

## IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

The Plan proposes the **development of more than 200 miles of additional trail to complete the spine** of the Palmetto Trail. The Opinion of Probable Cost estimates a total cost of \$21.5 million to develop all gap alignments.

Annual maintenance costs for the completed Palmetto Trail (both existing passages and proposed gap alignments) are estimated at \$737,000. A **funding strategy** for seeking trail development dollars and long-term funding for maintenance costs is included in the Plan. The task will require a significant ongoing fundraising effort by PCF staff, board, and the many state and local partners of the Palmetto Trail.



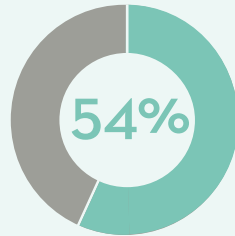
**PALMETTO**  
CONSERVATION

## THE VALUE OF COMPLETING & EXPANDING THE PALMETTO TRAIL

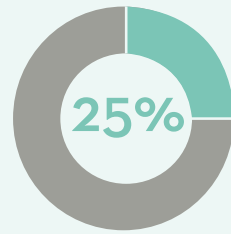
South Carolina's outdoor recreation generates:

- **\$18 billion** in consumer spending
- **201,000** in direct South Carolina jobs
- **\$4.7 billion** in wages and salaries
- **\$1.0 billion** in state and local tax revenue

According to the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation generates nationally more annual consumer spending than motor vehicles and parts, pharmaceuticals, and household utilities, and creates more jobs than the construction industry.



**54% of South Carolina residents participate in outdoor recreation each year.**



**Creating access to attractive, safe, and accessible places for physical activity – such as the Palmetto Trail – could encourage a 25% increase in the percentage of those exercising regularly throughout the week.**

Sources:

<http://www.outdoorindustry.org/advocacy/recreation/economy.html>, retrieved January 2014.

<http://www.outdoorindustry.org/advocacy/recreation/>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2002). Guide to Community Preventive Services.

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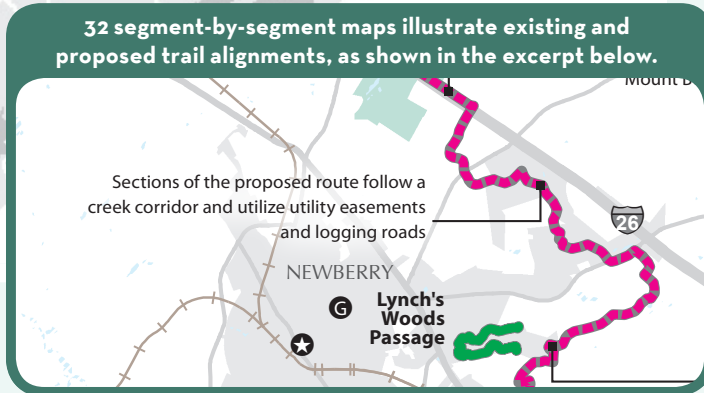
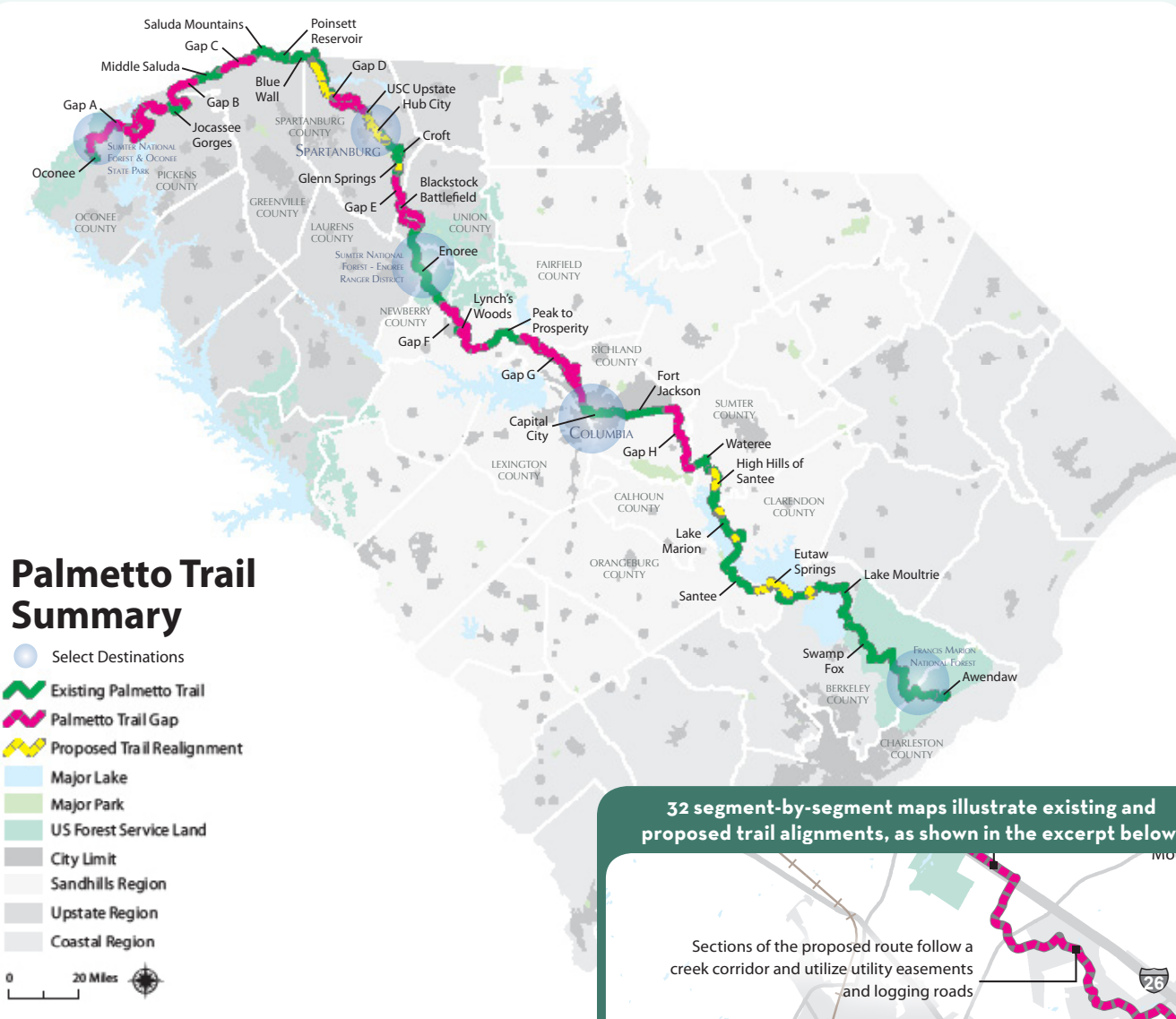
Let's  
**FINISH**  
the  **TRAIL**



