



OCTOBER 1, 2016
KS WILD ANNUAL DINNER

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



www.kswild.org

www.rogueriverkeeper.org

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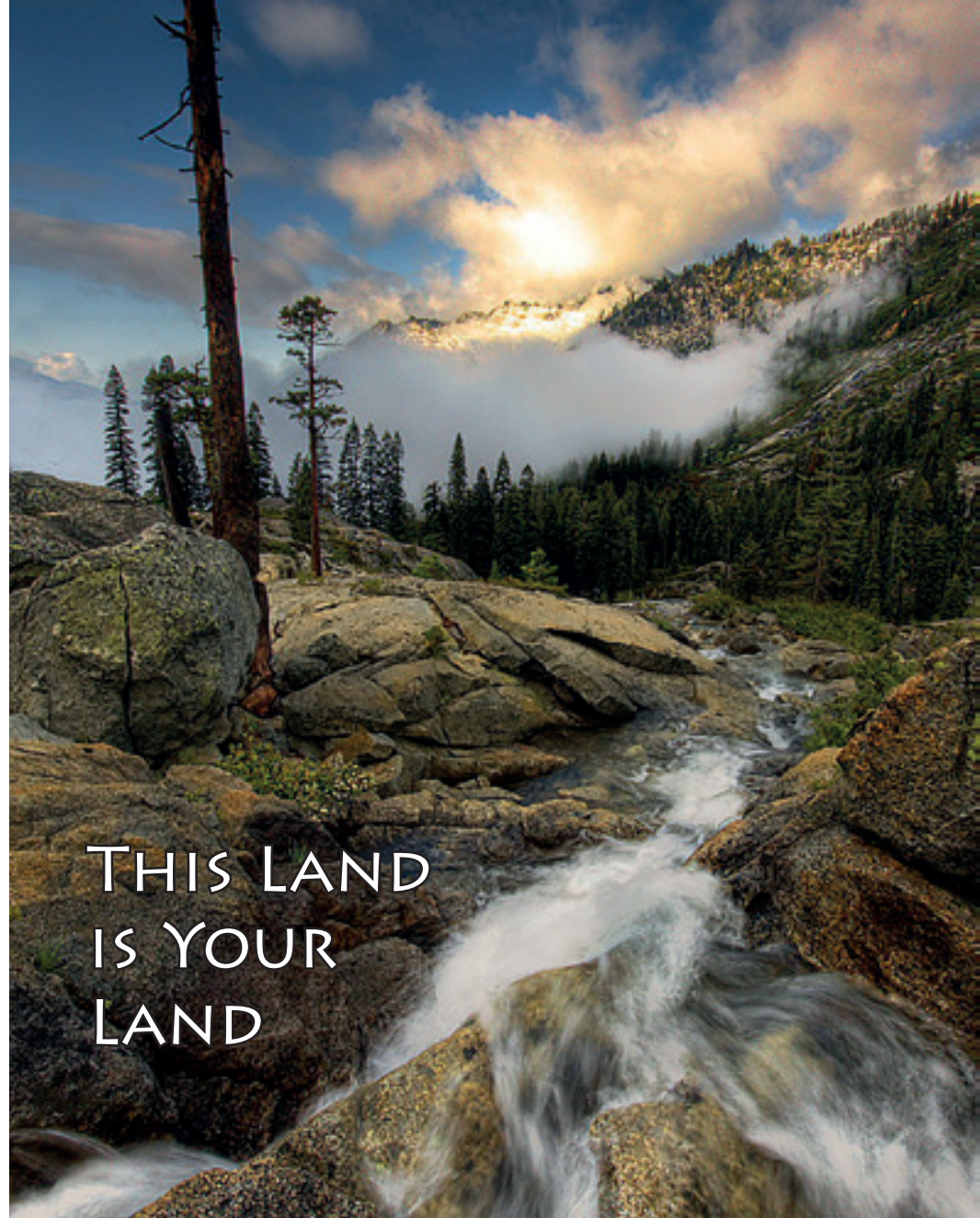
Cover photo: Canyon Creek Lakes, Trinity Alps. Photo by Jeff Pang

