



SPRING CREEK CONSERVED

BRUCE LIVINGSTON AND HIS MOTHER, KATHERINE LIVINGSTON, AT THEIR PLACE ON SPRING CREEK. PHOTO: LISA BAGWELL.

Bruce Livingston likes to pay attention to the little things. The feel of the ground under his feet, the small changes that indicate a new season, the tracks left by a coyote canvassing for its next meal.

For more than 50 years, Bruce and his family have enjoyed the little things that make their land near the Metolius River so amazing. In 1957, the Livingston family, along with good friends the Morleys, purchased their home-away-from-home on Spring Creek near Camp Sherman. With nearly 40 acres of forest, wetland, and meadow around the creek, the land has been perfect for the families to enjoy camping, fishing, hiking and more.

With families changing and growing, the time seemed right for the Livingstons and Morleys to make some decisions about the future. "Our original intent always was to protect the land. It is such a precious spot that would be so easy to develop. We wanted to keep it the way it is now, forever" said Sam Morley.

So, the Land Trust worked with the families to craft an agreement that protects the headwaters of Spring Creek with high quality habitat for native fish (like bull trout and Chinook salmon) and other wildlife, including sensitive bird species. Outstanding wetlands, along with aspens, hawthorns, and other plant communities will also be protected.

The conservation of the Livingston/Morley family land protects some of the highest quality habitat remaining on private land in the Metolius basin.

Bruce Livingston summed it up by saying "we chose to work with the Land Trust because they are local and will remain good stewards of our land long after the current generation is gone."

OUR MISSION

The Deschutes Land Trust works cooperatively with landowners to conserve land for wildlife, scenic views, and local communities.

landscapes

THE NEWSLETTER OF DESCHUTES LAND TRUST { VOLUME THIRTEEN NO. 1 }



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DESCHUTES LAND TRUST

p. 541] 330 0017

f. 541] 330 0013

210 NW IRVING AVENUE
SUITE 102
BEND, OREGON 97701

DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG

ACCREDITATION

LAND TRUST WINS NATIONAL APPROVAL

The verdict is in, and the Deschutes Land Trust is officially a nationally accredited land trust! The national Land Trust Accreditation Commission recently awarded 14 land trusts around the country this designation. The Deschutes Land Trust is the second land trust to receive accreditation in Oregon, meeting national quality standards for conserving and protecting important lands in Oregon.

The Land Trust applied for accreditation in July of 2008. The commission conducted a comprehensive, independent audit of the Land Trust's operations, examining our ability to operate in an ethical, legal, and technically sound manner to ensure the long-term protection of land for local communities. Audit standards were developed by the national Land Trust Alliance, and accredited land trusts must pass an audit every five years.

The Deschutes Land Trust applied for accreditation to ensure that our work is accomplished in the most transparent and ethical means possible and to ensure that our conservation efforts stand the test of time. With land use regulations always up for a vote, our conservation projects are permanent. Now, with national accreditation, you have the additional assurance that the Deschutes Land Trust is operating at the highest level to serve the community for generations.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

WHAT'S NEW FOR SPRING

At any given time, the Land Trust has between ten and twenty conservation projects going. Some are just conversations while others are nearing completion. Highlights include:

***GREENPRINT:** We continue our partnership with the Trust for Public Land and the Bend Parks and Rec District to map the future of conservation in Deschutes County. Help out by identifying the best new parks, trails, or scenic views.

***MILL CREEK, PRINEVILLE:** We continue to work with landowners along Mill Creek east of Prineville to protect habitat for redband trout, Rocky Mountain elk and other wildlife.

***SKYLINE FOREST:** Discussions with the owners of Skyline Forest continue and we anticipate having a letter of intent soon. With the proposed donation of the forest no longer on the table, we'll seek to purchase the largest block of forest possible.

In addition, this spring we expect to protect Spring Creek (see pg 1), and we'll keep chipping away at other conservation projects including our work to conserve the land needed for the return of salmon and steelhead.



MILL CREEK RANGLAND. PHOTO: JW VISUALS.

WISE INVESTMENT

Land conservation is a pioneering effort, often in the midst of perpetual uncertainty. It can take years as we work cooperatively with landowners to conserve important land. We do it for our community, for you, and for future generations. Central Oregon is known for its commitment to recreation, scenic views, and quality of life. If we don't save land for these things now, there might not be another opportunity. Your membership and donations make our work possible. And you know it's a wise investment!



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BRAD CHALFANT HOLDS THE OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION CERTIFICATE. PHOTO: STAFF.



