

Hells Bells - October 2026



A Night of Community in La Grande

It was wonderful to gather with our NE Oregon community for our Annual Fall Gala and Community Dinner. This year we all have been asked to step up for our forests, waterways, and wildlife of the Blue Mountains in big ways, and you met the challenge! It was a treat for us to gather and feel the love and care in the room.

A big thank you to those who attended and all of you who are part of the conservation community of NE Oregon - near and far!



Russell Mountain Overlook

Forest Plan & Roadless Rule: What's Next

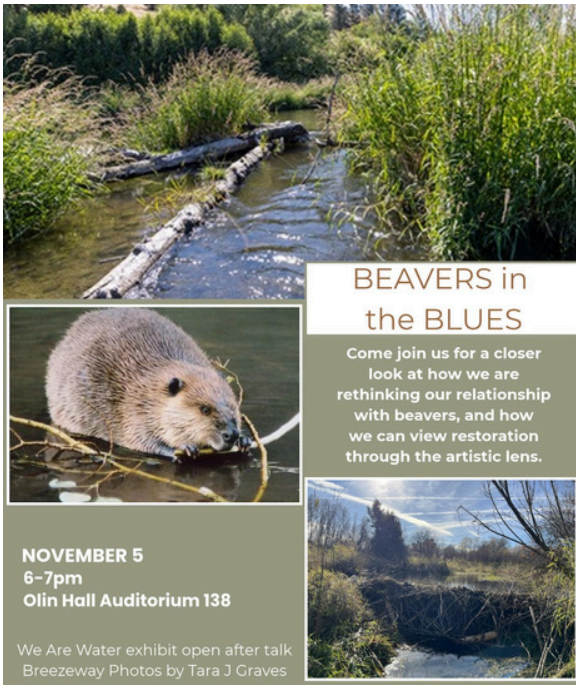
Thanksto all of you who took the time to comment on the draft forest plan for the Blue Mountains and the proposed repeal of the Roadless Rule. The turnout on both fronts was incredible – nearly 3,000 people commented on the Blues draft plan, and over 1 million commented on the Roadless Rule repeal! This is very heartening, to say the least.

In both instances, we're now waiting for the Forest Service to review public comments and respond in the next document (which will be a Final Environmental Impact Statement). We suspect we won't get any updates on either topic until the December holidays at the earliest.

In the meantime, **there's something very important for all of you to do - VOTE!** As you're very well aware, **election day is Tuesday, November 3, 2026**, and this election could not be more important for the many issues we all care about. Mailed ballots must be postmarked by election day, or you can turn them in at your county election office or at a Ballot Drop Box until 8 pm on election night.

You can find your county election office [here](#). Not sure where your nearest ballot drop box is? [Plug your address in here](#) or find your closest drop box on the [statewide list of ballot boxes](#).

Join Us in Walla Walla



BEAVERS in the BLUES

Come join us for a closer look at how we are rethinking our relationship with beavers, and how we can view restoration through the artistic lens.

NOVEMBER 5
6-7pm
Olin Hall Auditorium 138

We Are Water exhibit open after talk
Breezeway Photos by Tara J Graves

IAN WILSON STEWARDSHIP MANAGER GREATER HELLS CANYON COUNCIL



Beavers in the Blues

Thursday, November 5th, 6–7 p.m. | Olin Hall Auditorium 138, Whitman College, Walla Walla | Free

Join Stewardship Manager Ian Wilson and photographer Tara J Graves for an evening talk on beaver-based restoration and the art of rivers. Ian will share how beavers help heal streams, along with his restoration work in Walla Walla this year.

Tara, our 2026 Wild Blues Artist in Residence, has photographs on display that document the Wilson-Haun restoration project on the Wallowa River. Doors and the Sheehan Gallery open at 5:30 p.m.

[Learn more & RSVP here](#)

Other News We're following...

[Bend author climbs 200 feet up an ancient fir to see birds from above for new book](#)

We were excited to see GHCC Board Member and author Marina Richie featured on Central Oregon Daily news about her new book *Feathered Forests*. Catch her on tour across the West this fall and winter!

[Feathered Forest Book Tour & Events: 2026-2027](#)

[Map: 62% of national forests within 1/2 mile of backcountry roads](#)

A new interactive map from the Wilderness Society shows that Oregon's National Forests are the most roaded in the nation - nearly 90% of National Forest lands are within 1/2 mile of a road

[We Examined Who Actually Supported Repealing the Roadless Rule. The Results Tell a Remarkable Story.](#)

Who supported the repeal of the Roadless Rule (and who didn't)? More Than Just Parks reviewed the comments and summarized nicely.

[I Used to Plan for the Future of America's Forests. Now I Watch It Being Unraveled.](#)

A compelling piece on Blues forest planning.

[Loggers say Roadless Rule repeal won't solve their biggest challenges](#)

Repealing the Roadless Rule won't solve actual problems facing the timber industry.

[Asking What the Wallowa River Needs](#)

And to wrap up, here's a beautiful piece about the Wallowa River, fishing, and our wonderful Stewardship Manager Ian Wilson.

Let's Protect the Greater Hells Canyon Region Together



[Legacy Giving](#)



[Monthly Sustainer](#)



[Donate Now](#)

Greater Hells Canyon Council
PO Box 607
Enterprise, OR 97828
United States



If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please
(Unsubscribing is not supported in previews) .