

OREGON-CALIFORNIA TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Challenge Cost-share Grants



October 2006



National Park System Challenge Cost-share Program

- Provides funds for trail marking and preservation activities
 - ◆ Travel expenses
 - ◆ Equipment and supplies
- One-for-one dollar match from OCTA
 - ◆ Volunteer labor
 - ◆ Other contributions
- Managed by Kay Threlkeld (NPS LDTO)



Example Projects

- Trail mapping and marking
- Purchase research materials and maps
- Preservation Training



Procedure: Start-up

- Discussion with chapter leadership by members to outline project and gain preliminary approval
- Designate project leader
- Discussions with NPS to gain support for project
- Preparation of proposal including cost and match estimates
- Approval by chapter president
- Submission to NPS with copy to OCTA CCSP coordinator (Zeke Sicotte)



Procedure: Reimbursement Request

- Project leader collects expense data from workers
 - ◆ Lodging expenses (about \$60/night)
 - ◆ Meals (about \$30 per diem)
 - ◆ Mileage (\$0.36/mile)
 - ◆ Hours for travel and work (\$16/hr)
 - ◆ Miscellaneous (maps, etc.)
- Project leader prepares summary and submits to OCTA CCSP coordinator with receipts
- OCTA CCSP coordinator reviews request and submits for reimbursement to NPS with copy of summary to OCTA HQ



Procedure: Disbursement

- Upon validation of claim, NPS submits request to Federal payment office
- Check is sent to OCTA Headquarters and is deposited
- OCTA headquarters sends OCTA check to chapter treasurer for disbursement to workers
- Reimbursement from OCTA to chapter is available when claim is submitted if requested and if funds are available



Procedure: Reports

- NPS specifies desired reports in the contract
- OCTA trail marking policy requires recording of trail marker locations (if part of CCSP)
 - ◆ Send to Trail Mapping Committee
 - ◆ Send to NPS Long Distance Trails Office



Summary

Challenge cost-share grants are a great opportunity to receive an offset for trail marking expenses

Procedures are a little burdensome, but they are necessitated by the need for OCTA to have a good accounting of activity as well as government regulations