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KS WILD NEWS

The Journal of the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center
Spring 2016



**THIS LAND
IS YOUR
LAND**

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Amy Schlotterback

UPCOMING HIKES

March 19: Snowshoe Hike Mt. Ashland

Trek with us on a snowshoe expedition up the powdery peaks of Mt. Ashland to see spectacular panoramic views of the valley with Ashland nestling inside it. Carpool leaves from the Northwest Nature Shop at 1pm. Please bring your equipment (you can rent snowshoes from Get N Gear).

May 1: Kelsey Creek Trail, Scott River, Marble Mountains

Explore with us the sentient white bluffs of the Marble Mountains and view the polished rim as it tumbles down into a lush green valley filled with pristine waters. A carpool to the hike leaves at 9am from Ashland's Shop'n Kart.

May 15: Jacksonville Forest Park Morel Hike

Come seek out the elusive Morel Mushroom during an interpretative hike along the trails of Jacksonville's Forest Park. Car Pool leaves from the Jacksonville Public Library parking lot at 1pm.

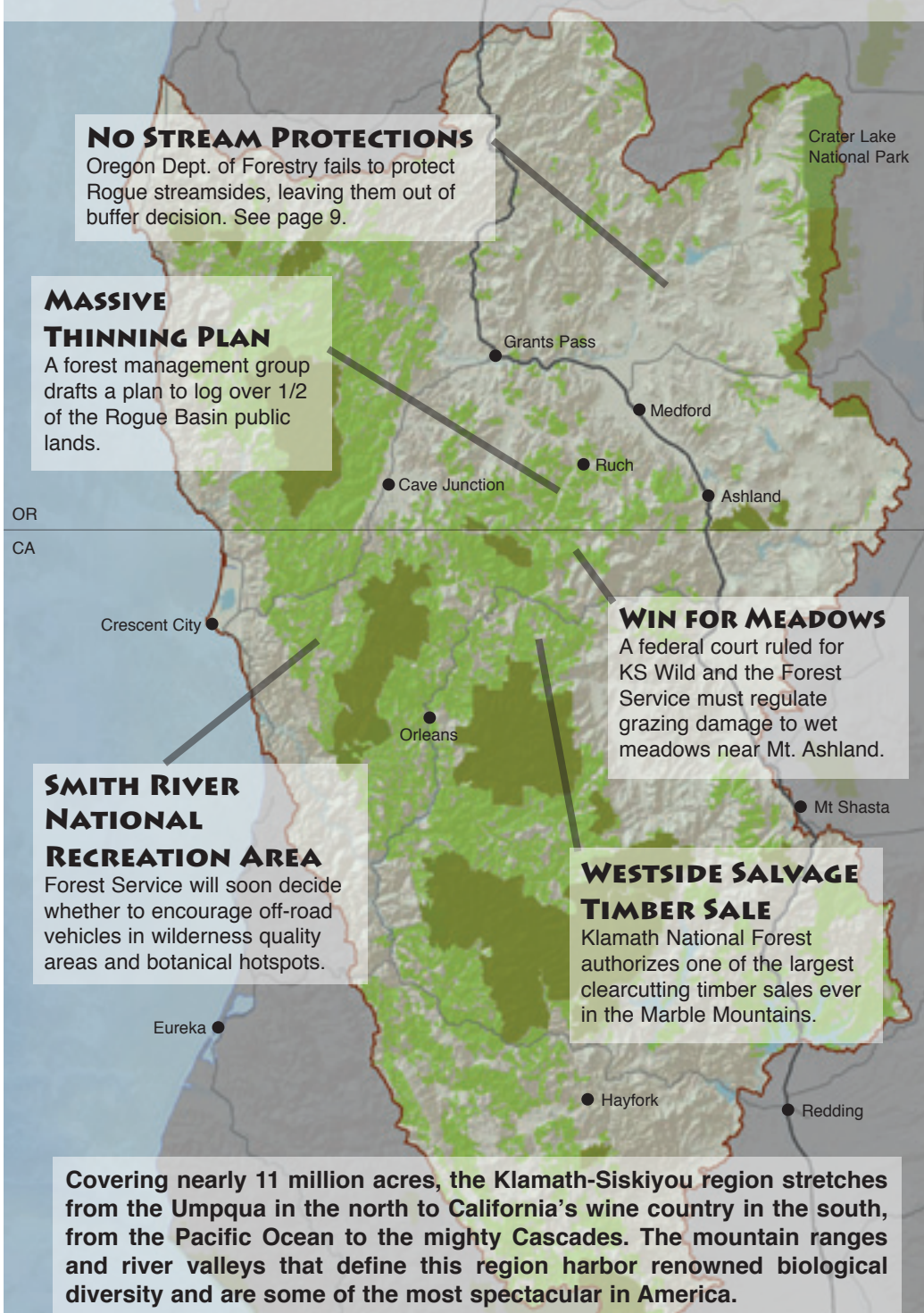
May 21: Mule Mountain

Follow us up the vibrant sloping hills of Mule Mountain --a hike rewarded at the top by open sky and views of the valley that extend in every direction. Carpool leaves from the Ashland Shop'n Kart at 9am.

FOR ALL HIKES

Bring plenty of water, comfortable walking shoes, warm layers and a lunch. Call Jeanine Moy at (541) 488-5789 or visit www.kswild.org/hikes for more information, directions, and to sign up for a hike.

NEWS AROUND THE KS



NO STREAM PROTECTIONS

Oregon Dept. of Forestry fails to protect Rogue streamsides, leaving them out of buffer decision. See page 9.

MASSIVE THINNING PLAN

A forest management group drafts a plan to log over 1/2 of the Rogue Basin public lands.

WIN FOR MEADOWS

A federal court ruled for KS Wild and the Forest Service must regulate grazing damage to wet meadows near Mt. Ashland.

SMITH RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Forest Service will soon decide whether to encourage off-road vehicles in wilderness quality areas and botanical hotspots.

WESTSIDE SALVAGE TIMBER SALE

