

Applegate Valley Valley Vision
Focus Area #4: Steward & Sustain

Goal # 4.4: To expand and improve access to the Applegate Valley's outdoor recreational opportunities

Summary Statement: To expand and improve access to the Applegate Valley's outdoor recreational opportunities, including the Applegate river, regional trails, and enhancing our local parks; developing outdoor recreation services and infrastructure; and convening trails associations and recreation organizations to encourage collaboration, resource sharing, and the elevation of outdoor activities.

Strategy 4.4.A: Enhance access to the Applegate River for locals and visitors

Ideas for Action:

1. Maintain and improve existing swimming holes
 - a. Work w/ landowner to re-open Merlet's Cove
 - b. Establish community clean-up teams @ swimming holes
 - c. Install life jacket stations @ existing swimming holes
2. Map existing public access points for motorized and non-motorized users
 - a. Identify floating options with put-ins and take-outs
 - b. Provide information on hazards and river sections to avoid
3. Identify potential new river access points on public or private lands
 - a. Work with counties and public agencies to identify potential access points
 - b. Explore land donations or easements for increasing parkland or public access

Strategy 4.4.B: Develop outdoor recreation services & infrastructure

Ideas for Action:

1. Build bike and pedestrian paths on the Valley floor
2. Develop a clean-up and trash system for recreation sites, campgrounds, and roadsides, including vault toilet maintenance and service
3. Increase signage at recreation sites to encourage good behavior
 - a. Pack it in, pack it out
 - b. Fire safety
 - c. No drinking and driving
4. Encourage the development of outdoor recreation services
 - a. Tour and trail guides
 - b. Equipment rentals
 - c. Paragliding shuttle services and landing pads
5. Local park improvement and enhancement @ Cantrall Buckley, Provolt Recreation Area, Pacifica, and Fish Hatchery
 - a. Investment/improvement for the Hamilton Day Use Area
 - b. Residential Environmental Education Camp w/ yurts
 - c. Dragonfly Place & Cultural Exhibits

- d. Mural & Sculptures
- e. Disc Golf Course
- f. Botanical and Pollinator Gardens w/ floral study trail
- g. Swimming hole(s)
- h. Involve more locals in planning and volunteer days
- i. Build sports field with basketball courts, exercise equipment, and an obstacle course

Strategy 4.4.C: Convene & coordinate among all the trails associations and recreation organizations to encourage collaboration, resource sharing, and elevation of outdoor activities

Ideas for Action:

1. Promote engagement with outdoor activities in the Applegate
 - a. Parks, waterways, bird watching, hunting, fishing, etc...
 - b. Explore the idea of the Applegate becoming a "National Recreation Area"
 - c. Increase presence on user-generated platforms, ex: All Trails
 - d. More promotion of trails as an option for non-motorized recreation
 - e. Recruit volunteers for trail and park building and maintenance
2. Amplify the Applegate recreational voice to the BLM
 - a. Build relationship w/ BLM to advocate for recreation over timber to benefit the local economy
3. Create an Applegate Outdoor Recreation Map
 - a. Hiking and biking trails
 - b. Parks and recreation areas
 - c. River access
 - d. Restrooms
 - e. Viewpoints
4. Become a premier hiking destination and magnet for trekkers
 - a. Paid trail crews
 - b. Completion of the Jack-Ash trail systems
 - c. Development of a Hut-to-Hut system
 - d. Comprehensive, online interactive trails map
 - e. More connecting of trails/spurs e.g. Sterling Mine Ditch Trail
 - f. Upgrade trail kiosks
 - g. Utilize Applegate Trails Map @ bulletin boards
 - h. Adopt Mule Mountain trail for maintenance
 - i. Develop family hiking groups w/ easier parking and access to trails
 - j. Tie into regional signature trails
 - k. Develop camping options along or near trails
5. Hire a shared grant writer to work with all organizations to increase capacity and projects