Trail Marker and Trail Marking Policies

• The purpose of trail marking is to identify trail resources and promote their protection.

• The intent of this policy is to provide guidelines while allowing flexibility to mark diverse segments of the trails.

You can't protect it if you don't know where it is!
Chapter Responsibilities

- Appoint a person to oversee trail marking
  - Chapter Trail Marking Coordinator or
  - Chapter Preservation Officer

- Chapter board of directors or the executive committee should formally “approve” all trail marking activities
  - “Official” chapter event to be sure of insurance coverage under National’s policy
  - Assure consistent and accurate trail marking

Trail Markers

Carsonite: Carsonite International
White or Brown CRM3066
5’ 6” long 3.75” wide 2.5 pounds
About $30.00 each with decals

Steel Rail: 6’ long with 18” horizontal top rail
2.5” x 12” plate bolted to fishing
Engraved diary quote for location

Novalloy: Interpretive sign
Aluminum; gold lettering on black panel

Concrete: BLM favorite
6’ long 8” at bottom tapered to 4” at top

Decals: BLM, USFS, USFWS or NPS labels
Metal or plastic on posts or trees
Trail name decal
Beckwourth Trail Carsonite

Driving a Carsonite Marker
Shepherd-Wright Novalloy

Steel Rail Marker
Steel Rail Marker

Novalloy and Steel Rail at Grave Site
Concrete Post (Wyoming)

Wooden Post
Highway Trail Site Sign

Carson Route – California Trail
Trail Marking – The Process
The Process

- Initial planning
- Research
- Permits
- Final approval
- Installation

See “OCTA Trail Marking Policy” for details and forms.

The Process- Approvals Needed

Initial Planning: Get chapter approval
Project leader
Type of markers
Funds needed

Mapping/Research been done

Landowners: Permission & Release

Public lands: BLM; Forest Service; Parks, etc.
Permit

County or state roadsides
Permit
Final Approval
(Before Placement of Marker)

Minimum information required:

1. Mark location on 7.5 map
   Carsonite approximate along route

2. Description of marker to be used
   Carsonite - steel rail - cement - Novalloy – other

3. Location of existing markers in the area

4. Text to be used on markers
   Carsonite - approved decals
   Steel rail - engraving to be reviewed by chapter
   Novalloy - must be reviewed by National Graves and Sites Committee Chair (Randy Brown); he usually asks Publications Committee member for assistance.

5. Copies of all permits and permissions

6. Identify any controversy of the trail marking.

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OCTA Forms

- Form 1 – Waiver of Responsibility
- Form 2 – Landowner Release
- Form 3 – Easement
- Form 4 – Trail Marker Documentation
- Form 5 – Marker Locations (Multiple)
- Form 6 – Certification of Accuracy

See “OCTA Trail Marking Policy” for details and forms.
Form 1 - Waiver

The undersigned parents or legal guardians of the Oregon-California Trail Association (OCTA) to direct, authorize, request, and agree, that any person or persons (hereinafter referred to as participants) of any age and sex, shall be permitted to participate in any and all activities and events sponsored by OCTA, and in no way will OCTA be liable for any bodily injury, damage, property damage, or death incurred by any participant in any OCTA activity, event, or program. This includes, but is not limited to, riding on OCTA trails, participating in OCTA sponsored events, or any other OCTA activity. OCTA will not be responsible for any legal liability or claims arising from any OCTA activity or event. OCTA will not be liable for any bodily injury, damage, property damage, or death incurred by any participant in any OCTA activity, event, or program.

Form 2 - Landowner/Manager Permission and Release

I hereby grant the Oregon-California Trail Association (OCTA), a profit organization, with headquarters in Independence, Oregon, and any lawful successor in interest, the right to enter, use, and occupy any property for the purposes of maintaining, improving, and promoting the trail system. The property owner or manager shall have the right to authorize any person for the purpose of maintaining, improving, and promoting the trail system. Any person who enters the property shall be subject to the rules and regulations of OCTA.

Property Location and Legal Description:

Any questions or issues regarding this release should be directed to OCTA at the address listed above.
Form 3
Easement

Form 4
Marker Documentation
### Form 5

**Marker Locations**  
(Multiple)

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<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>UTM E</th>
<th>UTM N</th>
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### Form 6

**Certification**

Certifications: The undersigned herein verifies that he/she has reviewed, consented, and approved all documents contained and submitted all knowledge and information herein to the extent, this ___ day of ____, 20__.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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## Summary

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<tr>
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<th>Carsonite Posts</th>
<th>Novalloy Pedestal</th>
<th>Steel Rail Markers**</th>
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* Superceded if easement is granted  
** And other “permanent” markers such as concrete posts

## CHALLENGE COST-SHARE GRANTS

- OCTA reimbursed for Carsonite markers when placed, documented and matched by volunteer time.
- Send request to Dave Welch to obtain markers.
- Chapter must support project, not just individuals