

Oregon Gravel Riding Working Group

Meeting Notes

12/17/14

Attendees

- Harry Dalgaard, Travel Oregon
- Staj Pace, Travel Oregon
- Katy Clair, Travel Oregon
- Scott Warren, Travel Oregon
- Kenji Sugahara, OBRA
- Laura Underhill, OPRD
- Mike Cosgrove, Grant County (Bike Safety Group, Old West Group, Single Track in Logan Valley and Gravel Bikeway in Malheur Forest)
- Dan Morgan, Gavel Advocacy in WA County and Eastern Oregon
- Doug Monmell, Central Oregon/Sisters
- Kevin Prentice, RidewithGPS
- Gabe, Limberlost
- Robert Underhill, Rolf Prima Wheels
- Russ Roca, Path Less Pedaled
- Laura Crawford, Path Less Pedaled
- Daniel Sharp, Photographer, benedicto.co
- Rick Proteccio, Cross Crusade
- Jason, Limberlost
- John Backster, Southern Oregon
- James Good, Prineville/Central Oregon, Good Bike Co.
- Sanaa, Bicycle Rides NW

Group Attendees Updates

- Trail Alliance, IMBA chapters, OPRD, etc working on mtb route from Detroit to Sisters, Sweet home to
- Fatbiking Coast Route - 250 miles of 356 accessible - a product available for more safe option and a sag supported for where cannot ride
- Fatbiking section on ROR - winter trails, dunes, beach, etc
- Mike is getting a fatbike
- Bend - Cogwild doing fatbike tours
- NWTAs - mountain biking advocacy in Portland, sign the petition, get logos from businesses
- NorthAmerican Handmade bicycle show - Gravel will be the primary focus (industry side)

Background for Working Group

- Lessons learned from Gravel Recon Trip in May - created recommendations / standards

- This Group now has its own page on Industry Travel Oregon website: <http://industry.traveloregon.com/industry-resources/product-development/bicycle-tourism-development/oregon-bicycle-tourism-partnership/oregon-gravel-riding-work-group/>, here you can find notes, gravel group in news, group projects, standards, recommendations, etc.
- As a result of Gravel Group thus far, we've launched Gravel Section on <http://rideoregonride.com/rides/gravel-rides/> YAY!
 - Partnerships launched to help this be successful:
 1. RideWithGPS so could have GPS ability on ROR as this was very big priority /need
 2. VeloDirt/OregonBikePacking so could have somewhat vetted, good rides with photos and great descriptions, details, etc etc

Next steps for Gravel Inventory to be posted online on RideOregonRide.com

- There are new sections on the Inventory Spreadsheet to guide what we need for routes to be posted online including difficulty levels, descriptions, photos, best seasons to ride, etc. See spreadsheet and update your inventory here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kL_8FPkWCKYv6tV7WvjXJr09uUT_qZTDhCAQ_Nb_AIM/edit#gid=6
- Detailed descriptions **really need** to be updated. Items needed include:
 1. Sense of place /unique features / views / etc.
 2. Road type and Gravel type. Does it change a lot? Is it double track, large gravel, etc etc. Explain as much as possible
 3. Best bike/tire combination for this route
 4. 5What type of route is this best for? Beginners, gravel-curious, good for kids perhaps, people wanting to camp, super adventurous type, etc.
 5. Where to park, or best way to get to start of ride.
 6. Other items of interest like eateries, special towns or things to look out for like this one section at 14 miles in has a super steep cliff for example.
 7. SEE NEW GRAVEL RIDE EXAMPLE HERE: <http://rideoregonride.com/rides/gravel-rides/old-dalles/>
- Also, there are new Difficulty level standards, see here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oX96hcOjChrnozLRdaHnv9ImuokwLvYufJYCugHFVU/edit?usp=sharing>. It is **Very important** to use these guidelines to help determine what level the route is.
 1. Please review and update your inventory in the spreadsheet based on these standards
- Lastly, please move any routes that are on private land / have lots of gates to the 8th tab in the spreadsheet – these will be addressed later.
- Need more routes for these regions by Jan 15:
 1. Add some for Southern Oregon (John – Lead)
 2. Add some for Central Oregon (James Good – Lead)

Ideas to add to RideOregonRide.com

- Section saying something to Encourage riders to leave up to date comments

- Listing USFS / BLM contacts on pages like Scenic Bikeways

Other Travel Oregon Tasks

- Staj will add notes to Industry Travel Oregon site
- Harry to put Gravel Riding new process and info on RDMO/Commission meeting agendas to update RDMO/DMOs

Future thoughts on elevating one specific route

- Like ACA hot spring route or IMBA Epic or Scenic Bikeways
- Think about Oregon Outback route
- Signature Oregon event perhaps?
- Deschutes River Route
- Mike Cosgrove - submitting application for Scenic Bikeway Gravel Route (43 miles, old rail grade, Japanese internment, Piute Indian, heritage focus, Logan valley)

Recon Trip Ideas in spring 2015 for Next Meeting

- McKenzie to Oakridge - Elkridge
- Deschutes River Route - spring/fall