Klamath National Forest authorizes one of the largest clearcutting timber sales ever in the Marble Mountains.

Covering nearly 11 million acres, the Klamath-Siskiyou region stretches from the Umpqua in the north to California's wine country in the south, from the Pacific Ocean to the mighty Cascades. The mountain ranges and river valleys that define this region harbor renowned biological diversity and are some of the most spectacular in America.



Jeff Pang

PUBLIC LANDS FOR ALL

It is easy to take our public lands and rivers for granted, after all they've been a beloved centerpiece of the American experience for over 100 years. From Forest Service Wilderness Areas, to BLM backyard forests, to iconic National Parks and on through spectacular wild and scenic rivers, our public lands heritage are a source of both cultural pride and economic activity that sustainably generate billions of dollars. Our public lands are also the backbone of ecological sustainability. Our forests sequester carbon, our mountain streams and rivers provide clean water and our wild places are some of the last and best refugia for wildlife.

By any measure National Forests, BLM lands and National Parks are a resounding success story. Want to take the family camping? Odds are you'll be heading to the public lands that you know and love. Going fishing? You will likely rely on public lands to access that fishing hole. There's a good chance the clean drinking water that comes out of your tap originated in the public lands that belong to you. If you are a birder, an outfitter, a hunter, a hiker, a photographer, or a botanist, you already know how much our heritage of public lands means to the American experience. Simply put, public lands are our physical connection with the landscape, waters and wildlife of our country.

While most Americans cherish the idea that public lands belong to and benefit all of us, corporate timber, mining and grazing interests have long sought to privatize public lands in order to maximize profits to their respective industries. While subsidized logging, mining and grazing occur on the vast majority of public lands, these extremists bristle at the idea of there being any rules regarding their exploitation of our forests and rivers.

