Volunteer Activities Help Fund Trails Preservation

The hours OCTA volunteers spend on trails preservation can pay dividends far beyond the individual effort involved.

Annual reports of volunteer hours, miles and expenses help OCTA obtain Congressional dollars to support the federal agencies that manage and administer our trails. They also are important in determining Challenge Cost Share Project dollars and Land & Water Conservation Grants that support chapter and national trail preservation projects.

During 2003, OCTA members contributed 75,635 volunteer hours plus volunteered expenses, including mileage, for a total contribution valued at $1,526,014.

Under Congressional rules, the total federal funding granted to OCTA through Challenge Cost Share projects, cooperative agreements and other agency funding was $135,866.

Dividing OCTA's contribution by the federal funding received shows that OCTA contributed $11.23 for each Federal dollar received.

To help track contributions for 2004, OCTA Trails Liaisons Bill and Jeanne Watson have created a simple work sheet. Keep it handy and record your activities this year.

HOURS: Record activity hours, including planning, travel and activity time for attending conventions, symposiums, trail treks, trail marking, chapter meetings, etc. Record actual hours spent on these activities.

MILEAGE: Record vehicle miles driven planning and participating in trail activities.

EXPENSES: Record un-reimbursed planning, travel, and activity expenses, including lodging, air fare, materials and supplies, etc. Congress also gives us credit for trail-related food and meal expenses.

At the end of the year, send your completed report to:

Bill & Jeanne Watson
18 Warford Terrace
Orinda, CA 94563

Trails Volunteer Time & Expense Report -- Year 2004

Date	Trail Activity	Volunteer Hours	Related Expenses	Miles