



- 250,000 acres of public lands watchdogged
- 1 court victory for the Eastside Screens
- 2 new beaver co-existence practitioners
- 5 new thru-hikers on the Blue Mountains Trail
- 17 miles of trail maintained
- 6 community workshops
- 548 new supporters
- 66 new donors

GREATER HELLS CANYON COUNCIL

2023 was a year full of protecting our region from reckless land management decisions, connecting people and landscapes across jurisdictions, and growing community on the Blue Mountains Trail. Our mission remains steadfast: to connect, protect, and restore the wild lands, waters, native species and habitats of the Greater Hells Canyon Region, ensuring a legacy of healthy ecosystems for future generations.

Protections



Two of our biggest efforts this year were our court victory and work to protect the Eastside Screens, **the only rule that safeguards mature and old growth trees across 7 million acres east of the Cascades**, and our work to shape the next 50 years of public lands management through the Blue Mountain Forest Revisions process.

Connections



We launched the NE Oregon Beaver Co-Existence Project, **supported the Camas to Condors project in launching its tribal youth conservation corps and completing a conservation Action Plan for the watershed of Joseph Creek**, facilitated citizen science outings and bumblebee surveys and rallied to breach the Snake River dams.

Blue Mtns Trail



The BMT was **recognized as a Signature Trail by the Oregon Trail Coalition**, we hired our first full-time BMT Coordinator, hosted 6 community workshops, maintained 17+ miles of trail, and created a public engagement survey that received over 240+ responses. We were thrilled to see 5 new hikers complete the full 530+ mile route.

Director's Note

While we wait for more snow to blanket the valleys and mountains here in NE Oregon, we've been taking some time to reflect on 2023 and plan for the year ahead. Our team is thrilled with our accomplishments this year, especially our decisive court win regarding the Eastside Screens, our support of the Camas to Condors project, and our engagement with hundreds of new individuals who are excited about the opportunity to use the Blue Mountains Trail as a tool for conservation, stewardship, and recreation.

With a relatively new staff team, 2023 was a year of learning and growth for all of us at GHCC. While we are thrilled with our new staff additions, it is also with sadness (and kudos!) that we announce our longtime Connections Coordinator Christina de Villier will be moving on to new adventures. Christina was absolutely instrumental in building out our Connections Program over the last five years – fostering relationships and collaborations between many different groups in the Greater Hells Canyon Region. We are incredibly grateful to Christina and look forward to continuing her good work!

With the end of year approaching, we're also making one last fundraising push to hit our goal for the year. **Greater Hells Canyon Council acts as a voice at the table for those who care about the ecological integrity of the region.** Your support is invaluable in ensuring we can continue to influence land management decisions so that wildlands, waters, and native species can thrive.

[Donate Now](#)

We have big plans for 2024 and are excited to hit the ground running after a little rest and relaxation with our families and friends for the holidays. We hope you will be doing the same.

Thanks for being a part of our community!

With gratitude,

Emily Cain
Executive Director

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!

[Volunteer with GHCC](#)



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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