

Show 58.0 - America's Challenge Trail with Troopbiz



Date: April 8, 2025

Show hosts: [Emily McConathy](#), Tim Green

Contact: challengetalkpodcast@gmail.com

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/live/2N39Tsr4zko?si=fsyle4TNAI9ZC90e>

Show playlist: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlyQyaP7GhZu-8r_0JcRWz4D1lxtmJ7IY

Part of the [Geocache Talk Network](#)



SHOW NOTES

- **Intro tidbits**

- We are your hosts Emily and Tim
- So how's your month been?
 - Emily
 - Visits with railroad and CheekyBrit
 - Prep for Geocaching 101 Library program ([GCB408H](#)), new library cache and AL
 - Tim
 - Another month of mostly family stuff.
 - Getting ready for Woodstock!
 - Getting ready for Cachefest!
 - Room to share
 - Cache Odyssey Trip
 - Getting ready for Camp MiGO!
 - 4/9 - "The Geocaching Podcast"

- **News items:**

- Lilypad Chat - New app from Groundspeak. *Lilypad Chat's* group chat functionality allows you to create chat groups, share real-time locations, and coordinate activities with ease.
<https://www.lilypad.chat/>

- **Challenge Statistics update % Project-GC:**

- **Monthly Challenge Cache location update**
 - 45394 active challenge caches worldwide (by attribute [search](#)) up from 45518 +124 (as of 3/31)
 - USA has 18015 active challenge caches

- No change in the Challenge Leader stats Worldwide. 86% of challenges in top 10 Countries
- USA Top Four - Texas California, Michigan, & Florida

- **TOPIC:** Celebrating the 50 States of the USA through America's Challenge Trail with creator Mark Webb
 - First cache to reference: [GCAFRFG](#)
 - America's Challenge Trail is composed of 2 sections. #1 - #15 are park and grabs along a quiet Country Road. #16 - #50 are on a hike / bike trail along the scenic Cheat Lake. The trail has a gate that locks every night, so daylight caching only ... and don't plan to get started *too* early. Parking is only available around cache number #15 and #20, otherwise, you'll enjoy about a 6 mile round trip hike. All the caches are fairly close to the trail, but that doesn't mean you won't be climbing a tree or two or doing a hill scramble.
 - For the puzzle lovers, make sure to solve [GCA4ADZ](#), as it's on the trail as well!
 - For more information about the ACT, please visit www.GeoWoodstockXXI.com/Guide/ACT
 - Mark's favorite challenge in the series: [GCAFRJA](#) - Fill a fizzy grid in 3 different states.
 - 49 Different D/T's from 1/1 to 5/4.5

D/T	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0
1.0									
1.5									
2.0					2				
2.5									
3.0									
3.5									
4.0									
4.5									
5.0									

GAMETIME

- **Wheel Of Challenges!**
 - It's time for the Wheel of Challenges!
 - One live viewer each month will be selected to face off against the wheel to have a chance to win the grand prize (**1 year membership on Project-GC**)
 - **Limit of three wins**
 - To enter, send an email with a subject containing "SPIN ME" followed by your geocaching username in brackets and the answer to the following question. The first verified user *gets the wheel*. Your profile will be checked live on Project-GC, and if you qualify, you win!
 - Here is your question: **Most caches in America's Challenge Trail requires having found caches in at least how many states?**

- The answer to the question is: **5**
- The first to answer by email correctly was **Buckeyecacher111** and unfortunately, they didn't qualify for [GC7A1XW](#) (5.0D) Louisiana Purchase Challenge (1 Physical in 15 specific States).