## OVERVIEW

The Palmetto Trail is a signature project of the Palmetto Conservation Foundation (PCF). This **cross-state trail**, originally envisioned in 1994, extends from South Carolina's mountains to its coast and **links numerous communities**, destinations, and recreation opportunities along the way.

The *Palmetto Trail Statewide Master Plan* establishes a **ten-year vision** for completion and expansion of the Palmetto Trail. The Plan is **commissioned by PCF** with support from Boeing Corporation and the South Carolina Parks, Recreation, & Tourism department.



## VISION FOR THE PALMETTO TRAIL

The Palmetto Trail is a **well-maintained, continuous, off-road trail** that stretches from the mountains to the coast of South Carolina. It is accessible to a variety of trail users and **serves as a spine for a regional bicycle, pedestrian, and trail network that links South Carolina communities** to the trail and to one another. Regionally and nationally recognized as a **safe, scenic, and visitor-friendly** attraction, the Palmetto Trail supports outdoor recreation and active transportation and contributes to the **health, economic vitality, and quality of life** of South Carolina residents and local communities.

## COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN

The Plan takes a **comprehensive look at short- and long-term needs** of the Palmetto Trail. The User Needs Analysis reflects:

- Existing Trail Data
- Public Comments and Trail User Perceptions
- Stakeholder Feedback
- Field Work and Aerial Imagery Review

**Recommendations of the Plan address the following needs and opportunities:**

- Proposed Trail Alignments to Finish the Palmetto Trail (Chapter 3)
- Proposed Re-alignments of Selected Palmetto Trail Passages (Chapter 3)
- Priority Areas for Expanding the Palmetto Trail (Chapter 4)
- A Cohesive Marketing & Branding Strategy (Chapter 5)
- Design Guidance for Trail Wayfinding Signage (Chapter 6)
- A Management and Maintenance Plan (Chapter 7)

The final chapter provides a ten-year, phased implementation plan for all recommendations of the Plan identifying short-, medium-, and long-term projects