioned when the trails would be open.

As soon as the area was no longer a fire zone we went to work. Working hand in hand with BLM, COR and volunteers, we cleared downed trees and replaced burned out culverts and bridges to get the trails opened back up. In a short amount of time the trails were open and being used. Unfortunately the fire created not only an immediate need for trail work, but maintenance issues that have continued to develop. The fast growing grass and brush crowd out our trails every spring, requiring that every trail get trimmed. Dead trees not only continue to fall across the trail, but over time their branches slowly sag into the trail requiring constant attention. Everywhere the lack of foliage and ground cover has led to increased erosion. All of these issues have created a need for us to grow our budget and our volunteer engagement in order to address them in a timely manner.

If the Carr Fire was a blow to our trails, only months later an atypical snow storm delivered an uppercut! Our entire region was blanketed with an unprecedented amount of snow. The resulting damage looked like a tornado had passed through. Every one of our trails were completely blocked with broken trees. This damage took multiple crews working 5-6 days a week a solid month to get the trails cleared. These crews were comprised of BLM employees, RTA employees and volunteers.

While these disasters created many challenges for our organization, they also presented unique opportunities. Because of the fire, Whiskeytown National Recreation Area has opened its doors to allow volunteers to assist with trail maintenance. We were also awarded a grant from Shasta Regional Community Foundation for the purchase of a specialized trail dozer. This dozer has proved invaluable for maintaining our existing machine built trails. Another thing the disasters did was help foster a spirit among trail users of wanting to be involved in taking care of the trails they love to use. Our email list for volunteers grew from around 20 to over 120 and continues to grow weekly.