● Monthly Challengers

- Every month we give a congratulatory shoutout to listeners who email us proof of qualifying and **logging** a challenge cache since the last show.
- Anyone who sends an email to challengetalkpodcast@gmail.com with the GC code having a Found it log (including a photo if you'd like to share) for that month will be entered for the prize giveaway for a **Challenge Talk Pathtag**.
- Here are a few of the interesting challenges we heard about from our listeners:
 - **bloodycool**: from the Retired Monkey Trail
 - [GCANXTT](#), **Challenge of Challenges** - Find a challenge cache in 60 different months
 - [GCAJNRR](#), **Types of Tree Climbs** - Find 4 different cache types with a tree climb attribute
 - **GB's**: [GC87HM8](#), **looks like a private yard, but nope challenge** - find 500 not in the front yard or private residence attributes "Attended the Texas Challenge. In 8 days he added 14 Loops to his Fizzy, and found over 1200 caches and 375 Challenges!"
 - **CheekyBrit**:
 - [GCAY9K3](#), **The not SCUBA Challenge** - five different caches that have these attributes that spell SCUBA (by Emily)
 - [GCB53F4](#), **Filling Eternity x1000 gridbuster challenge** - find at least 1000 geocaches with unique hidden dates, that includes different years. "I managed to keep my streak of hiding a challenge for each podcast. just published - Filling eternity X1000. It's like an ultra Jasmer, looking at every single date hidden since the game began, not just every month hidden."
 - **simmsquest**: [GCAFRJ8](#) - **ACT #40 - South Dakota's Challenge** - Fill any terrain column in 5 different states "In the spirit of your guest, I am submitting a unique challenge to me from the ACT which I had the joy of completing with some friends in March. We called it pregameing for Woodstock Weekend. We biked about 12 miles in total to sign the 50 challenges and the nearby letterboxes. Trail was flat, but many of the hides were challenging to retrieve and access. The terrain in WV is REAL. You have been warned. A truly challenging challenge trail. We loved it."
 - **teamtailwagger**: [GCB35FP](#) - **Virtual Cache Every Month - Challenge** - find one virtual cache every month of the year
- Remember, to enter for next month, send in your email before next month's show.
- This month's winner is: **teamtailwagger**

CLOSING THOUGHTS

- Jasmer coin [Geocache Talk Etsy Shop](#)

REMINDERS

- Next show is the SECOND TUESDAY OF May, the 13th
- Show notes will be posted shortly after the show airs in the video description and linked in the podcast description.
- Remember to say hello, in that special way, when you see Emliy or I at an event.
- THANKS FOR WATCHING AND LISTENING!
- Remember, it's not about the numbers, it's about the challenge!
- *"Challenge accepted!"*

LINKS AND RESOURCES

Helpful browser plugins:

- Project-GC browser helper: <https://project-gc.com/Home/UserScript>
(Requires TamperMonkey or GreaseMonkey)
- GME Geocaching Map Enhancements: https://openuserjs.org/scripts/JRI/Geocaching_Map_Enhancements
- GCIh (Little Helper) extension: <https://github.com/2Abendsegler/GCIh>

[Challenge cache guidelines - Section 2.12](#)

Challenge Cache Moratorium?!!

A 1 year halt on all challenge cache publishing gave GCHQ time to rework the rules and guidelines for challenge caches. Post-moratorium challenge caches abide by different restrictions than pre-moratorium challenge caches, which have been 'grandfathered' as is.

Moratorium started: April, 2015

Moratorium ended: May 25, 2016

Past shows with introductory topics:

- [2.0 - Statistics and you!](#)
- [3.0 - Challenging etiquette](#)
- [4.0 - Strategies for tracking progress](#)
- [8.0 - Challenge badges and souvenirs](#)
- [9.0 - Hiding Emily's first challenge cache](#)
- [14.0 - Challenge caching on the road](#)
- [15.0 - Ask a reviewer: CacheShadow](#)

[19.0 - Lackey interview: Rock Chalk](#)
[21.0 - Fully Themed Challenge Caches](#)
[25.0 - Tools of Project-GC](#)
[37.0 - Project-GC Questions](#)
[50.0 - What's New with Project-GC](#)
[50.1 - The Evolution of Challenge Caches](#)

Challenge Trails Master Document:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DOxpa4vnLbnJ0f7p0qsfgE07HocdpwJFiThEdGZF0Z4/edit?usp=sharing>