CAMP POLK MEADOW STREAM RESTORATION: HOW IT WILL WORK

This spring, restoration work will start in earnest on Whychus Creek at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve. During phase I of this multi-year restoration project, the Land Trust, in partnership with the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council and Deschutes National Forest, will work to restore the creek to its historic channel. Construction crews will excavate the channel from May-July and we'll then plan native vegetation around the channel in October.

The goal of the restoration is to improve fish and wildlife habitat and re-create wet meadow conditions. Insets on the map below describe the project in more detail, and we hope you'll learn more at our website and by joining a restoration tour (see pages 4-5).

RESTORING THE WET MEADOW

As streams flow through a landscape they release water into the surrounding land. Moving Whychus Creek back into the meadow will increase the amount of water available to the meadow, re-creating historic "wet meadow" conditions. A wetter meadow will improve habitat for wildlife and native plants. This water can also be stored as groundwater to recharge the stream during low-flow periods and provide cooler water for fish during warmer months.

IMPROVING FISH HABITAT

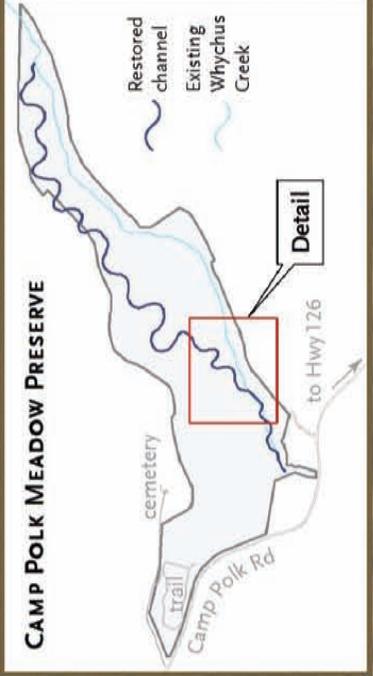
The restored stream channel will have more meanders to increase the overall channel length, slow water flow and improve fish habitat. Other improvements include:

-  More pools to provide deep water for fish to use as refuge.
-  Riffles and glides to increase channel habitat diversity.
-  More logs to provide cover for fish and help slow flood waters.

REHABILITATING THE EXISTING CHANNEL

The existing channel will be plugged with dirt excavated from the restored channel and then planted with native vegetation. Smaller ponds will be left for wildlife habitat.

CAMP POLK MEADOW PRESERVE



WALKS + HIKE + WORK PARTIES

GET OUTSIDE THIS SPRING AND SUMMER AND JOIN US FOR A WALK, HIKE, OR FAMILY EXPLORATION DAY!

APRIL

RIMROCK RANCH HIKE

April 16, 9AM-1PM, Mary Crow.
Hike 4 miles through the canyons and grasslands of Rimrock Ranch.

KIDS EXPLORIT I—CAMP POLK

April 18, 9-11AM, Norma Funai & Carol Wall. Explore habitats for plants and animals on this series of tours just for kids!

BIRDING I—CAMP POLK

April 22, 9-11:30AM, Carol Wall & Mary Crow. Learn the basics of birding at a local birding hot spot.

INDIAN FORD MEADOW EARTH

DAY CLEAN-UP. April 22, 10AM-1PM. Spruce up trails for Earth Day!

BIRDING II—CAMP POLK

April 25, 8:30-11:00AM, Steve McMasters & Norma Funai. Improve your birding skills on this walk.

BIRD WALK—RIMROCK RANCH

April 28, 8:30-11:30AM, Norma Funai & Carol Wall. Explore various bird habitats at this private ranch.



BYRON DUDLEY

MAY

BIRD WALK—RIMROCK RANCH

May 1, 8:30-11:30AM, Mary Crow & Steve McMasters. Explore the rimrock canyon in search of birds.

CAMP POLK FENCE PULL

May 1, 9:30AM-12:30PM
Help remove a juniper fence in preparation for the creek restoration.

BIRD WALK—INDIAN FORD

May 2, 8:30-10:30AM, Norma Funai & Carol Wall. Explore this beautiful little meadow in search of birds.

LAND TRUST WALKS + HIKE ARE FREE; HOWEVER, REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. PLEASE CALL 541] 330-0017 TO REGISTER.

CONSERVATION HIKE I—RIMROCK TO ALDER SPRINGS

May 8, 9AM-4PM, Brad Nye.
Hike from Rimrock Ranch downstream to Alder Springs (8 miles).

ECTOTHERM WALK—METOLIUS PRESERVE

May 9, 12-2PM, Jim Anderson and Al St. John. Learn the ins and outs of our native cold-blooded critters.

