



# YEP Newsletter

## 07.14.2023

### The Latest at YEP

This week we started a new project at Russian Jack Springs Park. We are constructing some of the only singletrack mountain bike trails in the area. These trails are designed for beginner and intermediate mountain bikers and intended to provide convenient urban access to mountain bike trails for those new to the sport. In order to get to our end goal, we have to widen existing trails and also put in larger rocks and turns to create more challenging terrain for riders to improve their skills. This Friday, we are going to Portage to visit the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center and hike to Byron Glacier.



Written by Enzo Rangel, Senior Crew Member





## Work Safety

- Keep tools clean and sharp to reduce risk of injury.
- Wear bug spray!

## Community Corner

Thank you to Alaska Trails for working with us on this week's project at Russian Jack Springs Park! In addition, our Trail Contractor Alex who is working with us all summer is joining us from Alaska Trails.







## Crew Member of the Week



### Jayson

Jayson's favorite tool is loppers. In their free time, Jayson likes to play video games and football. Their favorite part about YEP is getting to be outdoors.



# Education and Recreation



Last Friday morning, YEP crews volunteered at the Musk Ox Farm in Palmer by removing potentially dangerous debris from fields and moving hay to feed musk oxen. In addition to helping out around the farm, farm staff answered our questions about musk oxen and introduced us to several of the animals.

In the afternoon, crews made their way to Hatcher Pass to hike the Gold Mint Trail. The trail followed the Little Susitna River through the woods, and included views of large beaver dams in the river. The hike was beautiful despite foggy conditions!







# The Weeks Ahead

## Projects

Next week, YEP crews will continue constructing singletrack mountain bike trails in Russian Jack Springs Park. This will open up a large section of the park that currently has few trails to a new type of recreation.





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