



Hells Bells - November 2024

This season we are focusing on gratitude. Gratitude for place, for community, and for the life-giving water, air, and habitat our environment and communities depend on everyday.

As we reflect on what the election results mean for the many causes, people, and communities in our lives, we are deeply grateful for the wild places we are fortunate to call home and of course — for you! We are all entitled to our grief over this outcome and the ripple effects that we will feel in our region and all across the country (and unfortunately the world). But we will continue to show up everyday and strive to make an impact. **Holding a firm line for the natural world.**

Thank you for everything you do, both as individuals and in support of Greater Hells Canyon Council!

In solidarity,
Emily and the GHCC Team



2025 Wild Blues Artist-in-Residence Program!

Apply now for our [2025 Wild Blues Artist-in-Residence Program](#)! Our theme, “Refugia of the Blue Mountains,” invites artists to explore the wildlands, rivers, and resilient ecosystems that serve as havens for biodiversity amid climate change. The program offers artists a unique opportunity to create work that bridges the gap between art and environmental conservation, highlighting the beauty and importance of refugia in Northeast Oregon.

The selected artist will receive a **\$2,000 stipend**, a **10-day residency at [Good Bear Ranch](#)**, and support from GHCC to showcase their work at a fall 2025 event in La Grande. Applications are open to all artists with a connection to the Blue Mountains region and are due by **January 15, 2025**. For more details and to apply, click the link below.

[Apply Now!](#)



Comments on Morgan Nesbit due December 19th

The public comment period has opened for Morgan Nesbit, a large logging project between the Eagle Cap Wilderness and Hells Canyon Wilderness. Many of you have provided comments during scoping (thank you!) and the agency seemed to listen seriously to concerns about protecting habitat connectivity. While we are happy to see that change, we still have concerns and need to look deeper into the scale and extent of planned fuel breaks and units in Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas. Look for additional information from us and opportunities to comment on this soon.

If you'd like to start reading the draft Environmental Assessment and specialist reports on your own, you can see them [here](#).

How a Trout Helped Protect the North Fork Umatilla Wilderness



Writer and board member Marina with her companion Pepper

In 1979, a creative and bold move during a wilderness hearing captured Senator Mark Hatfield's attention and played a key role in securing this area's inclusion in the 1984 Oregon Wilderness Act.

Marina Richie has written a beautiful article about this story of the fight to protect this vital wildlife refuge. [Read the full story here.](#)

Give the Gift of GHCC This Holiday Season

Looking to give a gift that gives back this holiday season? We have a few ideas!

Our [Online Store](#) is full of GHCC goodies that would make great gifts including hats, insulated mugs from MiiR, and beautiful notecards. Or, consider making a [tax-deductible donation](#) in honor of friends or family – we'll notify them of your gift!

*Note: Orders from our store **must be placed by December 15th** to be delivered before the holidays.*



Other news we're following...

[Despite Biden's promise to protect old forests, his administration keeps approving plans to cut them down](#)

Despite President Biden's 2022 executive order to protect mature and old-growth forests, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has continued to approve logging projects. An analysis by Oregon Public Broadcasting and ProPublica found that under the Biden administration, the BLM is on track to log approximately 47,000 acres of public lands nearly the same amount as during the first Trump presidency.

[Seeking and Saving Songs of Hells Canyon](#)

Check out this article which highlights efforts to preserve the musical heritage of Hells Canyon, focusing on traditional songs and stories from the region. These initiatives aim to document and celebrate the area's cultural history, ensuring that the unique musical expressions of Hells Canyon are not lost to time.

[Remembering Bob Sallinger, the Falcon Father](#)

Bob Sallinger, a renowned conservationist and former conservation director of Portland Audubon, played a pivotal role in the resurgence of peregrine falcons in Oregon. His hands-on efforts included rescuing falcon chicks from nests threatened by human activities, such as construction on the St. Johns Bridge, and ensuring their successful reintroduction into the wild.

[Bob Sallinger, a Giant in Oregon's Environmental Community, Dies at 57](#)

We have seen several great articles about Bob Sallinger's legacy. Here is another from Portland's Willamette Week.

Volunteer Opportunities

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.

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 2 minutes or less of your time. Thank you — we look forward to spending time with you!

Volunteer with GHCC

Let's Protect the Greater Hells Canyon Region Together



Legacy Giving



Monthly Sustainer



Donate Now

Greater Hells Canyon Council
PO Box 607
Enterprise, OR 97828
United States



If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please (Unsubscribing is not supported in previews) .