



Trail Talk



From the Trail Manager

When I accepted the position of Trail Manager for the FKOHT in January, I reached a career-fulfilling goal. The chance to be part of a trail of this scale, at this part of its development, is truly an exciting, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. For that reason I take my position and responsibilities very seriously and promise to do my best in serving you -- the users, volunteers and staff of our trail. While there are growing pains ahead of us, the future promises great things to come.

Like many recreational facilities, we serve a number of diverse user groups that must all be accommodated. While we can't be everything to everyone, my goal is to serve all groups in the best way possible. Please feel free to contact our office anytime. Our staff is always willing to respond to your questions. As the trail manager of the FKOHT, I look forward working with you to create and maintain a world class trail, worthy of this beautiful setting in the Florida Keys.

Sincerely,
Tony

Anthony W. Knott



~ Presented by American Trails ~

Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail
FDEP Office of Greenways & Trails

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Welcome

We are pleased to present the first issue of the DEP/Office of Greenways & Trails (OGT)/ Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail (FKOHT) newsletter. It is an outreach tool designed to share information about events, activities and progress on the trail's development. Our goal is to keep trail users and the Keys communities up-to-date and well informed about ways to enjoy and support the FKOHT.

There is much going on in our trails and bridges along the U.S.1 corridor. We partner with many other agencies to keep the corridor safe, clean and beautiful. In the next few months you will see a lot of physical changes taking place along the corridor. We're very excited about these improvements and will do our best to minimize any disruptions or inconveniences associated with the construction.

Please contact us if you have any questions and give us your input. We want to hear from you!



FKOHT Bridge
Photo by John Moran

Volunteers

FKOHT held the first Volunteer Appreciation picnic on Friday, April 24 at Curry Hammock State Park. Our many trail volunteers have either adopted a bridge or portion of the trail and take pride in keeping it clean. Fifteen volunteers as well as several trail and park staff enjoyed the delicious pulled pork prepared by OGT staff member Steve Stanfill. Thanks to all who made this great event possible.



Trail Volunteers



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Florida Keys Overseas
Heritage Trail
3 La Croix Court
Key Largo, FL 33037

Telephone: (305) 853-3571
Fax: (305) 853-3574

FloridaGreenwaysAndTrails.com

FKOHT Staff

Anthony (Tony) Knott
Trail Manager

Cristina Lindley
Public Outreach Coordinator

Patricia S. (Trish) Smith
Construction Projects Manager

Monica Woll
Trail Specialist

Shelley Welch
Administrative Assistant

Trail Rangers:
Mario Gamero
Brent Hilliard
Scott Parker
Manny Saumell
Steve Stanfill

Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail

2009 FKOHT Bicycle & Pedestrian Trail Counts

LOCATION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	TOTAL
Pennekamp State Park	6,101	6,396	5,631	4,418	22,546
MM 93	1,095	1,100	2,252	1,617	6,064
Lower Matecumbe	4,248	8,038	4,182	2,267	18,735
Long Key Bridge	995	2,257	55,220	62,898	121,370
Grassy Key Trail	7,954	1,666	2,711	1,725	14,056
Pigeon Key Bridge	52,246	32,073	56,390	27,635	168,344
Saddlebunch Trail	441	1,578	1,870	1,137	5,026
Stock Island Trail	17,742	19,259	16,599	12,796	49,797
Big Pine Key			6,084	2,702	8,786
Total	90,822	72,367	134,340	117,195	414,724

Trail and Bridge Construction Projects

Patricia Smith (Trish), OGT Construction Projects Manager, has been very busy working on FKOHT 2009-2012 projects. The construction project list below will give you a glimpse of what OGT/FKOHT will be doing in 2009. OGT was also able to receive stimulus funding for the Lower Sugarloaf Bridge and the Key Largo Trailhead for 2009. Call (305) 853-3571 for more information.

Construction Projects Timeline	
Bow Channel Bridge	In Construction
Channel 2 Bridge	June
Channel 5 Trail	Mid June
Grassy Key Trail	June
Key Largo Trailhead	June
Lower Sugarloaf Bridge	June
Missouri-Little Duck Bridge	July
Ohio-Bahia Honda Bridge	July
Ohio-Missouri Bridge	July
Park Channel Bridge	In construction
Ramrod to Big Pine	Mid-June