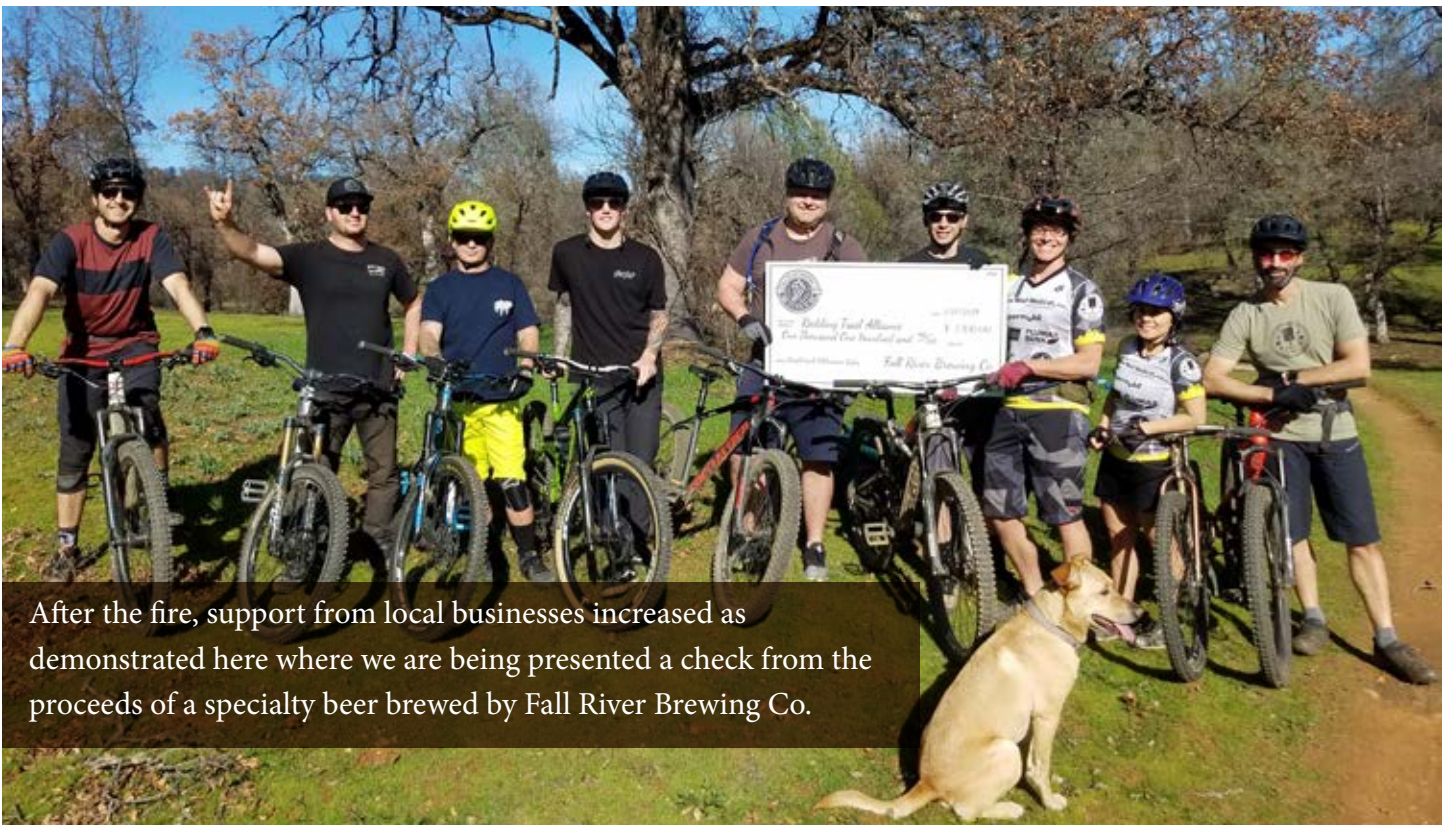


Redding Trail Alliance Board and Trail Crew members work to clear Area 51 from downed trees.



Culvert replacement in the Clover Dale trail system.

High school students that are part of the Redding Composite MTB Team participate in a volunteer workday for the West Side trails.



After the fire, support from local businesses increased as demonstrated here where we are being presented a check from the proceeds of a specialty beer brewed by Fall River Brewing Co.



Rebuilding trail features with a journalist crew. The trail had been reinforced with wood that was burned by the fire. Our activity was featured in a story about the effects of fires on trails, at Bikemag.com titled "Burned Lines"



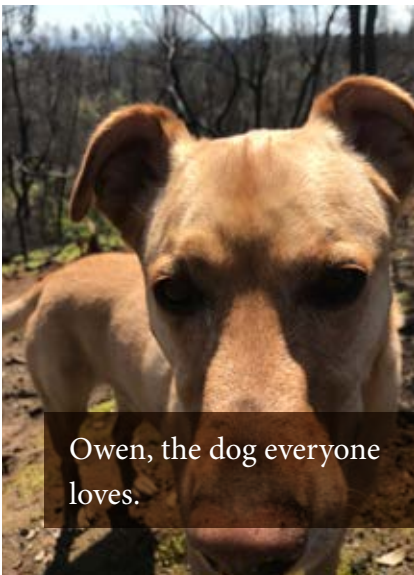
New Trail Building Owen's Run & Mule Mt. Summit

Isaac and Phil fine tuning a section of the new
Mule Mt. Summit trail.

Despite the setbacks of our 2018-19 season we were determined to finish the projects we had been planning. Both of them were going to be comprised of hand built single track. The first was a section of trail that would eliminate a steep road climb to the start of the Mule Mt. Summit trail. If you had used this trail prior to the reroute, you would agree that it's steepness often swayed you not to ride to the top of Mule Mountain. Now that the reroute is in place, the whole trail has a cohesive feel and makes the decision to journey to the top an easier one.

Next up was our climbing trail for the Enticer. With no direct and easy way to get to the top of the downhill trail, people were constantly riding up it, which was far from optimal. It was very steep at the top and you always had to be extremely cautious for oncoming traffic. With the help of Brian Sindt from the McConnell Foundation and Shawn Stapleton from BLM, we laid out a very mellow trail that connects the bottom of the Enticer directly back to the top. This trail ended up being a little over 1.5 miles long and was built entirely by hand! Not only does it do what it was designed to do, giving people an easy way to get to the top of the Enticer, it breathed fresh life into the whole Swasey trail system by offering a new experience. This trail is used by bikers, hikers, runners and equestrians alike.

During construction of this new trail, discussion on what to name it ensued. At first we settled on Inclinor, a play on the nearby Escalator and Elevator trails. During a conversation with Bill Kuntz of BLM during a volunteer day, he mentioned the importance that Brent Owens has played in the development of our trail system. He also acknowledged the love everyone has for our Executive Director's dog Owen. So the name Owen's Run was born, an ode to a trail advocate and a trail dog.