Recent over-the-top armed seizures of public lands by armed thugs in Oregon and Nevada have attracted a great deal of media coverage while traumatizing local communities. While the reckless use of fear and intimidation to advance an anti-public lands ideology is troubling, the actions of a few anti-government radicals will not result in the privatization of America's beloved public lands.

The real threat to our public lands heritage comes from congress and from politicians who are beholden to extractive industries who hope for a public lands giveaway to fatten their quarterly earnings.

Oregon Congressman Greg Walden is at the forefront of the well-funded effort to hand over public lands and waters to corporate interests. His BLM forest bill for western Oregon would put over a million acres of public lands into a so-called "forest trust" that would be run by and for timber companies. Clearcutting would be encouraged, public participation would be eliminated, and streamside logging would skyrocket. Mr. Walden has also proposed a forestry bill that would apply to the entire National Forest system and would severely limit public involvement while stacking committees with industry representatives who stand to gain from the exploitation of public lands. Perhaps even more appalling is Congressman Walden's proposal to hand over a quarter million acres of the Klamath and Fremont-Winema National Forests to his political allies in Siskiyou and Klamath Counties. We must defend our public lands from these radical proposals.

LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE, DEFEND WHAT YOU LOVE

Let's stand with local communities, with wild places, and with each other to show the world what it looks like to love where we live. Our public lands need you.



Stand with Bigfoot. Love your public lands.

#MyPublicLands

Yes, as through this world I've wandered. I've seen lots of funny men; Some will rob you with a six-gun, and some with a fountain pen. - Woody Guthrie

THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND

STEWARDSHIP AND OUR PUBLIC LANDS

Woody Guthrie voiced perhaps the most potent and beloved statement of the American ethos in his classic song, "This Land is Your Land." Yet, as our society faces enormous challenges due to an unprecedented imbalance of power in favor of private corporations, one has to wonder, is this land really made for you and me?



Yet, if you ask the KS Wild community, the answer is a simple and resounding YES! America is so beautiful in large part because of the diverse and expansive natural landscapes that belong to all Americans. It is the legacy of great conservationists that a good portion of these lands remain intact, and as questions bubble into the political discourse about the value of our public lands, it is our imperative to answer those questions clearly and directly.

From these public lands, we reap enormous social and economic benefits in the form of ecosystem services including clean water, climate stabilization and nutrient cycling. By the best current measurements, ecosystem services worldwide provide economic benefit several times the value of global GDP. But for many of you, and certainly for us at KS Wild, these cold calculations say nothing of the intangible benefits to our well-being from the protection of wild places.

"To be fully human, we must participate in the natural world; to be fully alive, we must experience the living beauty of the natural world." - Aldo Leopold

Leopold reminds us of our place in the community of life, inclusive of rock, soil, water, air, and all the organisms with which we share the earth. With an awareness of this more-than-human community, we partake in a land ethic. At KS Wild, we strive to spread this land ethic, promoting a community of stewardship.

Environmental stewards can operate in a variety of ways: as practitioners, donors, and doers. Our staff works hard each day as practitioners, working directly with government agencies and stakeholders to promote best practices in the management of our public lands. Foundations and community members serve as vital donors, providing financial support for our work. The doers are all of you—KS Wild members, volunteers, interns, and partners—who take part in our work, voice your support for public lands, or even just get out on a hike. Anyone can be an environmental steward of the Klamath-Siskiyou region by nourishing a connection with our beautiful wild places, and by staying aware and engaged with the processes that affect them.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND ADOPT-A-BOTANICAL AREA PROGRAM

Your participation in our volunteer programs helps further the protection of our bioregion, strengthens the KS Wild organization, and empowers fellow community members to learn more about their surroundings. We have many different types of volunteers and will work together to create a role that fits your individual skills and passions.

