



Sunset at Buckhorn Overlook. Photo by Darilyn Parry Brown.

Hells Bells - March 2022

Welcome to spring in the Greater Hells Canyon Region. Birdsong and buttercups are welcome visitors to accompany the longer daylight hours. We embrace this annual emergence from winter, and cherish the ever changing seasons that are a source of the love that sustains our work.

If you are in the neighborhood, we hope you will join us for an Earth Day celebration at Terminal Gravity Brewpub in Enterprise. See below for more information on this fun event and for important opportunities to take action this April.

Earlier this month we shared the news that Darilyn Parry Brown will be stepping away later this year. We will share more about this transition as the year unfolds, but for now, we celebrate Darilyn's amazing work championing conservation in the region and building GHCC into a solid and thriving organization.



Photo of Terminal Gravity Brewpub by Talia Jean Photography.

Join us on April 21 at Terminal Gravity

Support GHCC on Earth Day 2022

We are thrilled to take part in [Earth Day Oregon](#), a program that highlights the work we do for our environment and encourages business sponsors to pledge their support for our work. This year, we have partnered with CNOC Outdoors, Terminal Gravity, Six Moon Designs, and Evermine.

Come join us for a happy hour celebration on **Thursday, April 21 from 3:30 - 5:00pm** at Terminal Gravity Brewing in Enterprise, Oregon. Terminal Gravity will donate 5% of all beverage sales at the brew pub for the week of Earth Day in support of the Blue Mountains Trail and other work in the region. [Please see our event page on Facebook](#) for more details and to share the event with others.

Stay tuned for more great ways to support GHCC and our business sponsors on Earth Day - Friday, April 22, 2022. THANK YOU EARTH DAY SPONSORS!



Share your views and get involved

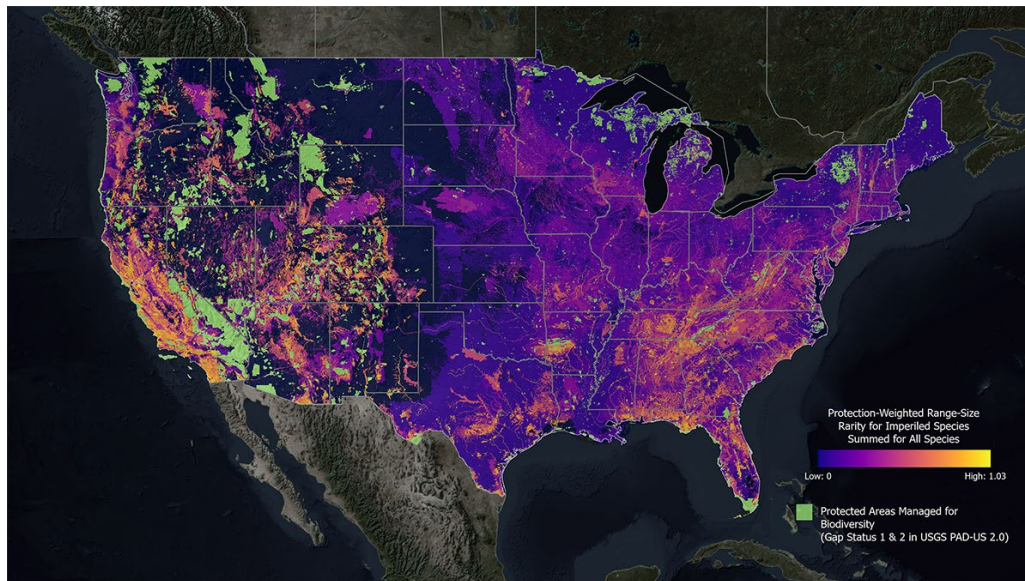
From public comments to petitions, your viewpoints are instrumental to effecting change and

protecting our region. Take Action Today!

