

LANDSCAPES

SPRING 2006

FEATURED THIS ISSUE



- Fish Passage & Planting Update (3)



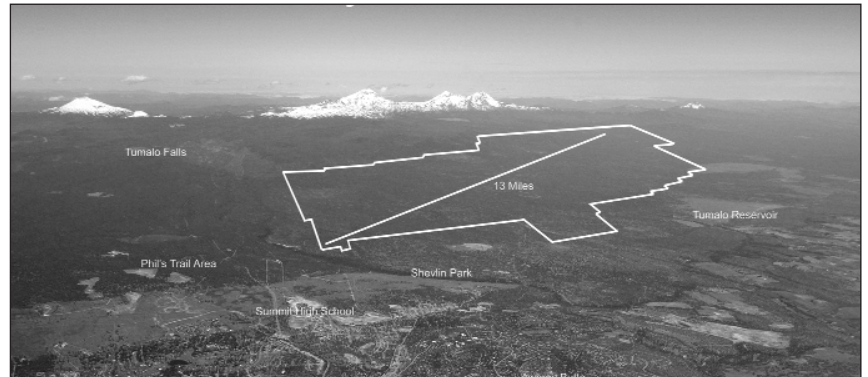
- Opportunities to Get Outside (4, 5)



- Member Profile - Don & Carol McCartney (7)

"...the public's interest and support of Skyline Forest is key to its protection."

Skyline Forest: Preparing for the Transaction



An aerial overview of the Bull Springs Tree Farm.

The 33,000 acre Skyline Forest will soon be on the auction block and the Land Trust is working to secure partners with the capital to purchase all 300,000 acres of the former Crown Pacific timberland, including Skyline Forest. These partners would then resell the forests to the Land Trust over time. If we don't win at auction, we'll turn to the buyer and work to convince them to sell Skyline Forest to the Land Trust. Either way, the public's interest and support of Skyline Forest is key to its protection.

At the same time, we're exploring funding sources to purchase Skyline Forest. These include: the **Community Forest Authority (CFA)** timber bonds, foundations and agencies that fund forest conservation, as well as interested individuals like you.

Unique to Oregon, the CFA can issue bonds and loan the proceeds to a land trust to buy timberlands and keep them in sustainable production. The bonds are repaid with revenues from **sustainable timber harvest**, so there is no cost or risk to taxpayers. After being petitioned by nearly 2,700 people, Deschutes County approved the formation of the CFA last December.

We need your help with the high costs of preparing for the transaction. As encouragement, the **Starview Foundation Fund** of the Oregon Community Foundation generously issued a challenge by committing \$50,000 to the Skyline Forest project if we can raise another \$50,000 to match it. Help us meet the challenge!

At 33,000 acres, Skyline Forest is an opportunity for our community to shape our future. Help keep Skyline Forest visible: write letters to the editor, talk to friends and neighbors, invite us to speak to your service club, book club, neighborhood association or business and **please make a donation today!**

2005 Annual Report

The Land Trust **2005 Annual Report** is now available. You can find it on our website at www.deschuteslandtrust.org

A Fond Farewell



Departing Board Members Ted Wise (far left), Bill Dakin (3rd from rt), and Bruce White (2nd from rt).

With the Land Trust's 10th anniversary comes a host of accomplishments and plans for the future. But it also brings a momentous change to our Board of Directors. At the beginning of 2006, term limits have forced us to bid a fond farewell to several board members.

Bill Dakin joined the Board in 1995. Bill and his wife Gretchen, who live near Indian Ford Meadow, have been Land Trust supporters since the beginning and worked hard to build community support and see that our lands are well cared for. As an avid fisherman, Bill has always worked to build our vision of salmon and steelhead returning to their historic range.

Mary Krenowicz joined the Board in 1997 and served as Board President from 2003 through 2004. She acted as campaign chair to acquire and conserve the Metolius Preserve. Her energy, commitment and passion for the community have always been of constant amazement to our staff and Board. Mary's leadership gave us the energy and professionalism we needed to take on and accomplish our first capital campaign.

Bruce White joined the board in late 1997, though his involvement with the Land Trust dates to our earliest days. In fact, Bruce can be credited with the initial idea for a land trust as a small group gathered over beers at the Deschutes Brewery. As a Board Member and stickler for proper procedure, Bruce challenged conventional assumptions and pushed for the very highest standards in everything we approached.

Ted Wise, a founding Board Member, aptly demonstrated his tenacity and commitment on the Board for 10 years. A wildlife biologist by training, Ted was an advocate of careful, thoughtful land stewardship. However, it was probably his background as a smoke jumper that allowed him to jump into huge projects that intimidated others, projects like Alder Springs, the conservation of which can largely be attributed to his efforts.



