

SOUTHERN OREGON'S NEWS SOURCE

Mail Tribune *Discover Life Daily*

Jacksonville will get new trail

July 21, 2009

JACKSONVILLE

Federal stimulus money will bring construction by a newly formed Northwest Youth Corps group of a long planned trail in the hills south of town.

This has been a dream for the last 18 years, to have a path that goes around that southern part of Jacksonville, said Larry Smith, executive director of the Jacksonville Woodlands Association. It's taken a lot of agencies to pull it off.

Surveys for the project were completed 10 years ago when the Petard Ditch Trail was built. The new trail, a 2.3-mile route that connects Cady Road to Highway 238, will be named for the late Liz Braislin, who left a legacy fund to help with route construction.

Besides the main trail, two new, half-mile-long routes named Sugar Pine and White Oak will provide links to other trails.

Smith estimates construction could take as long as four weeks. Youth Corps services are valued at as much as \$7,000 weekly, and the woodlands association must provide a match of \$1,000 per week. Part of the match will come from the Bureau of Land Management, which has awarded the association \$2,500 in community service funds. The rest will come from the Braislin legacy fund.

Youth Corps members will begin trail work on Monday.

Tony Boom, for the Mail Tribune