- **Governor Inslee and Senator Murray's Snake River Survey:** Last fall, Washington Senator Patty Murray and Governor Jay Inslee committed to develop and deliver a comprehensive solution to protect and recover Snake River salmon and invest in the region's communities by July 31, 2022. They recently released a survey asking the public to weigh in on removing the lower Snake River dams and restoring endangered salmon. Our coalition partners at Save our Wild Salmon have [compiled resources](#) to help you complete the survey. Help us support Gov. Inslee and Sen. Murray's leadership on this critical issue impacting our mission area. [COMPLETE THE SURVEY NOW!](#)
- **Let Trees Grow! Protect the Climate:** GHCC has joined 81 other environmental organizations to call on the Biden Administration to enhance protections for large trees and old growth forests. Our coalition is seeking to elevate the role mature trees play in combating climate change. Our forests should serve as a cornerstone to U.S. climate policy. Find out more and take action today by [TELLING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO LET TREES AND FORESTS GROW!](#)
- **Help block Idaho Power's efforts to bully landowners - StopB2H:** Idaho Power has aggressively gone outside the established Oregon Department of Energy process for conducting pre-construction surveys. They have begun taking Eastern Oregon landowners to circuit court in pre-condemnation proceedings to gain entry to people's properties for surveys. [TAKE 10 MINUTES TO HELP STOP THIS BULLY TACTIC!](#)

Learn more about: **Why and where it is critical that we protect biodiversity**

We need big bold visions to address climate change and biodiversity loss. The bad news is that these two rapidly accelerating processes power each other. Climate change leads to loss of biodiversity which in turn leads to ecosystems that are less resilient to climate change. The good news is that if we address biodiversity loss it will help with the climate issue and vice versa.



Map showing the biodiversity importance of U.S. lands by NatureServe.org.

This map, a collaboration between NatureServe, Esri, The Nature Conservancy, Microsoft's AI for Earth program and others, identifies unprotected lands with a high need for protection of their biodiversity values. The map shows that getting new public land protection matters. Federal lands designated for multiple uses, including resource extraction such as logging, mining, and fossil fuels, also provide habitat for many at-risk species. Of almost 300 imperiled species whose distributions occur almost entirely on federal lands, about half are found primarily on lands subject to extractive uses.

You can read more about why and where protecting biodiversity is so critical in [this blog post by Veronica Warnock](#).

Other news we're following...

Oregon wildlife crossings bill is passed

In our February Hells Bells newsletter, we shared information about House Bill 4130 in the Oregon State Legislature that would allocate \$7 million for projects to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and make our roads safer. We are thrilled to report that the bill was passed as part of the 2022 budget approved by the legislature and funds may be matched with an additional \$10 million from the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC). [You can read more about this effort in a blog post by Defenders of Wildlife.](#)

Oregon's DOJ appoints a special prosecutor for wildlife poachings

We are heartened by the news that Oregon's Department of Justice has appointed a special prosecutor solely dedicated to identifying and prosecuting poachers. We joined with allied conservation organizations in support of this appointment and to offer rewards for the successful

prosecution of whomever is responsible for the recent slew of wolf killings in our mission area. This is a step in the right direction to holding poachers accountable. [You can read more about the special prosecutor in an article on OPB.](#)

Secretary Haaland takes equity and inclusion to the next level

U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo), our nation's first Native cabinet secretary, attended the SXSW conference in Austin this month and made an impassioned call for a broader focus on equity and inclusion on public lands in the United States. She urged all of us to study our country's full history and apply its lessons to build a more equitable and just society. [You can read the full text of her speech at SXSW on the U.S. DOI website](#) or [watch a recording of it on YouTube](#).

Job Openings in the Region

Help our region thrive by sharing these job openings.

- **Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project** is hiring a [Staff Attorney](#) (remote, deadline March 31, 2022).
 - **Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)** is hiring a [Fisheries Technician 1](#) (seasonal part-time, Island City, deadline March 31, 2022).
 - **Idaho Conservation League** is hiring a number of positions including a Energy Policy Associate, multiple Community Organizers for the Stop Salmon Extinction Campaign, and more. [See the full list of job openings here.](#) (Various locations, open until filled).
 - **Oregon Rural Action** is hiring a [Communications Coordinator](#) (part-time, Eastern Oregon, open until filled), a [Director of Community Organizing](#) (Eastern Oregon, open until filled), and a [Rural Energy Organizer](#) (La Grande, open until filled).
 - **Wallowa Land Trust** is hiring a [Conservation Program Manager](#) (Enterprise, open until filled).
 - **Wallowa Resources** is hiring a [Youth Leadership Specialist](#) (seasonal full-time, Enterprise, deadline March 31, 2022).
-



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! A monthly contribution, large or small, adds so much stability to our financial planning and lets us focus our energies on conservation instead of fundraising.

Darilyn Parry Brown, 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!](#)

Greater Hells Canyon Council
PO Box 2768
La Grande, OR 97850
United States