Owen, the dog everyone loves.



Volunteers working on bench cutting single track for Owen's Run

Community Events and Education



The start line for the 32nd annual Lemurian Classic

Trails don't have to be all work and no play and we feel this was clearly showcased by the three unique events we put on in 2019.

First up was the Jefferson State MTB Trail Summit. This was a two day event. The first day featured a symposium of speakers from Ashland, Chico, Humboldt, Mt Shasta, Redding and Weaverville, a group ride and an evening social. The second day was a trail building workshop, with half of it being in a class and half being out building a new section of trail. Our goal with this inaugural event was simple; connect communities. The conference is our first event of this type in the region, and as such, we want to focus on creating an opportunity for trail supporters and advocates to connect, learn, and have a great time.

Next up was the 3rd annual Mayor's Mountain Bike Challenge. This is a passport style challenge where participants were encouraged to hop on their bikes and explore our surrounding trails. We have found this event not only promotes the sport of mountain biking, but it promotes a sense of community beyond what we normally see from an already close knit tribe. During the 2 months this challenge spans, people get together to challenge themselves to tackle rides outside of their comfort zones, forming bonds that will stay for years to come. Not only does it encourage mountain biking and personal accomplishment, but we have found people engage much more with each other while out using the trails, talking about what rides that have done and are planning on doing to finish their passports! Another highlight is the amount of young children that participate! Parents have expressed to us numerous times that the Challenge is the catalyst every year that gets their kids out on the trails. This all comes to a head when we have a huge closing event in an alleyway behind Maxwell's eatery in downtown Redding where we party, tell stories, share wounds, and see who wins the randomly drawn grand prizes!

Last but not least was the Lemurian Classic. A true classic mountain bike race, the Lemurian has ran since 1987! This year we took the reigns and did our best to keep it's heritage while breathing new life into it. With a new course featuring trails we have built and an added second day, we think we achieved that goal. Not only did we pack Swasey Recreation area with hundreds of cyclists and spectators from all over the west coast, but we also spilled over to a local brewery for the awards ceremony and after party. The event was such a success that we anticipate 2020's will sell out!



Nolan, Oliver & Noah Lauf
with their MMBC prizes



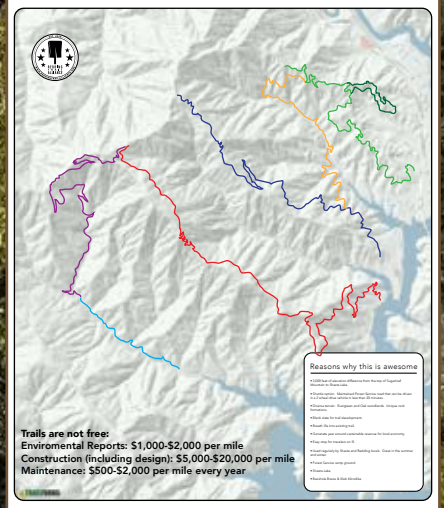
Community members at the inaugural Jefferson State MTB Trail
Summit

Looking Forward Planning and Development

Ryan Schuppert surveys terrain on Sugarloaf Mountain with Lake Shasta in the background