RESTORATION TOUR I—CAMP POLK MEADOW

May 13, 10AM-12PM, Amanda Egertson & Ryan Houston.
Get a last look at the meadow before restoration work begins.

RIMROCK RANCH HIKE

May 15, 8AM-12PM, Mary Crow.
(See previous description).

BIRDING BY SIGHT AND SOUND—METOLIUS PRESERVE

May 15, 7-11AM, Steve Dougill of East Cascade Bird Conservancy.
Learn identification clues for birds by habitat, sight, and song.

KIDS EXPLORIT II—INDIAN FORD

May 16, 9-11AM, Norma Funai & Carol Wall. (See previous description).

METOLIUS SPRING CLEAN-UP

May 16, 10AM-1PM
Clear trails for spring!

CONSERVATION HIKE II—ALDER SPRINGS TO DESCHUTES

May 22, 9AM-4PM, Brad Nye.
Hike from Alder Springs to the Deschutes River (8 miles).

BIRD WALK—CAMP POLK

May 23, 8:30-11AM, Steve McMasters & Norma Funai.
Catch a last birding trip before the meadow turns construction zone.

INDIAN FORD MEADOW SAPLING GRAPPLING

May 27, 10AM-1PM
Help keep Indian Ford a meadow by clearing encroaching saplings.

FAMILY MACROINVERTEBRATE MAYHEM—METOLIUS PRESERVE

May 30, 12:30-2PM, Sherry Berrin.
Water striders, caddis flies, oh my! Explore the world of water bugs.

CONSERVATION BIKE III—METOLIUS BASIN

May 30, 9AM-12PM, Brad Nye.
Bike from Camp Sherman to the Metolius Preserve to see the larger conservation picture (12 miles).



LISA BAGWELL

JUNE

WEED MAPPING TRAINING

June 4, 10:30AM
Learn how to ID and map weeds, then volunteer on your own time.

BIRD WALK—RIMROCK RANCH

June 6, 8-11AM, Norma Funai & Carol Wall. (See previous description).

TREES OF THE METOLIUS

June 6, 10AM-1PM, Paul Edgerton.
Learn the trees and shrubs native to this diverse Preserve.

PLANT WALK—INDIAN FORD

June 12, 10-11:30AM, Paul Edgerton.
Catch the summer wildflowers and meadow plant life on this walk.

FAMILY BUTTERFLY AND INSECT WALK—CAMP POLK MEADOW

June 13, 9-11AM, Norma Funai & Jim Anderson. Explore the diverse world of insects at this local meadow.

FOOTZONE DIRTY HALF RUN

June 14, 8-11AM. Help with aid stations, prize delivery and more for this Land Trust fundraiser.

METOLIUS PRESERVE HIKE

June 20, 8:30-11AM, Carol Wall & Mary Crow. Hike your way around the largest Land Trust Preserve.

INDIAN FORD MEADOW UNPLANTING PARTY

June 24, 10AM-1PM
Help unplant invasive weeds.

RESTORATION TOUR II—CAMP POLK MEADOW

June 25, 10AM-12PM, Amanda Egertson & Ryan Houston.
Check out the new channel construction while it's in progress.

BUTTERFLY WALK—METOLIUS PRESERVE

June 26, 12-2PM, Amanda Egertson. Learn about the ecology and identification of all things fluttery.

KIDS EXPLORIT III—METOLIUS PRESERVE

June 27, 9-11AM, Norma Funai & Carol Wall. (See previous description).

WILDFLOWER WALK—METOLIUS PRESERVE

June 27, 10AM-1PM, Paul Edgerton.
Explore wildflowers and forest ecology with a local expert.



STAFF

VOLUNTEER!

From work parties to individual projects, we have lots of volunteer jobs. These include: **KNAPWEED KNABBERS**—folks who volunteer on their own time at scenic Rimrock Ranch to help remove invasive knapweed. Or the **WEED WARRIORS**—dedicated folks who gather weekly and monthly to remove invasive weeds from Land Trust properties. For current opportunities contact: Sarah Mowry (sarah@deschuteslandtrust.org or 541] 330-0017).

LEARN MORE ABOUT EACH HIKE, WALK OR WORK PARTY AT WWW.DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG



210 NW IRVING AVENUE, SUITE 102, BEND, OREGON 97701
LANDS IN TRUST PROTECTED FOREVER

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FAMILY DAYS, EXTREME HIKES AND MORE!

MIKE PUTNAM/PACIFIC CREST STOCK

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