

Hells Bells - November 2023



SURCP "State of the Beaver" Conference

Last week GHCC staffers Christina deVillier and Nash Wadhams road-tripped with other "Beaver Believers" from NE Oregon to attend the South Umpqua Community Rural Partnership's "State of the Beaver" Conference in Canyonville, OR.

The conference, hosted by the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians' Seven Feathers Casino, was an opportunity to share stories, successes, and challenges in beaver restoration, mimicry, policy, and more with speakers and attendees from all over the world. In a nutshell, we came together to celebrate and grow the good work of collaborating with another species for a more resilient and beautiful world.

GHCC has been working with many partners in our region over the last several years to define and prioritize restoration opportunities for beavers and their habitats in our landscape. [Read more](#) on our blog from Connections Coordinator, Christina de Villier.

2024 CALENDAR PREVIEW

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 <small>Black History Month</small>	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 <small>Valentine's Day</small>	15	16	17
18	19 <small>Presidents' Day</small>	20	21	22	23	24



Burrowing Owls gather above their burrows within the Zumwalt Preserve, the largest intact bunchgrass prairie in the Pacific Northwest.

Order your 2024 Calendar!

Our 2024 calendars are now [available for order](#)! This year, our wall calendar celebrates the grandeur of a wild, intact, and connected Greater Hells Canyon Region and features beautiful artwork and prose from Robin Coen and Marina Richie, as the inaugural [Wild Blues AiR \(Artist-in-Residence\) Program](#) participants. These calendars make great gifts – order yours today!



#GivingTuesday

Our [Giving Tuesday campaign](#) is now live. This year, we are thrilled to share that a generous donor has pledged to MATCH \$5,000 towards our Blue Mountains Trail efforts next year. In 2024, we are excited to be tackling new and exciting projects, including restoring miles of trail and a bridge in the North Fork Umatilla Wilderness, replacing signage, maintaining trails, and developing shorter trail itineraries for day hikers and backpackers alike. [Learn more about the campaign](#) and [double your impact](#) today.

Minam Wildlife Area Expansion Complete

Last week, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife announced the completion of the Minam Wildlife Area expansion. This builds on decades of efforts by Eastern Oregon advocates who worked tirelessly to protect and expand the Eagle Cap Wilderness through the years. Combined, the 361,000-acre Eagle Cap Wilderness and Minam State Recreation Area, now form a block of public land larger than Yellowstone National Park. Learn more in ODFW's press release [here](#).



New Report Shows Benefits of River Democracy Act

A recently released report found that 1.3 million Oregonians (almost 1 in 3!) get their drinking water from sources that would receive increased protections from the River Democracy Act – including the Beaver Creek, the original drinking water source (now the emergency backup source) for La Grande. Read the report [here](#).

Webcast Recording: the Future of Eastern Oregon Forests



In October, our partners at Oregon Wild hosted GHCC's Conservation Director Jamie Dawson and Dr. David Mildrexler from Eastern Oregon Legacy Lands for a virtual discussion about the importance of our Blue Mountains forests and the current forest planning process that relaunched this summer. If you missed it you can check out the recording [here](#).

Other News We're Following...

Our friends at Fishtrap are offering a year-long writer's workshop with Amy Irvine
[Read more and sign up here](#)

"The Deepest Canyon You've Never Heard Of"
GHCC and Hells Canyon featured in "Here is Oregon".
[Read the article here](#)

"Leave it to Beavers? Not if you're a Wolf"
This article from The New York Times examines the effect that wolf predation has on beavers as ecosystem engineers.
[Read the article here](#)

Nez Perce Tribe Receives Recognition for Conservation Efforts
Read about the Nez Perce Tribe's fight to breach the Lower Snake River dams and the Camas to Condors project.
[Read the article 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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