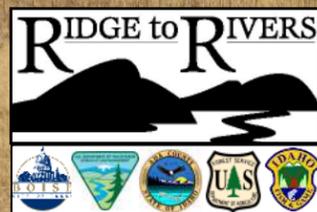


SWEET! Now we'll have even more...

ROOM to ROOAM



Story contributed by:
David Gordon, Ridge to Rivers Trail Coordinator

The addition of numerous trails in the Hillside to Hollow area as well as in the Daniels/Dry Creek drainages means that Ada County **trail users will have even more options when deciding where to run, ride or hike.** After a 10-month planning process incorporating significant public input, the City of Boise (as the Lead Coordinating Partner for Ridge to Rivers) and the Land Trust of the Treasure Valley are close to a final Master Plan for the Hillside to Hollow Reserve. **This will add almost 11 miles to the Ridge to Rivers trail system** including steep ridgeline routes and classic cross-country trails, with numerous loop opportunities and expansive views of the Treasure Valley. Work to bring these trails on to the Ridge to Rivers system will commence next spring.

More great news includes the generous, community-minded decision **creating easements for 3 trails that provide significant connectivity in the mid and upper foothills.** The easements are for existing yet unofficial trails (including "Sweet Connie" pictured above) through private property owned by Daniel's Creek Land LLC, which is a subsidiary of Grossman Company Properties. Daniel's Creek covers 3,284 acres between Cartwright Rd. and Bogus Basin Rd. and is the largest contiguous private land holding in the Boise Foothills. When completed, these easements provided to the City of Boise for the Ridge to Rivers trail system will allow for links from the Polecat Gulch trails west to Hidden Springs, and north up to Freddie's Stack Rock Loop. **This adds approximately 12.6 total new trail miles.** Using Ridge to Rivers trail crews, contractor assistance, and a large volunteer effort, construction work will commence on trail improvements early next summer.



Featured in red is the Hillside to Hollow Reserve property acquired by the City of Boise that will soon include recreational trails managed by the Ridge to Rivers partnership. Trail connections have also been cooperatively planned for the unshaded area to the east toward Bogus Basin Rd. through five parcels owned by the Land Trust of the Treasure Valley. The entire area totals 316 acres and will be a tremendous asset to our public trail system that will provide some outstanding trail alternatives to the popular Hulls Gulch and Camelsback area trails nearby.



You're Smart. But Are You TrailSmart©?

TrailSmart© is a new program designed to educate trail system users of proper trail etiquette and appropriate conditions for trail usage. Working in conjunction with the Ridge to Rivers Trail Partnership (City of Boise, Ada County, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Department of Fish and Game and US Forest Service), TrailSmart© has launched a website that provides up-to-date and enjoyable **educational videos featuring tips for foothills trail users.** Visitors to the site can watch the videos, take a short test about proper trail usage, and then have the option to make a tax deductible donation. Money donated through this program goes toward the maintenance of your local public trail systems through an annual gift to the Ridge to Rivers program. Members receive a TrailSmart© sticker and a packet of discounts from local retailers who support the initiative.

Brian Wiley and Matt Johnson of Boise launched trailsmart.org as a way to educate trail users while also showing support for the trail system. "We started this project because we love our foothills trails. We love them so much in fact that we each log between 1,200 and 1,500 miles on them each year," said co-founder Brian Wiley. "We both want to do our part to help maintain and grow them so that we can continue to use this wonderful resource."

The website also features a few "trail testimonials" like this one from Vicki in Boise:



"I am a newbie to the foothills trails and I admit I was a bit nervous about how to deal with traffic. I appreciate the new Trail Smart program for the education. Now, I feel like I fit right in with the rest of the community. Cheers!"

To learn more about the TrailSmart campaign and how to become a donor or partner please visit www.trailsmart.org or email info@trailsmart.org.