**GREAT OLD BROADS for Wilderness Cascade Volcanoes Membership Meeting**

**Community Room Mc Menamin’s Community Room**

**January 17, 2023**

1. **Welcome-**Leader Laurie Kerr welcomed a good turnout of 14 broads including several new to our broadband. All shared our “resolutions” or hopes for 2023.
2. **Advocacy-**
3. **Elliot Forest Letter** from our broadband and Willamette Valley broadband well written by Darlene Chirman. The letter supports with habitat restoration and protecting the spotted owl.
4. **Lower Snake River Dams**-Laurie sent out an announcement about a Legislation Day in Olympia Washington organized by Trout Unlimited, an ally in this effort. Focus on habitat restoration and breeching of the Lower Snake River Dams. Laurie willing to drive-depart 7:30 AM. Please let her know asap for planning purposes. Includes free lunch and T-shirt. Micky very involved with national advocacy with legislators to breech Lower Snake River Dams. Letter being sent to Congress. Encouraging others to get involved. Signs are available.
5. **Hantwick Transfer Land Trust**-This is really great news. There is a well-used paved trail in northern Clark County WA near Moulton Falls. Through advocacy of our group (chatting on the trail, comments at Clark County Council etc) and partners, today the DNR approved a land transfer of 80 acres, to prevent logging along this highly used trail. Laurie sent out the maps of the parcel transactions.
6. **Spirit Lake-**this has been a difficult legal battle. Laurie gave the background on why we and our partners have been fighting the plan for tunnel/road construction-can impact water quality, habitat, hiking trails; planned for 2023-2026. We lost appeal with 9th circuit court, however there still may be an opportunity for advocacy with the USFS.

**No place for a mine-**Another on-going battle-being the 5th time in court. Our partner is Cascade Forest Conservancy. Issue is resisting a mining company requesting permission to do exploratory mining, which could only lead to long term damage to the environment. Please sign the petition <https://www.greenrivervalleyalliance.org/petition> if you have not already done so.

1. **Chehalis-**Laurie has been actively participating in a diverse multi-organization collaborative (including tribal representation) planning non-dam alternatives to the frequent flooding in this area. The acronym LAND is the name selected for this collaboration and they have not made any recommendations for alternative proposals to the Flood Retention Project currently.
2. **Forest BRAT (Broads Regional Advocacy Team)-**Laurie explained what a BRAT is-when more than one broadband comes together around critical advocacy issue. Micky reported focus of Forest BRAT is protecting the larger, old growth forest trees. Let Laurie know your passion if you would like to participate and then report back to group.
3. **Town Halls**-Micky had sent out email announcements about town hall meetings coming up very quickly with Senator Ron Wyden: 1) **Jan 18-9:30 AM** in Gresham for Multnomah County and 2) **Jan 20-10:30 AM** in Oregon City for Clackamas County at Oregon City High School. We were encouraged to attend. If new, you can observe and then do comments. Invitation by Oregon wild*.*
4. **Education**
5. **Equity & Justice Museum Field Trip January 25:** In Barb’s absence, Linda reminded those participating that Barb will send out final name list, and the meeting time will be 10 AM sharp at the main Portland Museum entrance. After our time viewing the main Native American focused exhibit, we will have lunch at Pastini’s in walking distance. Suggestions made for public transportation as alternative mode.
6. **BANFF Film Festival**-Laurie and Jenny (who also participates in the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance=SUWA) have organized tabling schedule for our Broads and SUWA. **Feb 2**-Barb/Laurie, **Feb 5**-Carole Onasch. The goal is getting folks to write postcards to Sen Maria Cantwell in support of Wilderness Study Areas.Jenny explained critical need to renew efforts-ceased in 2003-for Bureau of Land Management-to designate wilderness study areas. 29 million acres are not protected, and additional wilderness study areas could be added to Biden’s 30 X 30 proposal if approved.
7. **WALTS Training**-March 27-31 in Santa Fe New Mexico. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn leadership skills to bring back to our local broadband. A 2-year commitment is requested after completion. Lodging and meals are provided but you pay airfare. Let Laurie know if interested. The deadline is early February.
8. **Public Interest Environmental Law Conference**-held in Bend Oregon and zoom-totally free. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about local, domestic and international environmental issues. Broads will be tabling. *Sign up deadline fast approaching-January 20!*
9. **Book group:** Tree Thieves-Discussion to be held on **February 17**-**2-4 PM** at the Vancouver home of Linda Buckley. Location to be sent later to participants. Laurie sent out study/discussion questions in previous email. On Utube is an interview with the author and Netflix has a “Murder Mountain” series which further describes the culture revealed in the book.
10. **Stewardship:**
11. **Washington Trails Association:** Barb will give update later.
12. **Southern Utah Wilderness Association (SUWA):** Jenny gave detailed update on two stewardship opportunities with SUWA in the Grand Escalante Circle Cliffs. There are about 12 spots for **April 21-24** and **September 22-25** (Laurie and Barb interested). Apparently, there is much Off the Road traffic negatively impacting this area, needing to be restored. Contact Jenny [jenny@suwa.org](mailto:jenny@suwa.org) if you are interested.

**V. FUN:**

**1. Annual Campout Committee:** planning meeting to be held tomorrow evening via zoom-Jan 18, at 7 PM. First priority is to locate dates as well as available,appropriate venue.

**2.** **Dry Creek Falls Regional Broadwalk**-**April 13-17**-Laurie and Micky have been working very hard on the planning committee. Watch for sign up to be sent out via email on **January 23.** Don’t be discouraged if spots unavailable, as there often is turnover. Mickey encouraged going on wait list. Included are catered meals, lodging, hikes, stewardshiparound pygmy rabbits (endangered species), and many speakers including native American drummer educator on land restoration.

**3. Snowshoe Hike Twin Falls**-led by Barb is scheduled for 1/31. Barb is considering Trillium as an alternative in case snow conditions not good at trail to Twin Lakes. Contact Barb if you are interested.

**4**. **National Broadwalks:** Micky mentioned that National Broads are planning a couple Broadwalks-which consist of education, stewardship, advocacy and fun: 1) California in May and 2) new national monument in Mojave Desert Nevada called *Avi Kwa Ame* (Spirit Mountain). Details should be finalized in February newsletter. New paid Broads can get 10% discount.

**5**. **Wild for Wilderness Auction: April 14-23**-Laurie encouraged donations. Bondi already contributed item.

**NEXT membership meeting is**: **February 21, same place**. We have some excellent speakers from Fish and Wildlife-biologist/educators lined up.

Meeting adjourned 8:00pm

Submitted by Linda Buckley