

7

**Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs
Approved, August 28, 2005**

CONNECTING THE CHINOOK TRAIL TO THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL

The Chinook Trail Association (CTA) has proven to be a productive organization through its trail building and maintenance activities. It has shown an ability to form partnerships with Clark and Skamania counties, the Washington department of Natural Resources, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, and numerous foundations and financial supporters. The association continues to provide needed recreational trails for hikers, cyclists, and equestrian users.

The Chinook Trail is included in the state trails plans for both Washington and Oregon. The CTA has expressed willingness to partner with the Forest Service in extending the Chinook Trail System. This partnership is necessary in order to provide a needed trail connection between Bluff Mountain and the Pacific Crest Trail.

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs endorses the proposed extension of the Chinook Trail from Bluff Mountain in order to provide a connection with the Pacific Crest Trail and commends the Chinook Trail Association for its excellent work over many years in building and maintaining trails throughout the area west of the Columbia River Gorge.