



Hells Bells - January 2021

Welcoming you to the new year at GHCC!

As this year starts with a new administration in the White House and a new face representing NE Oregon in the House of Representatives, it brings changes to the political landscapes in which we do our work. At the federal level, we are heartened to see an immediate focus on climate action. Yet at the same time, holdover actions from the Trump administration pose real threats to our region.

21" Rule Unlawfully Eliminated

In its final days, the Trump administration eliminated the 21" rule which has protected old and large trees across the eastern Cascades, Ochocos, Strawberries, Blues, and Wallowas for nearly 30 years. As of today there are no longer any restrictions on the logging of old and large trees across over 9 million acres of federal forests in eastern Oregon and Washington. In fact, the decision encourages the logging of large and old Douglas and grand fir across the region.

As we continue to evaluate our options for overturning this decision, the most immediate path is for the Biden administration to reverse this action in its review of Trump-era policy changes.

With the sheer volume of [environmental policies currently under review](#), we need your help elevating this issue.

STAND WITH US BY ASKING YOUR SENATORS TO HELP PUT OLD GROWTH PROTECTIONS BACK IN PLACE



Brock Evans on the Snake River. Source: Wake-Robin Press.

'Premembering' Brock Evans

As we work to challenge the 21" rule change, Andy Kerr's recent blog post 'Premembering' Brock Evans, a GHCC board member and conservation hero, couldn't have come at a better time. Our region wouldn't be what it is without Brock's endlessly applied pressure and a career filled with conservation successes few thought were possible. He is an example to all of us! With Andy's approval, we republished his piece celebrating Brock's achievements [on our blog](#).

New to our Staff and Board



Jared Kennedy is hired as Development Director

Jared has been working with us for the past six months, leading the [Blue Mountains Trail](#) project. In January he joined us full time as our Development Director and immediately got to work identifying opportunities to ramp up our development efforts. He is enjoying getting to know our long-time supporters and creating new ways to engage our members with our work. Prior to joining GHCC, Jared was the co-founder and CEO of Outdoor Project, and he lives in Portland, Oregon.



Lindsay Schuelke joins GHCC's Board of Directors

Lindsay has a diverse background working with people and for causes. She went to school for Radiography in Wisconsin, but when she ventured west five years ago, the stunning landscapes and biodiversity of the region struck an enduring chord. Her first work in the environmental field involved fundraising for The Nature Conservancy, and from there she worked as Partnership Manager with SOLVE. Lindsay now works in sustainability at Forth. Upon joining GHCC's board, she has immediately involved herself in supporting our fundraising efforts. She lives in Portland,

Oregon.

Other news you may have missed...

Oregon's Thriving Recreation Economy

Travel Oregon, in partnership with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, the Oregon Office of Outdoor Recreation, Oregon Department Fish & Wildlife, and Earth Economics, [released a new Outdoor Recreation Economic Impact Study](#) that demonstrates the importance of Oregon's vast range of outdoor recreation opportunities to the state's economy. The study finds that in 2019 outdoor recreation supported more than 224,000 full- and part-time jobs statewide and generated \$9.3 billion in wages and compensation. In NE Oregon, outdoor recreation supported 4,300 full- and part-time jobs and local recreationist and visitors spent \$516 million in the region.

GHCC sponsors Winter Fishtrap

We [joined](#) a number of other great organizations that work in the Greater Hells Canyon Region to sponsor the [Winter Fishtrap](#) this month. This year's theme was Resilience, focusing on the role it plays in our communities, our cultures, our world, and our lives.

Blue Mountains Trail in the Baker City Herald

The Baker City Herald [published a fantastic feature](#) on the Blue Mountains Trail and Renee Patrick's recent solo thru-hike. The in-depth piece captures the excitement surrounding the progress on the trail. [Sign up to our email list](#) to receive regular trail updates.



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

[Join us](#) in protecting the Greater Hells Canyon Region today and for future generations!

Darilyn Parry Brown, GHCC Executive Director

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