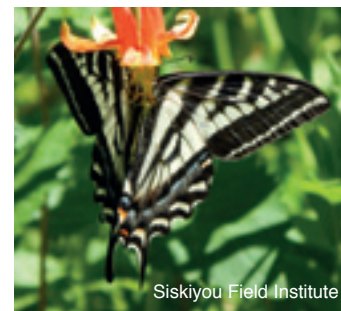
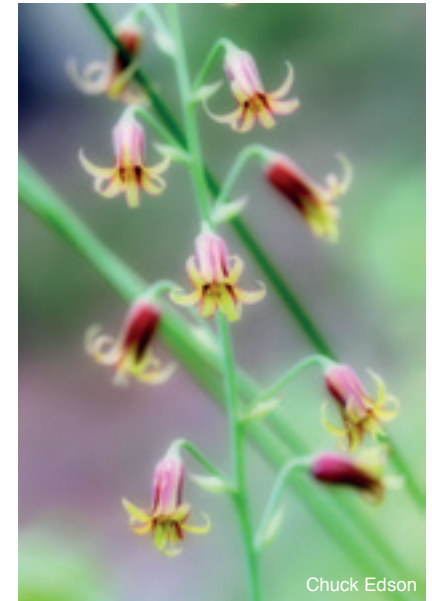
Public Ambassador: If you love meeting new people and talking about important issues, help support our outreach by tabling at local events, assisting our campaign efforts, or simply hanging posters around town.

Event Supporter: Assist at our annual events like the Siskiyou Film Festival and our annual dinner and auction, help host smaller events like letter-writing parties, or co-lead a quarterly hike in the region.

Office Champion: If your time and energy is well spent making phone calls, writing letters to decision makers, or helping us maintain databases, come hang out with KS Wild staff at our warehouse-chic office.

Botanical Area Adopter: Currently in our sixth year, the Adopt-a-Botanical Area (ABA) program volunteers serve as watch-dogs on public lands in some of the most beautiful areas around. Adopters deepen their relationship with public lands by protecting and monitoring ecologically sensitive areas, as well as participating in botanical identification training workshops.

This year, we are excited to train volunteers as citizen-scientists to help with ecological studies in the Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion and gather data on flora and fauna that are being affected by land management decisions. **Join us in May and June for ABA training events. Visit kswild.org/ABA for more information and to register.**

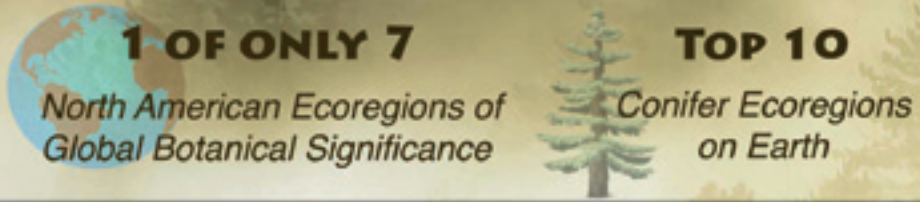


***Doesn't everything die at last,
and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do,
with your one wild and precious life?***

***A Summer's Day
by Mary Oliver (excerpt)***

THE WILD KLAMATH-SISKIYOU

EXTRAORDINARY BIODIVERSITY

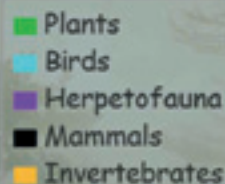


ENDANGERED PUBLIC LANDS OF THE KS

154 terrestrial species with federal/state at-risk status:

Ecoregion Losses:

1. Grizzly Bear
2. Gray Wolf
3. Pronghorn
4. CA Condor
5. Big Horn Sheep



30,000 Miles of roads criss cross the Ecoregion

12%
of KS Lands are protected

Source: "State of the Klamath Knot," World Wildlife Fund



THE MANY FACES OF PUBLIC LANDS

In the mounting battle to keep public lands in public hands, certain voices have been louder than others. Private interests, including those heavily backed by oil and gas - have been vocal that our public lands should be privatized, enabling those groups to sidestep environmental regulations to allow for increased mining, timber and real estate development.

