



# landscapes

CONSERVING LAND FOR WILDLIFE, SCENIC VIEWS, AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

DESCHUTES LAND TRUST NEIGHBOR NEWS {FALL 2019}

DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG/NEIGHBOR-NEWS

## MONARCH BUTTERFLY PROGRAM SOARS

*The Land Trust recently launched a new conservation program to help protect monarch butterflies and their habitat. Our main goals include conserving land so monarchs have the habitat they need to survive, planting native milkweed, and educating the community about the monarch butterfly and how they can help. Here's what we have accomplished:*

- We have been working to restore healthy habitats for monarchs at Land Trust Preserves. This includes lots of new milkweed and other pollinator friendly plants that were planted in recent restoration areas and another round of new plantings this fall! Join us to give 600+ new milkweed plants a home at Land Trust Preserves (see details on right for how you can get involved)!
- We are working with Bend Parks and Recreation District, the Old Mill District, and COCC to plant hundreds of milkweed plants on their properties this fall.
- We have distributed more than 60,000 native milkweed seeds that are hopefully now thriving in home gardens all over Central Oregon!
- We reared, tagged, and released 5 monarch butterflies (with dozens more on the way!). Four were released in Bend, while one was released at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve along the banks of Whychus Creek.
- A "wild" (not reared) monarch butterfly was spotted at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve in early August.
- We are working with Western Monarch Advocates on plans for the 2020 Western Monarch Summit in Pacific Grove, CA.

This fall we will be continuing to create healthy habitats for the monarchs to feed on, migrate through, and lay their eggs in. We hope you will get involved! **Learn lots more about this exciting project:** [deschuteslandtrust.org/monarch-butterflies](https://deschuteslandtrust.org/monarch-butterflies)



### JOIN US FOR A PLANTING PARTY!

Join the Land Trust for a milkweed planting party at Whychus Canyon Preserve. We'll be helping to restore habitat along the banks of Whychus Creek while providing milkweed for monarch butterflies:

**October 12th, 1-3:30pm**

**Register today:** [deschuteslandtrust.org/volunteer-opps](https://deschuteslandtrust.org/volunteer-opps)







SNORKELING IN WHYCHUS CREEK FOR VISUAL CONFIRMATION OF RADIO TAGGED CHINOOK. PHOTO: LAND TRUST

## CHINOOK RETURN TO WHYCHUS CREEK

*We are pleased to report that this year is shaping up to be one of the best years so far for returns of reintroduced spring Chinook salmon!* Biologists tracked tagged Chinook returning for the first time to Land Trust protected lands along Whychus Creek.

“The Land Trust is thrilled to have the first Chinook make it back to our Willow Springs Preserve! We’ve worked for more than 20 years to ensure the lands and waters of Whychus Creek are protected so native fish like Chinook will always have a place to come home,” said Brad Chalfant, executive director of the Deschutes Land Trust. “It’s heartening to see that our collaborative efforts are helping to protect and improve habitat and water quality for native fish.”

Of the fish that have returned, twelve have made their way up Whychus Creek, where they have been tracked to locations in restored salmon habitat along the creek that is protected by the Land Trust. This is the largest number of adult fish that have returned to Whychus Creek in any year of the restoration efforts so far.

“This is exciting,” said Megan Hill, the Portland General Electric biologist who leads their fisheries and water quality team. “With the odds stacked against the fish this year due to ocean and river conditions outside the basin, the fact we’re seeing relatively strong upper basin returns is likely directly related to improvements we made in juvenile downstream fish passage.”



JAY MATHER

### YOU'RE INVITED . . .

Join us for Deschutes Land Trust's annual Open House:

**October 24th, 2019**  
5-7pm, in Bend

To register: [deschuteslandtrust.org/events](https://deschuteslandtrust.org/events)



JAY MATHER



THE DESCHUTES LAND TRUST IS PROUD OF OUR GENEROUS FAMILY OF SUPPORTERS. JOIN US TODAY: [DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG/JOIN](https://deschuteslandtrust.org/join)

LANDS IN TRUST PROTECTED FOREVER

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LAND TRUST

### JOIN US FOR A FALL OUTING!

*Each year volunteers lead free walks and hikes at Land Trust Preserves, including Whychus Canyon Preserve.*

*Whether it's a geology hike, fall colors wander, or a nature journaling class, you are guaranteed to learn a little more about your backyard!*

*Land Trust Walks + Hikes are offered through October. Details:*

[deschuteslandtrust.org/hikes](https://deschuteslandtrust.org/hikes)