**BROADS Minutes Cascade Volcanoes Broadband**

**McMennamin’s Kennedy School Nov 21, 2023**

**Leader Laurie Kerr had us all introduce ourselves** stating our favorite Thanksgiving dish

**Present:**  Speaker Mike Cafferata, Julie Cafferata, Laurie, Barb, Lorena, Linda B, Linda F, Bondi, Micky, Kathleen, Marie, June, Trish, Kris, Ellen Roseann, Doran, and Carolyn.

Mike’s topic was **“One tie at a time: the Salmonberry Trail**”. He is district forester with Dept of Forestry based in Forest Grove Oregon.Some of the responsibilities include protecting the Tillamook forest, fire protection, partner with BLM,and providing opportunities to use the forest to benefit Oregonians. Mike also works with the foundation supporting the Salmonberry Trail..

Recommended book by Paul Clock regarding the history of the Pacific railway, Punk rotten and nasty.

**History:** 1850s Tillamook valley was settled by dairy farmers, who initially sailed up the Columbia river., 1900 had population of 6,000. Women’s suffrage was big issue. 1905 railroad built up the salmonberry canyon. Over to Nehalem along salmonberry river. Completed in 1911 and connected to Vernonia and Banks.

1996- a flood destroyed the rail lines. Rebuilt with $40 million but 2007 another flood. So Tillamook county and the Federal government decided not to rebuild the rail lines a second time. Oregon parks asked about the recreational corridor. Mike’s dept said yes. You can take the max line to Hillsboro, get off, take council creek trail to forest grove. Linked to Banks Vernonia rail trail. There is 5 mile gap. Hope is for the salmonberry trail to go to the ocean; the trail totals 86 miles, consisting of both rails and trails. 2007-08-various parties met, some in opposition. Authority and decision-making process initially unclear. Progress: Cycle Oregon gave $100,000 for a concept plan. Goals included: preserve investment (if no longer used as railway, land goes away), provide access to multiple users and improve the environment. Oregon solutions project involved. In 2016, the Salmonberry Trail Intergovernmental Agency was created. Rail banking prevented the trail from reverting to previous owners, port of Tillamook bay. A trust was formed in 2019 and a foundation. This year 2023, rail salvage is being removed. Land use planning taking place as new use. Trail partner development-it’s NOT a state park, but Stubbs Stewart will contribute restrooms to the trail section near them. There are inadequate funds and staff. So raising funds through foundation and accepting volunteer help for trail jobs such as cleaning trestles. Rockaway willing to take on a section. Partners are building community support through meetings at Banks/Manning. The website for getting newsletter and volunteer needs (maybe our campout 2024) is: [www.salmonberrytrail.org](http://www.salmonberrytrail.org/). Donations appreciated too.

Questions included are they getting support from National Rails and Trails? Mike knows they’ve consulted and received some grant also he believes. E bikes likely not permitted.

**ADVOCACY**, Oregon State pulled out of Elliot State Forest due to logging. OSU needs revenue from logging. We support maintaining the Elliot as a research forest.

**BRAT**: Broads Regional Action Team: trying to support legislation for 35X30 in Oregon. Scoping period coming up in December to support old growth, with 45 day comment period. Rule making BLM in February 2024-more details to come.

**Earl Blumenauer** Meeting-Bondi, Micky and Felice met with his staffer who expressed interest in joining us on a hike. Barb may consider a hike to invite staffer..

**Climate solutions: Clark County** Mature Forest advocacy: Washington state allocated $70 million through DNR to purchase new forested land. Unfortunately, Clark County Council has NOT signed on to support Climate solutions for old growth forest preservation. Please make comments to the Clark County council if you live in Clark county.

**No place for a Mine**: Laurie updated us. Cascade Forest Conservancy and Conservation Northwest (Kurt) continue to advocate. Cascades Volcanoes will be spotlight on CFC email.  98 organizations and 3400 individuals signed the petition to prevent mining in this area of Green River Valley  near Mt Saint Helens. They want to meet with Rep Gusenkamp Perez and Cantwell for consideration of a bill.. On federal level, Deb Halland, Secretary of the Interior and various tribes will be asked for their support for an administrative mineral withdrawal which would prohibit mining for 20 years but not permanently.

**Washington**: Outstanding resource water; Dept of Ecology must decide by January 15. This is  the issue we wrote comments for in September..

**Healthy Forests holiday theme**: Barb: Wednesday Dec 6th at 11:30 AM. National Broads alerted us to an idea from Oregon Wild to make ornaments and crafts to send to legislators for healthy mature forest advocacy. Maybe we can make some for Clark County Council too. Barb is hosting at her home and plans to make vegetarian chili. Feel free to bring a potluck contribution and crafts materials you might have at home! She sent out details.

**EDUCATION:**

**CRAG Law Center**: November 30 Fundraiser. They do a lot of pro bono environmental work. Kathleen has been involved with annual events for some time, and encourages us to participate. She will be a speaker. Sliding scale available for this fun event to be held at the Eco Trust Center. Theme is “Lost in the Wild”.

**Book Group-**Black Woman in Green, about Gloria Brown, a true trailblazer as first woman of color to reach her level in the USFS/BLM. **December 8 at 5 PM Darlene Chirman’s home** in southeast PDX-room for one more broad.

**Book Group**-Crossings: how road ecology is shaping the future of our planet by Ben Goldfarb,**February 9 at 2:00 pm at Laurie’s home in Battle Ground, Washington**.  Please contact Laurie if interested.Laurie may be able to obtain extra books.

**Columbia Land Trust: hosting free film events** ***Stewart Udall:*** ***Politics of Beauty***-including **January 13-1:00** PM preferred and 7 PM-at the Pearson Air Museum Fort Vancouver Washington. Laurie sent out the specifics, and option to walk around grounds after the 1pm showing.

**First aid/CPR** completed by Laurie, Rosanne, Bondi, Barb. Kathleen and Barb have wilderness first aid.

DEI-Barb reported on recent activities supported by DEI committee.

o   **Indigenous Leadership Awards**-Very inspiring lovely event held at Eco trust Center, honoring a variety of primarily women leaders from entire western states up to Alaska.

o   **Place Matters**-4 movies produced by native americans, co sponsored by OPB and Confluence.

o   **Meaningful movies**: excellent film about native American women led efforts to stop the Dakota Pipeline. Speaker afterwards was spiritual leader for local Cowlitz tribe.

Barb reported on **Columbia Riverkeeper benefit concert celebrating GORDON LIGHTFOOT** music with multiple musicians. Well attended by Broads.

**STEWARDSHIP:**

**Friends of Trees:** Ellenhas been active with this consistently well-organized and well-known organization. **On Saturday Dec 2,** she will be leading a planting team in Oregon City. Broads who are interested can let her know so you will be placed on her team, up to maximum of 7.Residents pay for the trees and often help with the planting. Good neighborhood connecting. Ellen will send out information on how to get involved.

**Ground truthing**: Mapping the lay of the land. Volunteers assist an arborist by sloping/measuring trees. Developers need guidelines.  Cascade Forest Conservancy handles the federal forest land (like Gifford Pinchot) and Center for Responsible Forestry handles this volunteer activity on state lands, (such as Yacolt Burn). Some of these timber forests are far away. BARK does this in Oregon.

**How to celebrate** the 35 anniversary of the Broads:  Ideas include  Broads on tabling at community events and speaking to other groups in community about the Broads. Micky is working on the speaker's bureau, Broads interested should let Micky know. Display Case in library could be used. National Broads website has excellent resources for powerpoint, talking points etc.

Minutes generously submitted by Linda Buckley