



With support from:



Trinity River National Water Trail Task Force Meeting

Tuesday, August 9th, 2022 at 10:00 AM

[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) brought the meeting to order. Gave a brief overview and history of the Trinity River National Water Trail. Teresa Patterson (Trinity Coalition) gave an overview of the current Trinity River map and launch points.
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 current and potential launch sites along the Trinity River. – *Teresa Patterson, Dale Harris, & Steve Smith, Trinity Coalition*
 1. Dale Harris (Trinity Coalition) gave an update on the current launch site progress. The Trinity River is now 1 of 35 national water trails. Currently there are 20 out of 21 launch sites are open. All but 2 sections are 4 to 6 miles. The proposed Veridian launch site as well as other proposed sites will close the gaps between the launch sites.
 2. Dale Harris discussed the Trinity Coalition website tool and interactive map that allows paddlers to see current water levels of the river and other Paddling Trail usage
 3. Trinity Coalition discussed the future goals of the Task Force:
 1. Three new launch sites (River Park, Veridian, and Grand Prairie)
 2. Create a multi-year improvement program with each city.
 3. Create a volunteer beautification program with each city.
 4. Extend the trail to Lake Ray Roberts through Lake Lewisville and the Greenbelt Park.
 5. Update the “Fun Creeks and Tributaries in the DFW Area” document 16 funs creeks listed so far.
 - **Funding Needs and Opportunities.** Trinity Coalition will discuss funding needs and responsibilities to maintain the trail over time. – *Teresa Patterson, Dale Harris, & Steve Smith, Trinity Coalition*
 1. Edith Marvin (NCTCOG) asked about any future funding needs for River Park and Veridian. Currently there are none to report.

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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- **Dedication Recap of the National Water Trail.** Trinity Coalition will share photos from the official Ribbon Cutting events from the designation of the National Water Trail. – *Teresa Patterson, Trinity Coalition*
 1. Trinity Coalition along with the City of Lewisville and the City of Dallas, held 2 ribbon cutting ceremonies June 25 and Hebron Park Launch and Trammell Crow launch.
- **Corporate Sponsored River Cleanups.** Trinity Coalition will announce and promote sponsored river cleanup events. – *Teresa Patterson, Trinity Coalition*
 1. Teresa Patterson review past cleanups as well as future cleanups scheduled for the Trinity River
 1. Freese and Nichols Clean up event May 14
 2. Walnut Creek Clean Up (with Keep Grand Prairie Beautiful) May 21
 3. 4th of July on the River July 4
 4. Full Moon Paddle Event July 13.
 5. Cottonwood Creek Cleanup (with Keep Grand Prairie Beautiful) July 23
 6. Coca Cola Cleanup Oct 1
- 3. **East Fork Paddling Trail.** The paddling community has proposed creating a water trail on Lake Ray Hubbard that would connect to the Trinity River National Water Trail. – *Member of the Paddling Community* (10 minutes)
 - Steve Smith opened discussion about adding new launch sites past Lake Ray Hubert.
- 4. **Water Goat Pilot.** Staff from Trinity River Authority present on the water goat pilot; the water goat collects litter near stormwater outfalls before the litter can enter waterways. – *Heather Firn, Trinity River Authority of Texas* (15 minutes)
 - a. Heather Firn (TRA), Kirsten Ham (UpSpire), and Nixalis Benitez (City of Fort Worth) presented about grant funding used to set up Water Goats across Fort Worth. Six water goats were funded through a public private partnership through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Water Goats act as barriers to prevent and isolate trash from moving downstream and is easily collected. More than 6000 pounds of trash collected to date. For more information contact Heather at firmha@trinityra.org or 817-467-4343.
- 5. **Tour Ideas.** The National Recreation and Park Association's annual conference is the premier event of the park and recreation community. In October 2023, the conference takes place in Dallas. Ideas are needed for local tours. – *Chris Chastain, City of Lewisville* (10 minutes)
 - Chris Chastain (City of Lewisville) presented about the National Recreation and Park Association annual conference that will be held in Dallas in 2023. Lewisville will be a Local Host Committee and is looking for communities willing to lead Offsite and

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Leisure Tours for the Conference. For more information contact Chris at cchastain@cityoflewisville.com.

6. **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)
 - No discussion
7. **Upcoming Opportunities.** A list of upcoming committee meetings, webinars, river clean-ups, 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)
 - Upper Trinity River Basin Coordinating Community Meeting
 - Tarrant Regional Water District Trash Bash
 - TMDL Monitoring Coordination Forum Subcommittee Meeting
 - North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge
 - Edith requested community showcases for the next meeting
 - The next Trinity River National Water Trail meeting is tentatively November 1

Next Regional Meeting is Scheduled for November 2022.

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	
Chris Chastain	City of Lewisville
DeMonica Gooden	Guest
Edith Marvin	NCTCOG
Erin Blackman	NCTCOG
Harry Swanson	Guest
Heather Firn	TRA
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson	NCTCOG
Jennifer Rovezzi	City of Dallas
Jerry Cotter	USACE
Kate Zielke	NCTCOG
Kevin Hurley	City of Dallas
Kim Bybee	Carrollton Parks
Kirsten Ham	UpSpire

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Luis Tamayo	Guest
Mia Brown	Dallas County
Nixalis Benitez	City of Fort Worth
Omotayo Ajayi	Guest
Rachel Richter	Guest
Steve Smith	Trinity Coalition
Teresa Patterson	Trinity Coalition
Tina Nikolic	Guest
Virginia Kilgore	Water is Alive
Webster Mangham	Trinity River Authority

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