



Strawberry Mountain Wilderness. Photo by Renee Patrick.

Blue Mountains Trail Update

February 2021

Thank you for signing up to receive news and updates on the Blue Mountains Trail. In January we completed work on a plan that will guide our efforts for the coming years, and we are now engaging more people, organizations, and government agencies (including many of you reading this update) with the project and the work ahead.

Continue reading for upcoming presentations, recent press, and other trail updates from the past few months. Visit the <u>Blue Mountains Trail page</u> on our website for more trail content.

Upcoming Presentations

Oregon Wild Webcast: Breaking Ground on the Blue Mountains Trail

Wednesday, **Feb. 17** @ **6pm.** Oregon Wild hosts the four thru-hikers and our Project Lead for a presentation on two initial thru-hikes of the Blue Mountains Trail. Don't miss the raffle prizes from <u>Six Moon Designs</u> — the proceeds benefit GHCC. <u>Sign up here</u>.

Oregon Outdoor Alliance Virtual Beer:30

Thursday, Feb. 25 @ **5pm.** This outdoor industry focused interactive presentation again features the key players in the Blue Mountains Trail effort and includes a discussion of industry trends around long distance hiking within a pandemic. This event is free for OOA Members and \$10 for guests. Sign up here.

In the News and Other Media



The Blues Beckon: Four Hikers Complete The New, 566-Mile Blue Mountains Trail by Jayson Jacoby was published in the <u>Baker City Herald</u> and <u>La Grande Observer</u> on January 23, 2021. The article featured our work done this past year on the trail, including stories from Renee Patrick's thru-hike.

The Trail Show podcast <u>featured</u> Renee "She-ra" Patrick sharing her experience thru-hiking the Blue Mountains Trail in a 20 minutes interview.



We also published a two-page Fact Sheet on the trail that can be downloaded from the <u>trail page</u> on our website.

Get Involved

We are already preparing to make the most of the summer ahead, including soliciting help from volunteers interested in trail maintenance efforts. We will provide handsaws and lopers for hikers hoping to experience sections of the trail and assist with brush clearing and removal of small downed trees. We are also exploring opportunities to partner with other trail maintenance organizations. If you are interested in being a part of these efforts, please email jared@hellscanyon.org (or simply reply to this email).



Hawkins Pass. Photo by Renee Patrick.

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

<u>Join us</u> in protecting the Greater Hells Canyon Region today and for future generations!

Darilyn Parry Brown, GHCC Executive Director

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