Tens of thousands of Americans who love public lands have also spoken out against the effort to seize and sell off our parks, forests, and open spaces, seeking continued protection of the wild places we enjoy. Last month KS Wild held a photo contest to bring together the many faces of this countermovement in a show of appreciation for our public lands.



STATE FAILS ROGUE STREAMS

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has failed to protect the clear, cold streams and fish in our region by excluding them in their decision to expand stream buffers for Western Oregon's forests. ODF granted limited protections for streams to the north but left out almost the entirety of the Siskiyou region (essentially the Rogue Basin) in their policy decision.



The Department heard from their own associated federal agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and independent scientists about the RipStream study; this study focuses on the riparian zone along timberland streams and its importance for the preservation of healthy waterways. The study identifies 100, but preferably 120 feet as the minimum buffer size that meets water quality protection requirements. The new ODF rules call for only 60 ft. wide buffers on small fish-bearing streams and 80ft wide buffers on medium sized fish-bearing streams, and while this is an improvement for some northern streams, our salmon streams were left out of the policy decision completely.

Many local streams are already suffering from temperatures too high for cold-water fish like the native Coho, Dog and Chinook Salmon. Oregon's water quality restoration plans, crafted by the Department of Environmental Quality (called TMDLs), highlight temperature problems in the Rogue and throughout the state. Removing streamside trees and warming headwater streams increases the temperature of waterways downstream that salmon depend on --something that the Board's decision fails to address. In order to mitigate these harmful impacts, our public waterways that flow through forestlands deserve wider stream buffers in order to protect cold waters and the fish that depend on them.

People in the Rogue Basin are attached to local salmon populations, and the clean, cold water which makes this a special place to live. Locals look forward to fishing season in the fall, hiking down to Rainie Falls to watch the salmon jump, and taking the kids to see these magnificent fish swim Bear Creek on their journey home. Salmon have lived in these rivers for generations because of the pristine, crisp water that is provided by our healthy forests and stable snow packs. We at Rogue Riverkeeper are making an effort to convey to the Department of Forestry the importance of this issue, and submit that they extend the area protected under the Riparian Rule Decision to include the Siskiyou region. We hope that the Department of Forestry will be willing to protect our waterways in the manner in which they deserve.



FEATURED HIKE: LITTLE FALLS TRAIL

> WILD AND SCENIC ILLINOIS RIVER <
> ROGUE RIVER SISKIYOU NATIONAL FOREST <

The Little Falls Trail consists of a short loop that accesses a delightful diversity of scenic wonderment including carnivorous *Darlingtonia* plants, fragrant Siskiyou Azalea, rare Port Orford Cedar stands, stellar views of the surrounding mountains, and the spectacular emerald waters of the Wild and Scenic Illinois River.

While the Little Falls Trail is accessible year-round, it truly shines during the spring wildflower bloom, which often peaks in May.



WILD FLOWERS AND A WILD RIVER AWAIT SPRING HIKERS!

As a result of geological uplift from ocean floor, the "serpentine" soils surrounding the Illinois River in this part of the forest are unusually high in heavy metals- specifically magnesium, nickel chromium and iron. The growing conditions presented by this soil type have produced a hotspot for rare wildflowers that has long attracted botanists from around the world.

One of the first botanists to appreciate the special values of this forest was Thomas Howell, who is commemorated by a botanical driving (and hiking tour) established by the Forest Service along the road accessing the Little Falls Trail. Look for botanical information kiosks along the route and do a quick google search for "TJ Howell Botanical Drive" to print out a handy information packet.

Unfortunately, not everyone has respected the unique botanical legacy of this special place. Scars from off-road vehicle damage and irresponsible mining dot these public lands and the actions of a few continue to threaten lands that belong to all of us. Please let KS Wild staff know if you see any activities harming these wild lands and we will do what we can to protect this sensitive landscape.

