



Hells Bells - July 2023



Invite - Tenderfoot Bumblebee Survey - August 5th

Lace up your boots! We're planning a **second bumblebee survey** for this summer (read more about our June outing [here](#)) — and this one will be a hike-in, high-elevation survey for intrepid volunteers.

As in previous years, we're collaborating with the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation to complete the [Pacific Northwest Bumblebee Atlas](#): a community science initiative informing pollinator conservation across our region. This year, we've been asked to check out a high elevation site — so we're hiking up the Tenderfoot Trail into the Wallawas

to snag bumblebees off fireweed, heather, and gentians.

This outing will take a full day and will require hauling gear and ice up into the mountains and back out again. It should be a great time! If you'd like to pair a beautiful summer hike with a few hours of fun, informative, and meaningful work for pollinators, join us!

What: High elevation, hike-in bumblebee survey

When: Saturday, August 5 — plan for a full day

Where: Tenderfoot Trailhead (with carpool options from Enterprise)

For further details and to RSVP, contact Christina deVillier at:

christina@hellscanyon.org



Larissa Gordon, GHCC's newest board member

Introducing New Board Member Larissa Gordon

GHCC is thrilled to welcome new board member Larissa Gordon to our team! She moved from the east coast to the Pacific Northwest to reconnect with her family and deep roots in Northeast Oregon. She has a B.S. in Evolutionary Ecology and Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Colorado, at Boulder. She considers herself a "bi-coastal" woman who splits her time on the Oregon coast and deep in the mountains. Currently, she's a Digital Media Manager for The Oregonian and Here is Oregon, a publication celebrating the

people, places, and experiences that make our state uniquely Oregon. Welcome Larissa!



Camas to Condors partners trek across the Zumwalt Prairie. Photo Credit: Jamie Dawson

Planning Together for Resilient, Vibrant Waterways

On July 20th, GHCC, the [Camas to Condors](#) partners, and The Nature Conservancy (TNC), hosted a workshop for regional restoration practitioners focused on interweaving climate adaptation principles and Nez Perce cultural outcomes into riparian restoration projects. About 40 people attended the workshop, including conservation partners, natural resources professionals, and Nez Perce tribal community members.

We focused our discussions on a three mile section of upper Camp Creek, on The Nature Conservancy's Zumwalt Prairie Preserve. This section of the creek is in the early planning stages for a restoration project, which TNC is designing in collaboration with Trout Unlimited and Nez Perce Tribe Fisheries. Camp Creek is a key steelhead creek with headwaters in an important tribal gathering area—so, an ideal place to bring together tribal members and restoration practitioners for discussions on cultural survival and climate adaptation.

Following the workshop, attendees have access to a restoration planning tool developed by the Nez Perce Tribe and Point Blue Conservation Science. This tool helps restoration practitioners design riparian plant mosaics that are climate resilient and also provide cultural resources, such as foods, medicines, and other materials. We hope this tool will inform the

restoration of Camp Creek, along with many other restoration projects on waterways throughout the Greater Hells Canyon Region.



Update on Federal Mature and Old Growth Tree Protection

Comments were due on July 20th. Thanks to the efforts of GHCC members and many, many others, **over a half million people called on the Forest Service to protect mature and old growth trees!** Learn more [here](#).

Click [here](#) if you want to check out GHCC's original blog on this important rulemaking.



Getting Dirty on the Blue Mountains Trail

This July, Greater Hells Canyon Council was pleased to continue partnering with the Wallowa Mountains Hells Canyon Trails Association to complete much needed volunteer trail maintenance along the Blue Mountains Trail in the Southern Wallowa Mountains. Read the full blog post by Trail Coordinator, Pip Redding [here](#).



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Come See Us at PCT Trail Days!

In just a few weeks, The Blue Mountains Trail will once again present as a sponsor of the PCT Trail Days in Cascade Locks, Oregon. This August 18th and 19th, visit the BMT booth, learn about GHCC's progress, sign-up to get involved, and enter to win prizes. The sixteenth annual PCT Trail Days event celebrates the entire hiking community and especially those who choose to have the walk of a lifetime on the Pacific Crest Trail. There will be vendors with special deals, gear repair, music, raffles, food, and a whole crowd of beautiful wild humans. Maybe you'll be inspired to have an adventure of your own on the



Interested in Volunteering with GHCC?

There are many ways to volunteer with GHCC and the Blue Mountains Trail. We are always thrilled to work with our members, supporters, and fellow conservation advocates. We are offering some new and exciting opportunities for you to join us to connect, protect, and restore the Greater Hells Canyon Region.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, be it at a trail stewardship event, doing wildlife and wilderness surveys, monitoring and community science projects, or joining us on a GHCC-led outing, we've created a survey that will help us know where to direct you and which opportunities to send your way. Completing this survey should take 5 minutes or less of your time. Thank you — we look forward to spending time with you!

[GHCC Volunteer Survey](#)



GHCC works to protect, connect, and restore the lands, waters, native species, and climate resiliency of the ecologically magnificent Greater Hells Canyon Region.

We have a big vision for the future of the Greater Hells Canyon Region, and your support is critical to making it happen. [Join us!](#)
- Emily Cain, GHCC Executive Director

By joining GHCC's River Runner program for \$10/month or more, we'll include a special gift celebrating GHCC and the Greater Hells Canyon Region.

[Find out more here, and sign up today!](#)

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