



## Hells Bells - June 2023



## Lessons Learned from Stop B2H

### Guest Blog from Fuji Kreider

Fuji Kreider and her team reflect on Oregon utility siting processes that heavily favor industry. [Read more here](#) for “Top Five Lessons Learned” in the Stop B2H fight that ultimately lost in the Oregon Supreme Court earlier this year.

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Connections Coordinator Christina deVillier briefs the bumblebee survey team at Buckhorn Overlook.

## GHCC's June Outings in Reflection

This month GHCC staff, members and friends headed into our mission area to conduct a survey for the Bumblebee Atlas Project at Buckhorn Overlook and the staff rafted the Grande Ronde River from Minam Store to Mud Creek.

Outreach and Membership Coordinator, Nash Wadhams reflects on participating in these outings and their lifelong love of critter observation and deep appreciation for the natural world. Nash is looking forward to getting members and friends out in the field this year and in years to come - surveying for bumblebees, sharing in the discovery and appreciation of nature, offering presentations at homes and venues across the Blue Mountains, ground-truthing proposed Forest Service projects, and getting folks out on the river -- please join us!

[Read the full blog post.](#)

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300 kayakers gather to send a clear message to "free the snake" from the slack water behind one of the Snake River dams. Photo credit: Ben Moon

## Last Chance to Comment on Removing the Lower Snake River Dams!

Our deadline is July 3rd to participate in the White House Council on Environmental Quality's public comment period informing their plans to restore Columbia Basin fisheries, honor federal obligations to Tribes, and ensure that the region's clean energy future doesn't come at the expense of its iconic salmon runs. This is a tremendous opportunity to remove barriers to incredibly high quality habitat that will be critical to the survival of salmon and steelhead in a climate-changed future. Please take 3 minutes to [submit your comment here!](#) And check out [some quick facts on how these dams affect Northeast Oregon.](#)

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## Why Beavers Matter: Beavers in the Blues

**On Thursday, July 6th, join us at Wallowa Lake Lodge at 7:30 PM for a presentation** by GHCC's Connections Coordinator Christina deVillier and Ian Wilson of Grande Ronde Model Watershed about the importance of beavers in Oregon's Blue Mountains. We'll sling cool facts about this amazing rodent, unpack why they're essential for ecological integrity and climate resilience, and share the work we're doing to restore them to Northeast Oregon.

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## Mountains and Music: A thru hike of the Wallowas from Juniper Jam to Pine Fest

Join Go Wild and Greater Hells Canyon Council on this 4 night / 5 day excursion into Oregon's largest wilderness, book-ended by two of Eastern Oregon's premier music festivals: [Juniper Jam](#) in Enterprise & [Pine Fest](#) in Halfway. During your trek, dine on hyper-local gourmet meals, sip on craft signature cocktails, explore incredible alpine lakes and vistas, and try your hand at one of many custom activities: fly fishing, hatchet throwing, foraging lessons, star gazing, and more.

Expect to carry a backpack weighing close to ~40lbs, including all of your own gear plus a portion of camp food. Daily hike distances range from 5-10 miles and up to 3000' elevation gain. Come ready to listen to great tunes, hike, camp, and enjoy the serenity of the wild.

[Book Here](#)

**Juniper Jam:** Sept 1-2

**Pine Fest:** Sept 8-9

**Total Hike Distances Sept 3-7:** 32 miles, 7200'

**Prices:** \$1250-\$1750

**Inclusions:**

- Full festival tickets to both Juniper Jam and Pine Fest
- Commemorative Camp Mug
- Contribution to our \$1500 Donation to GHCC and their Blue Mountains Trails work
- Local, professional, naturalist guides from Go Wild and GHCC's Blue Mountains Trail

Coordinator Pip Redding

- All chef prepared meals, beverages & cocktail package (add on at checkout)
- Backpacking gear as need - tents, backpacks, pads, group gear, kitchen, etc. (excluding sleeping bags) - we'll send you a packing list upon booking
- Camp games, activities- we are professional wilderness fun facilitators
- Shuttle back to cars in Enterprise if needed (add on at checkout)
- Professional photographer & download link to photos
- Meet & greet evening before
- Endless adventure, new friends, an experience of a lifetime!



## Volunteer Trail Maintenance Opportunity on the Blue Mountains Trail - July 6-13

Grab your gloves and join the Wallowa Mountain Hells Canyon Trails Association, GHCC's Pip Redding and Mike Beaty on the trail in the Southern Wallowas!

This series of day trips will provide much needed improvements to Section 1 of the BMT and several adjacent trails above the beautiful upper Imnaha. Volunteers can join any or all days as needed. Expect great camping at Twin Lakes Campground and a sense of comradery and accomplishment. Work will consist of logout and brushing on Twin Lakes #1874, Cold Springs #1882, Deadman #1869, Sugarloaf E #1887 trails.

Please visit the WMHCTA website for [membership](#) and [registration](#). Contact [pip@hellscanyon.org](mailto:pip@hellscanyon.org) or [admin@wmhcta.org](mailto:admin@wmhcta.org) with questions.

[Sign Up](#)

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## Other News We're Following...

**Former GHCC/HPCP Executive Director Ric Bailey weighs in on the logging to stop wildfires debate**

[Read the article here...](#)

**A great example of how traditional knowledge can be used to dictate prescribed burning parameters**

[Using culturally significant birds to guide the timing of prescribed fires in the Klamath Siskiyou Bioregion](#)

**Pollinators need us!**

GHCC organizes native bee surveys to help the Xerces Society track important data for understanding population trends of these critical critters.

[This article is about the plight of the honey bee.](#)

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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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