GETTING THERE:

Take highway 199 approximately 3.5 miles south of Selma, Oregon. Turn west onto the paved county/Forest Service \$8 Mountain road. Shortly after the road turns to gravel, look for the Little Falls Trailhead on your left.



SISKIYOU FILM FEST FEELING GOOD AT 14 YEARS OLD!

Last month we continued a cherished tradition with our 14th annual Siskiyou Film Festival. We are thrilled to provide a local venue to share important films that inspire us to protect beloved wild places. This year's lineup captured diverse stories from near and far, yet all had a common sense of love for place that we at KS Wild share and seek to foster.

These incredible films offer deep inspiration for our work, but perhaps equally inspiring is sharing space with this community of stewards. From connecting with the good work of other local organizations, to watching a film from a Grants Pass youth, to paying tribute to the festival's founder, Barry Snitkin, we were delighted to see so many faces of the KS Wild family come together.

HIKE THE ROGUE TRAIL AND SUPPORT KS WILD

May 23-27, 2016

5-day raft-supported hike along the historic Rogue River Trail with ARTA

Join ARTA and KS Wild for an unforgettable trip along the Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue. ARTA will ferry all camping gear and food by boat, allowing you to enjoy a steady pace (8 miles per day) with a light daypack and then enjoy comfortable nights of riverside camping with fresh, hearty meals, thick, heavy sleeping pads and glorious, decadent chairs. The rich flora, fauna and human history make the Rogue River a unique treasure. \$845/person (\$100 to KS Wild).

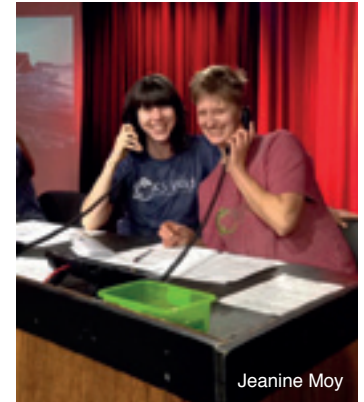


Matt Witt Photography

THANK YOU STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

KS Wild's work would not be possible without the support of hundreds of volunteers. These remarkable people support our mission by collecting petition signatures, turning out at events, monitoring public lands and more. We'd like to thank a few stellar students who take time out to support our work.

Karlie Wilhelmi: As a senior majoring in Outdoor Adventure Leadership at SOU, Karlie loves to travel and explore wild places. "I'm volunteering with KS Wild to meet people who want to protect the places where they play outside." Karlie has been helping with outreach events and office support.



Jeanine Moy

River Davis: River is an undergraduate majoring in international politics at Georgetown University, taking time to support KS Wild's work and learn about environmental laws that influence management of the lands that we love.

Sean O'Connell: Sean is enthusiastic about helping others get outside to experience the freedom of wild places. He is talented at engaging with folks at outreach events, and has been exploring the Kalmiopsis region with KS Wild.

IN LOVING MEMORY

We express deep gratitude to everyone that has donated in the name of Katie MacDiarmid. Your contributions made the Conservation Steward Fellowship possible. Katie lived with a strong passion for life, shared learning, and conservation. Her work as a science teacher and outdoor educator inspired the lives of many, whose dedication to community and the natural world were strengthened through knowing her and her work. KS Wild is honored to support the legacy of Katie's stewardship and care for both people and place.



MacDiarmid Family

KATHRYN N. MACDIARMID CONSERVATION STEWARD FELLOWSHIP

New for summer 2016, this fellowship will be awarded to a current senior undergraduate or graduate student. The student will work closely with our staff to help monitor public lands, support campaign efforts, create media materials and explore opportunities depending on student's interest. Candidates should send a letter of interest, resume and two references to Jeanine@kswild.org no later than April 15th, 2016.



FOCUS ON OUR KS WILD FAMILY

KS Wild is growing! We are pleased to introduce the newest members of the Rogue Riverkeeper and KS Wild family. Please welcome:

APPOLONIA GOECKNER—NO LNG ORGANIZER

KS Wild's Rogue Riverkeeper program is working with Rogue Climate on the No LNG campaign, and we were boosted by Sarah Westover's amazing organizing work over the past year.