Departing Board Member Mary Krenowicz.



Rod Bonacker discusses fish reintroduction at the Metolius Preserve dedication.

Welcome Aboard

As for new faces, we are pleased to announce that **Rod Bonacker** has joined the Land Trust Board of Directors. Rod is the special projects coordinator for Deschutes and Ochoco National Forest. As the Forest Service/Bureau of Land Management relicensing team leader he is helping bring salmon and steelhead back to their home waters. Rod has been a Land Trust member and volunteer since 1995 and is married to Maret Pajutee, District Ecologist for the Sisters Ranger District and a former Land Trust board member. We look forward to working with Rod in his new position on the board!



Back to Home Waters

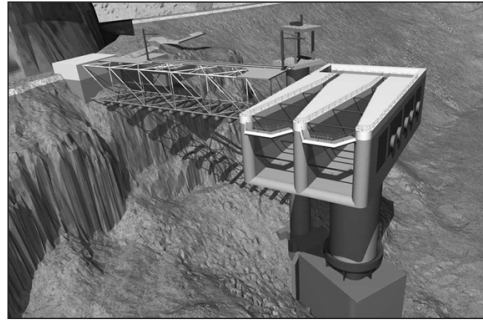
Conserving habitat for returning salmon and steelhead trout.

Fish Passage and Planting Update

The design of the proposed selective withdrawal tower at Pelton Round Butte dam has been updated. The new tower combines water withdrawal and fish collection and will pull water mainly from the top of the reservoir. It will create a current that attracts fish while allowing a mix of warm and cold water to be released downstream.

Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife and the Warm Springs Tribes, co-managers of the fisheries, hope to begin planting fish spring 2008 in the Deschutes and Metolius rivers and Whychus Creek. Because of concerns about whirling disease, they plan to use hatchery fish and will mark those fish so that they can pass through the dams when they return as adults. The Tribes and ODFW anticipate that steelhead will start to return to upper basin streams by 2010 and spring chinook by 2011.

Recent studies of spring chinook rearing habitat show that **Lake Creek provides more chinook rearing habitat** than all other Metolius tributaries combined. The potential role played by Lake Creek in spring chinook and sockeye reintroduction, is of course, a major reason the Land Trust worked to create the Metolius Preserve.



A new design for the selective withdrawal tower.



From Squaw to Whychus

Central Oregon's Squaw Creek has undergone a name change. The new name "Whychus Creek" is a local Sahaptin Indian word that means "a place to cross the water."

Project Update



Whychus Creek as it flows through Rimrock Ranch.

The Land Trust is close to completing two conservation projects that will support the reintroduction of salmon and steelhead to the upper Deschutes Basin.

The **Rimrock Ranch conservation easement** will protect almost two miles of high quality stream and floodplain habitat on lower **Whychus Creek**. The conservation easement will also protect important upland habitats, including several golden eagle nest sites.

The **Ranch at the Canyons conservation easement** will protect more than a mile of the lower **Crooked River** and 550 acres of mule deer winter range adjacent to Smith Rock State Park. The Ranch has been working with local groups

like the Crooked River Watershed Council to improve riparian habitat along this stretch of the river. We expect to close both of these transactions by mid-2006.



2006 Tours of Land Trust Preserves

*Make a space in your calendar for a Land Trust Preserve Tour!
Seasoned naturalists help you enjoy and explore the
ecology of birds, plants and much more.*

**Land Trust
Preserve Tours
fill up quickly.**

**Call us at
(541) 330-0017
to register
today!**

Restoration Tour - Camp Polk Meadow

April 22: 9AM - 11AM with Joyce Padgham
Explore the meadow and creek while learning
about recent restoration efforts.

Bird Walk - Camp Polk Meadow

April 28: 9AM - 11AM with Norma Funai
Bird your way around the meadow and wetlands
of one of Central Oregon's birding hot spots.

Wildlife Walk - Camp Polk Meadow

May 6: 9AM - 11AM with Jim Anderson,
Tom Rodhouse and Al St. John
Mammals, reptiles and amphibians, oh my!
Explore wildlife with three renowned naturalists.

Restoration Tour - Camp Polk Meadow

May 9: 9AM - 11AM with Joyce Padgham
Explore the meadow and creek while learning
about recent restoration efforts.

Bird Walk - Indian Ford Meadow

May 12: 8:30AM - 10:30AM with Norma Funai
Explore the meadow and creek bottom in search
of warblers, rails and other feathered friends.

Family Birding - Camp Polk Meadow

May 20: 9AM - 11AM with Norma Funai
Children and parents, come search for birds on a
tour designed for families. Hands-on activities!

Wildflower Walk - Metolius Preserve

May 20: 10AM - 12PM with Paul Edgerton
From chocolate lilies to manzanita blooms,
discover the wonder of spring wildflowers.