Sugarloaf Mt
Lake Head
Shasta Lake

CONCEPTUAL FUTURE TRAIL DEVELOPMENT
ESTIMATED 30 MILES OF NEW TRAIL

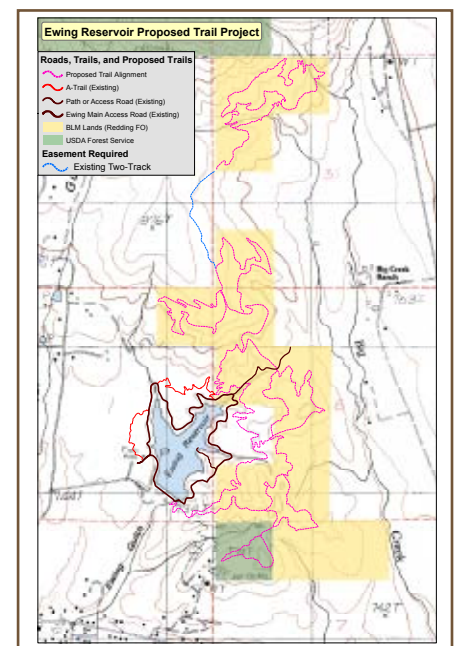
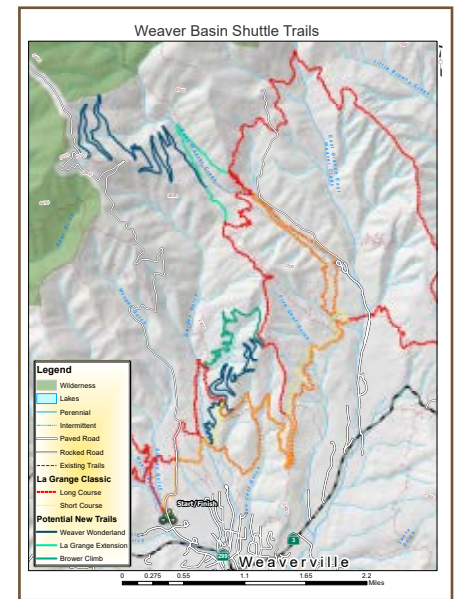
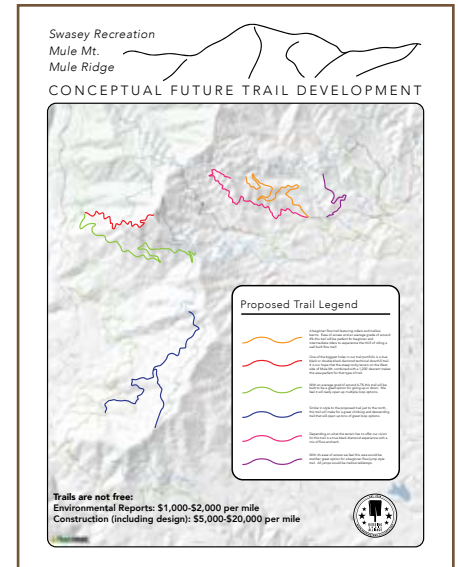


While we are stoked with what we have been able to accomplish so far, we are only just getting going. Future planning and development is in the works! First we are going to focus on building more high quality trails at Swasey Rec area. We decided on this for two reasons. BLM is extremely wonderful to work with and is letting us take the lead in planning and developing diverse trails on their land. This means we could start building new trails in late 2020. Second, is that Swasey is already the most popular trail system around, so new trails would give visitors more options to keep things interesting, our dollars to smiles will go a lot further.

With that being said, we don't want to stop building once we are done with Swasey and we feel there is a huge need that Swasey isn't fulfilling. That need is big mountain descents with the option to shuttle them. An area we see the potential for this is on Sugarloaf Mountain above Lakehead and we have begun working with the Forest Service on plans for that. Not only would this be a great area for locals to ride, but with it being right on I-5 we believe that travelers will make it a regular stop, thus bolstering the local economy.

We are also actively helping the nearby communities of Weaverville and Hayfork plan and build new and exciting trails! Weaverville's new trails will offer the opportunity to be shuttled while Hayfork's trail system is going to be completely new! It will offer an estimated 12 miles of fun single track that will not only encourage an active lifestyle for locals but draw visitors to their quaint little town.

Of course there is the future Redding Bike Park. We have signed an MOU with the City of Redding for maintenance. The city is pursuing a grant that would completely fund the build so as of now we are just patiently waiting to see if we are awarded those funds.



From the entire Board and Crew at Redding Trail Alliance THANK YOU

for making 2019 such a successful year! As a nonprofit, we rely solely on community support to accomplish our mission. As the organization has grown and we assist local land managers with larger and more complex trail projects and maintenance, your support is of the utmost importance to us.



PICTURED L TO R: Ryan Schuppert - Dirt Wizard, Stephanie Wright - Board, Camille Knudsen - Secretary, Tony Lewis - President, Nathan Knudsen - Executive Director

NOT PICTURED: John Waldrop - Treasurer, Kris Kristoffersen - Board, Paul Lehman - Board, Mike Ruffell - Board

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