Appolonia (Apple), who has volunteered with the No LNG campaign for two years, will take over from Sarah and expand statewide organizing. Apple has a law degree from the University of Oregon and is excited to join the Stand up for Oregon, No LNG team and work with many local communities to say NO to the pipeline and gas export.



FRANCES OYUNG — ROGUE RIVERKEEPER VOLUNTEER ORGANIZER

Frances has been in the Rogue Basin since the early 1990s, attracted by the region's natural areas and outdoor activities. Frances' experience includes jobs as a field biologist and working with local watershed councils. Frances will be working with volunteers, as well as expanding our water quality monitoring. If you'd like to volunteer for our water quality monitoring program or are interested in other volunteer opportunities contact her at frances@roguekeeper.org.



AMY SCHLOTTERBACK — COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Amy brings to KS Wild over a decade of communications study and practice. She spent many years making documentary films as a way to increase awareness and inspire social, environmental, and political change. She looks forward to advancing the mission of KS Wild by incorporating innovative digital communications strategies into our advocacy. Contact her at amy@kswild.org



DONATE YOUR CAR. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

After racking up over 220,000 miles, our trusty steed (a 2001 Toyota Prius) has been driven off into the sunset. KS Wild is currently looking for a used vehicle for staff to drive to all corners of the Klamath-Siskiyou and beyond in support of our conservation efforts.

Did you know that donating a used car to a non-profit can also be considered a tax deductible donation? According to the IRS, when you donate a car to a qualified non-profit, you can deduct the fair market value of the price of the car at the time it's donated. The IRS has some great tools on their website to help donors better understand the value of non-cash donations like your vehicle.

While numerous online car donation sites offer tax deductions in exchange for your car, the best bang for your buck is to donate the car directly to a non-profit organization. If you are looking to upgrade to a newer vehicle, consider donating your old one to KS Wild. Please give us a call to discuss how your trusty steed can live on as a part of the KS Wild family.

SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT US

Acupuncture, Health & Healing, Adrienne Fansler-LCSW, Aquatic Ecosystem Sciences, Ashland Alternative Health, Ashland Center For Women's Health, Ashland Financial Solutions, Ashland Mind Matters, Berryvale Grocery, Big Tree Farms, Carlos Delgado, Architect, Cecelia Howard-Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, Computer Doctor of Ashland, Cucina Biazzi, Dan the Backhoe Man, Family Practice Group, Fly Water Travel, Four & Twenty Blackbirds Bakery, Full Circle Real Estate, Get'N Gear, Gift Community Grateful Meds, Green Path Landworks, Herb Pharm, Idiart Law Group, Inner Synergy, Jahfirm Productions, Jani Rollins-MD, Jefferson State Financial Group/Insurance, Jive Mountain, John Merrill- Woodworker, Kathy A. Sprick, D.D.S., Kindler Stout Piano Service, Kleiman & Stamper Physical Therapy, KSKQ, Mark Machala Chiropractor, Mary Ann Terrall, MA, Master Craft Wood Floors, Matt Witt Photography, Mihama Teriyaki Grill, Momentum River Expeditions, Northwest Nature Shop, One Voice Associates, Patagonia, Plant Oregon, Richard Billin Attorney at Law, Rogue Basin Coordinating Council, Rogue Valley Runners, Safeworld International, ScienceWorks Museum, Southern Oregon Mediation Center, Standing Stone Brewing Co., Steelhead Water, TEN Realty Group, The Downey Co. Home Builders, True South Solar, Upper Limb-It Tree Service, Village Shoes, Wessler Design Associates, Inc.

KS WILD'S MISSION

The Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center is an advocate for the forests, wildlife and waters of the Klamath and Rogue River Basins of southwest Oregon and northwest California. We use environmental law, science, collaboration, education and grassroots organizing to defend healthy ecosystems and help build sustainable communities.

KSWILD.ORG

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