



With support from:



Trinity River National Water Trail Task Force Meeting

Monday, May 16th, 2022 at 3:00 PM

[Participate virtually via Microsoft Teams](#)

Call-in number: +1 903-508-4574, Conference ID: 621 757 424#

1. **Welcome and Meeting Purpose.** – *Steve Smith, Trinity Coalition* (5 minutes)

Steve Smith (Trinity Coalition) welcomed attendees and provided a brief introduction to the meeting.

2. **State of the Trail.** Presentations from Trinity Coalition and other partners on the current state of the Trinity River National Water Trail, including usage data, maintenance, and areas for improvement. (30 minutes)

- **Status of Launch Sites.** Trinity Coalition will report the state of launch sites along the Trinity River. Update on Grand Prairie Launch Site. – *Teresa Patterson, Dale Harris, & Steve Smith, Trinity Coalition; Duane Strawn, City of Grand Prairie*

Duane Strawn (City of Grand Prairie) gave an update on the ongoing design phase of the new Belt Line Road boat launch in Grand Prairie. Michael Salcedo is designing the site, with Grand Prairie providing the funding for design and NCTCOG funding the construction. Duane shared the cost estimate for the launch site to be presented to the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) for funding. NCTCOG will present the cost estimate to the Transportation Team for approval as an item to be brought to the RTC.

Dale Harris (Trinity Coalition) shared the new wayfinding signs posted along the trail, with a QR code that directs trail users to more information about the trail, water levels, other launches. Four launch sites in need of long-term replacement or immediate maintenance action. Steve Smith has reached out to City of Dallas for authorization to fix the sites.

- **Dedication of the National Water Trail on National Trails Day.** Trinity Coalition will announce and discuss the official Ribbon Cutting event for the designation of National Water Trail. – *Teresa Patterson, Dale Harris, & Steve Smith, Trinity Coalition*

Trinity Coalition has begun planning opening ceremonies along the trail. They have reached out to Lewisville, Dallas, Fort Worth, and Irving. Trinity Coalition is aiming to align the event with National Trails Day (June 4th).

- **Corporate Sponsored River Cleanups.** Trinity Coalition will announce and promote sponsored river cleanup events. – *Teresa Patterson, Trinity Coalition*

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact department staff at (817) 695-9210 or EandD@nctcog.org at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.



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Trinity Coalition has hosted four corporate-sponsored river cleanups so far this year, 20-40 people each. Trinity Coalition has a standard practice document for corporate cleanups. Public cleanups with Keep GP Beautiful. Starting to plan opening ceremonies along the trail; begun planning with Lewisville; Dallas, Fort Worth, and Irving are interested.

- 3. Trash Free Texas Pladdling Initiative.** Staff from NCTCOG's Environment & Development Team will present on the Texas Free Texas Pladdling Initiative, an effort to encourage litter pick up while paddling. – *Crysta Guzman, NCTCOG Environment & Development Department* (10-15 minutes)

Crysta Guzman (NCTCOG) gave the background on the Trash Free Waters project, a collaboration between NCTCOG, HGAC, and TSU Meadows Center, funded by EPA, aiming to Reduce litter in the river basins between DFW and Houston/Gulf of Mexico and provide resources for all communities on trash reduction and cleanups.

Trash Free Texas developed a toolkit on promoting pladdling, including signage for trail launches and trash collection points with QR codes directing to Trash Free Texas site; how to plan, promote, and host clean-up events.

Looking for volunteers to help with pilot program and test out the pladdling toolkit. Feedback deadline: October 1, 2022. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZC8W2H9>

- 4. Task Force Roundtable.** The attendees will discuss regional opportunities, community goals, concerns, partnership efforts, and economic development projects along the Trinity River Paddling Trail. – *All members* (20-25 minutes)]

Web Mangham (Trinity River Authority) is looking to expand water goat program to collect trash in the river.

Mia Brown (Dallas County) is trying to kickstart the Dallas County open spaces volunteer program, partner with local organizations to support DC trails and preserves. Developing first Open Space Plan since 1991, releasing an RFP in June and seeking public input.

Stacy Anaya (Lewisville) will be co-chair for the 2023 National Recreation and Park Association conference in Dallas. She will be accepting proposals later this year for local tour ideas.

- 5. Upcoming Opportunities.** A list of upcoming committee meetings, webinars, river cleanups, and other events relevant to the state of the Trinity River. Seek suggestions for a Community Showcase volunteer for our next meeting. – *NCTCOG staff* (5 minutes)

Breanne Johnson (NCTCOG) plugged the survey for input on the walking/biking regional trail name and branding and asked for volunteers for future agenda items. and introduced Jai-W Hayes-Jackson from NCTCOG as the new point person for the task force.

Next Regional Meeting is Scheduled for August 2022.

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If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Dale Harris at (214) 478-7856 or dale@trinitycoalition.org. Thank you!

For information related to past Task Force meetings, please visit <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/committees/trinity-river-national-water-trail-task-force>

Participants Recorded via Microsoft Teams	
Andrea Pedigo	Community Member
Brandi Kelp	City of Fort Worth
Breanne Johnson	NCTCOG
Charissa Kelly	NCTCOG
Clair Davis	City of Fort Worth
Crysta Guzman	NCTCOG
Dale Harris	Trinity Coalition
Duane Strawn	City of Grand Prairie
Edith Marvin	Edith Marvin - NCTCOG
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson	NCTCOG
Liliana Sheppard	NCTCOG
Lissa Shepard	Dallas County
Mia Brown	Dallas County
Nixalis Benitez	City of Fort Worth
Rachel Richter	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Renee Pearl	NCTCOG
Robert Denkhaus	City of Fort Worth
Sandra Youngblood	City of Fort Worth
Stacey Anaya	City of Lewisville
Steve Smith	Trinity Coalition
Teresa Patterson	Trinity Coalition
Webster Mangham	Trinity River Authority

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