Bird & Flower Walk - Camp Polk Meadow

May 26: 9AM - 11AM with Norma Funai
From bluebirds to sand lilies, explore
the wonders of this diverse meadow.

Forest Walk - Metolius Preserve

May 26: 10AM - 12PM with Amanda Egertson
Learn about innovative forest practices to
encourage habitat for large pines and wildlife.

Restoration Tour - Camp Polk Meadow

June 3: 9AM - 11AM with Joyce Padgham
Explore the meadow and creek while learning
about recent restoration efforts.

Fish Walk - Metolius Preserve

June 4: 10AM - 12PM with Rod Bonacker
Learn about local efforts to bring salmon and
steelhead back to their home waters.

Wildflower Walk - Metolius Preserve

June 10: 10AM - 12PM with Paul Edgerton
Catch the summer wildflowers while you can
on this guided plant walk.

Bird Walk - Camp Polk Meadow

June 16: 8:30AM - 10:30AM
with Norma Funai and Jim Anderson
Bird your way around the meadows and wetlands
of one of Central Oregon's birding hot spots.

Bird & Flower Walk - Metolius Preserve

June 24: 9AM - 11AM with Norma Funai
From warblers to wild strawberries, discover
natural wonders along Lake Creek.

Butterfly Walk - Metolius Preserve

June 30: 12:30PM - 2:30PM with Amanda Egertson
Learn about the ecology and identification
of all things fluttery.

**Advance registration is required,
please call (541) 330-0017.**

Dress for the weather and be prepared for
off-trail walking. For more information
visit www.deschuteslandtrust.org

Watch your mailbox for the July through September tour schedule!



Volunteer of the Year: Dick Tipton

The Land Trust is pleased to honor Dick Tipton as our **2005 Volunteer of the Year!** Dick spent many hours creating beautiful wooden benches for the Land Trust's Community Preserves. Using recycled beams from the old Brooks-Scanlon mill in Bend, Dick took these beams from their rough nail-filled state, to a smooth finished bench that allows the historic character to shine. What's more, Dick has been storing the benches since last summer and will be helping install them this year!

A former farmer from Ontario, OR, Dick and his wife Marjie moved to Sisters in 2003. They first became involved with the Land Trust after attending a tour of Camp Polk Meadow Preserve. They were impressed with the Land Trust's mission and the niche we fill preserving this unique area. Since then, Dick and Marjie have been active in work parties, Land Trust events, and of course, woodworking projects. Dick has been a woodworker most of his life and enjoys cabinetry and furniture construction. When not in the shop, he and Marjie enjoy fly fishing and hiking. **Three Cheers to Dick for his dedication, inspiration and extra storage space!**



Volunteer of the year - Dick Tipton and his wife Marjie.



Visit our website at www.deschuteslandtrust.org for a stewardship schedule.

Join our volunteer email list for monthly updates on stewardship opportunities. email sarah@deschuteslandtrust.org or call (541) 330-0017 to join.

2006 Stewardship Season

We hope you'll consider joining us for a 2006 work party. We've scheduled a few early season work parties and others will be scheduled on an as needed basis. A carpool will leave the Land Trust office at 8:30 am and return by 1:30 pm. To register for work parties, please call (541) 330-0017. Dress for the weather and be prepared for off-trail walking. Bring water, snacks and work gloves.



A volunteer helps with trail maintenance at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve.

**Indian Ford Meadow Preserve
Spring Trail Clean-up**
April 29: 9AM - 12PM

**Metolius Preserve
Spring Trail Clean-up**
May 18: 9:30AM - 12:30PM

**Metolius Preserve
Flagging Removal Party**
June 16: 9:30AM - 12:30PM



Community Preserves

Conserving land so local communities can experience the natural world near home.

Stewardship Update

Our Land Steward and her many volunteers had their hands full of stewardship activities last fall and winter. Interpretative facilities for the Metolius Preserve are well underway and the new South Fork kiosk is nearly complete. With some final masonry work to come this spring, the kiosk will house interpretative signs that will introduce visitors to the Preserve and our *Back to Home Waters* program (read about this program on page 3).



Volunteers take a break from kiosk construction.



A new log bridge spans the South Fork of Lake Creek.

The old bridges that once spanned the small island in the South Fork of Lake Creek were replaced this winter with new hand peeled log bridges. Two similarly styled viewing platforms are currently being designed and constructed. Also, a color coded trail system for the Preserve was established last fall, so be sure to check out the new trail maps next time you visit the Preserve.

Enjoy the
Land Trust's
Community
Preserves either
on your own or
as part of a tour
or work party.

Visit
[www.
deschutes
landtrust.org](http://www.deschuteslandtrust.org)
for a schedule
of events.

