

Hells Bells - October 2023



Volunteers wade, knee-deep, to complete the construction of a Beaver Dam Analogue (BDA)

Beaver Coexistence in Action

GHCC coordinates the coexistence arm of the Northeast Oregon Beaver Working Group, and we've been busy this field season! Across the three Northeast Oregon counties, we and our fellow beaver believers are learning to solve human-beaver conflicts and mimic beavers' good works on the landscape.

Earlier this month, we were thrilled to attend [Powder Basin Watershed Council's](#) Beaver Dam Analogue (BDA) construction workshop, where we got our hands chilly alongside volunteers from around the region weaving imitation beaver dams to improve a tributary of camp creek. The day's work showed us an inspiring glimpse of just how quickly beavers can transform landscapes into lifescapes — by lunchtime, ankle-deep water had become knee-deep on the upstream side of each little dam.



Beaver Dam Analogue (BDA) built by volunteers at the event

We've also recently launched a coexistence website, neoregonbeavers.org, which includes contact information for beaver coexistence professionals in each NE Oregon county, as well as resources celebrating the pivotal role that beavers can play in ecology, climate and wildfire resilience, and drought relief — if we can learn to live with them. Feel free to reach out to christina@hellscanyon.org (or any of the practitioners listed on the website) if you want to learn more about beavers (or share your own enthusiasm!). We'll talk your ear off! And while you're out and about on the landscape this (beautiful) fall, please also keep the ongoing [NE Oregon Beaver Survey](#) in mind. This project helps wildlife professionals understand more about beaver habits and needs in our mission area. Submit your beaver sightings [here!](#)

Fall 2023 Gala - Great Night Spent in Community



Our 2023 Annual Gala is behind us, and we are overwhelmed and honored by the support of members, volunteers, and community partners.

Thanks to you, we raised more than \$45,000 in support of Greater Hells Canyon Council! We are so grateful to this community. These conversations, with their many words of encouragement, new ideas, and historical perspectives, recharge our energy. We will use this momentum as we continue our work to connect, protect, and restore the Greater Hells Canyon Region for decades to come.

Introducing New GHCC Board Member: Sarah Cuddy

GHCC is thrilled to welcome our newest board member - Sarah Cuddy! Sarah lives in Baker with her family. She has a warm and outgoing personality and we are lucky she is all-in with GHCC's mission to protect, connect, and restore the critical Blue Mountains EcoRegion. Sarah is a lifelong Oregonian and spent much of her career in outdoor education, leading experiential expeditions all across the West. She also worked as a community organizer for a statewide conservation non-profit and is



passionate about protecting Oregon's wild places. She is currently the Regional Coordinator for OSU Extension's Outdoor School Program. Sarah has an M.S. in Education from Eastern Oregon University and a B.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Oregon. In her free time, Sarah enjoys exploring remote parts of eastern Oregon's high deserts and forests with her family.



120+ people gathered at Mountain Supply in Bend to hear about GHCC and the BMT

BMT Fall Event Series & Survey

The BMT Fall Event Series is in full swing! These events – held throughout the region – are introducing the trail to potential users and giving interested community members of all kinds the opportunity to offer feedback and learn how to plan a trip (from a day hike to all 530+ miles!) on the Blue Mountains Trail. Make plans to attend an event near you and let us

know via our [Events and Outing](#) page.

Upcoming Events:

Joseph | Wallowology | November 3 @ 7:00pm

Boise | Idaho Mountain Touring | November 15th @ 6pm

Portland | Mazama's Hiking Club | November 15th @ 5:30-7pm

La Grande | Eastern Oregon University | Date + Time TBD

Walla Walla | Location TBD | Date + Time TBD

The Blue Mountains Trail survey is live! Please take 5 minutes and [fill out this survey](#) – it will provide our team with valuable feedback that will inform our future trail planning efforts.

Other News We're Following...

Blue Mountains Trail in Bend Bulletin!

[Read the article here](#)

Baker City Watershed Project Update

[Read the article here](#)

New video from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

This video is about Wolf Dispersal Behavior. Take note that the path wolves take through the Blue Mountains demonstrates the importance of this region as an east to west connectivity corridor.

[Check out the video](#)

New blog from the Josephy Center

Read about the Nez Perce Tribe's new efforts to reintroduce condors and about the history of this magnificent bird in our region.

[Read the blog here](#)

Interested in Volunteering with GHCC?



Volunteer 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 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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