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- Trailhead Ambassador Locations
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- Oil Train Victories



Outside National Scenic Area

VANCOUVER, WA



Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

Friends of the Columbia Gorge: A Year of Impact

THA Trailhead Ambassadors Cover the Region

This spring and summer, the Trailhead Ambassadors program placed friendly volunteers at six popular trailheads in the Gorge to educate hikers on Leave No Trace principles, underscore trail safety tips, and highlight other nearby recreational opportunities through online resources such as Ready, Set, Gorge.

Oil Train Proposals Threaten the Gorge

Friends and our coalition partners scored a major victory when Washington Gov. Jay Inslee rejected Tesoro Savage's Vancouver oil terminal proposal on January 29, 2018. The largest oil shipping terminal proposed in North America, the plant would have brought more than 131 million barrels of oil per year through the Gorge. Friends also defeated a Union Pacific proposal to add a second main-line track through Mosier, Oregon, and adjacent Scenic Area lands.

Preserve the Wonder Campaign Protects Key Gorge Lands

Friends' most ambitious land conservation effort to date, the *Preserve the Wonder* campaign successfully raised more than \$5.5 million, reaching the goal to acquire and protect seven unique properties totalling 420 acres along the Washington side of the Gorge, which are now being managed by Friends' Land Trust.

Outdoor Youth Programs Highlight Wonders of the Gorge

In the past year, Friends' outdoor education programs brought more than 320 middle school youth from Washougal and Portland into the Gorge for a full nature-immersion experience, including hikes, to learn about the wonders of the Gorge.

Stewardship Efforts Focus on Giving Weeds the Boot

In response to the 2017 Eagle Creek fire, our public land stewardship program was launched to minimize the spread of invasive plants in the burned area. Work parties were hosted throughout the Gorge, on both public lands and our land trust properties.