Forest Restoration Efforts Continue

Forest restoration at the Metolius Preserve has been a major focus in recent months. The Land Trust has been working closely with **Integrated Resource Management** and Scott Melcher's crews to carefully implement the thinning necessary to restore old growth ponderosa pines and wildlife habitat. To minimize soil disturbance, all of the work thus far has been conducted on top of the snowpack and a much healthier forest stand is starting to take shape. With more than 300 acres completed, the Land Trust is looking forward to monitoring the improvements with local students, researchers, and volunteers.



COCC Forestry students take a tour of the forest restoration activities at the Metolius Preserve.

Camp Polk Meadow Preserve has also been a focus of the Land Trust's restoration efforts. In partnership with the **Upper Deschutes Watershed Council** and the **Deschutes National Forest**, we are working to design a restoration plan for the section of Whychus Creek that flows through the meadow. Much of this stream was straightened in the 1960's, disconnecting the stream from its historic floodplain. Our goal is to restore fish habitat and natural stream function. In preparation, we will be working throughout the year to conduct surveys, assess different design strategies, and increase community awareness and participation.



Member Profile: Don & Carol McCartney

Avid birders and community activists, Don and Carol McCartney have been Land Trust members since 1999. They moved to Central Oregon in 1996 to enjoy the area's scenic beauty and outdoor activities. We recently spoke to them about their decision to support the Land Trust today, tomorrow and forever.



Don holding a newly-banded Golden Eagle.

Why did you first join the Land Trust?

Since we strongly believe in wildlife conservation and habitat preservation, two clear objectives of the Land Trust, we thought our support would help the organization achieve its mission. Whenever visiting a Land Trust Preserve, we always enjoy the good feeling we get when we're reminded that these lands will be protected for the benefit of wildlife and future generations.

How have you been involved with the Land Trust?

As volunteers for the past ten years, we've been very involved with birds on the Land Trust Preserves. Whether conducting bird surveys or installing and monitoring nest boxes at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve, we've enjoyed donating our time and energy.

What made you consider the Land Trust in your will?

We became highly impressed with the integrity, talent and dedication of the staff, and the efficiency with which our funds go directly to work on the ground. We preferred that our contribution go to a local organization so that its impact will be more significant to the community. Designating the Land Trust as a beneficiary in our will was a very simple process, and we are pleased to know that our support of the Land Trust will continue even after we're gone.



Did You Know?

The Land Trust now has an e-newsletter. Sign-up for the Basin Banter - monthly updates on Land Trust projects, opportunities and events!

Join today, email sarah@deschuteslandtrust.org

Have You Considered the Land Trust in Your Will?

The **Deschutes Basin Legacy Society** recognizes supporters who have invested in the future of the Land Trust with a planned gift. A planned gift is the ultimate expression of commitment to private, voluntary land conservation in the Deschutes Basin.

Your planned gift can be as simple as a sentence or two in your will.

Other ways are life income gifts which can take the form of charitable lead trusts or charitable gift annuities. Our planned giving partner, **The Oregon Community Foundation**, can now provide these services for donors. Many other gifts can take the form of life insurance, retirement accounts, or real estate.

For more information about including the Land Trust in your future plans visit our website at www.deschuteslandtrust.org or contact Brian Harrington at (541) 330-0017.

**Yes! I want to preserve land in the Deschutes Basin.
I would like to make my tax deductible contribution of:**

☐ \$60 ☐ \$120 ☐ \$300 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$_____ ☐ \$1,000 (*Five Rivers Society Member*)

☐ Electronically transfer \$_____ (\$10 min) on the 20th of each month from the account **on my enclosed voided check.**

Signature authorizing the above transfer: _____

☐ Please charge my Visa/Mastercard ☐ Monthly ☐ Once \$_____ Signature: _____
Card # _____ Exp. _____

☐ My check is enclosed.

☐ My contact information on the mailing label below is accurate.

☐ Join the ***Basin Banter*** - the Land Trust's monthly e-news! (We will NOT share your email!) Email: _____

☐ Please do not trade my name with other organizations.



Dirty Half Trail Run - June 11, 2006

This 13.1 mile trail run is a great event! And even better, this year, like last, the race will be a benefit for the Land Trust. So dust off your running shoes and start training, we'd love to see the registration full to the brim. Visit www.deschuteslandtrust.org/SpecialEvents.htm

Not interested in running? Please consider volunteering at the event. The Land Trust will be helping with aid stations, packet stuffing and pickup, so we'll need a host of volunteers to make the event a success. Contact Sarah if you are interested in helping at (541) 330-0017 or sarah@deschuteslandtrust.org

Land Trust Events *See Calendar of Events on pages 4 & 5 for dates of tours and work parties.*



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