Our Vision

Gorge Towns to Trails is an initiative to create a destination trekking network encircling the Columbia Gorge, connecting communities, rural areas, and wilderness trails. Included in that vision is the creation of new trails beyond heavily impacted visitor areas and a car-free transportation system to Gorge trailheads.

Project Highlight

Lyle Cherry Orchard

The 540-acre preserve near Lyle, Washington, owned by Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust, will undergo a transformation in the coming years. More than four miles of trail will be rerouted and added to the existing five-mile trail system. Two new loops are planned — one to highlight the site of the long-abandoned namesake cherry orchard and another that wraps around the iconic “Lyle” sign. The trail additions are the product of seven years of careful planning, public engagement, permitting, and trail plotting.

Project partner Washington Trails Association (WTA) will be leading weekend-long work parties throughout construction.

Community Partnerships Include

City of White Salmon
Columbia Gorge Tourism Alliance
Columbia Gorge Winegrowers Association
Gorge Owned
National Park Service
Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA)
Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)
Washington Trails Association

Friends of the Columbia Gorge

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This 13-mile trail segment will connect parks and established trails, as well as the communities of Underwood, White Salmon, Bingen, and Lyle. More info at gorgetownstotrails.org.
When completed, the Underwood to Lyle trail connection in the Gorge could look similar to this illustration. Existing projects that will play a key role in the Gorge Towns to Trails network include:

1. **Hood River Multimodal Bridge Project:** A vision to create a path for pedestrians and non-motorized bike traffic crossing between Hood River, Oregon, and Bingen and White Salmon, Washington.

2. **Lyle Cherry Orchard Trail Expansions & Reroute:** The existing trail system is being expanded to add four new miles of trail. Work will continue to find a direct connection into the township of Lyle.