



# THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM



## Continental Divide National Scenic Trail

In tribute of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, following is testimony from Senate Report 827 of 1968: “Designed to accommodate riders and hikers, the Continental Divide Trail would pass through some of the most scenic areas in the country. The trail would span spectacular, wild mountain country, rich in the early history of the West. The route affords views of perpetual ice-fields and of awesome peaks. It passes hundreds of alpine lakes and streams teeming with native trout. The high mountains are home to many species of game, including the bighorn sheep, mule deer, and bear.... The designation of the Continental Divide Trail represents an attempt to make available by trail a stretch of country which has historical interest and charm and bisects the Western United States. The committee does recognize that no such contiguous trail has ever, in fact, existed. However, the committee believes that the trail should be regarded as calling attention to the grandeur and esthetic qualities of the Continental Divide, and that it will add significantly to the Nation's appreciation of its priceless natural heritage.”

The vision for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail is to: “Complete the Trail to connect people and communities to the Continental Divide by providing scenic, high-quality, primitive hiking and horseback riding experiences, while preserving the significant natural, historic, and cultural resources along the Trail” Leadership Council, 2004.

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