



Thank-you celebration to be annual!

BY JANIS MOHR-TIPTON

The Cantrall Buckley Park Enhancement Committee (PEC) is grateful for all the community volunteers and donors supporting our work in the park. Following our successful April Thank-You Celebration, the planning committee unanimously decided to make this an annual event to bring the community together, recognize our supporters, enjoy good music, and see and showcase the exciting changes in the park.

Enhancement projects news

The donor mural is almost finished! Artist and creator Jeremy Criswell is happy to announce that several new panels have been poured and are curing in his new studio. He now has room to complete the rest of the panels. Once they are ready, Jackson County Parks employees will transport them to the park and help Jeremy install them.

New hiker-biker shelter coming to the campground

Thanks to donations to A Greater Applegate's park committee, the last enhancement project, a long-awaited campground improvement, is taking shape. The inspiration for this special shelter—with a roof, open sides, a partial wall with a built-in counter, and storage units—came from similar structures in Oregon state parks on the coast and in the Willamette Valley. The PEC saw an

opportunity to provide a similar structure in our park for those who bicycle or car camp while enjoying an adventure in our region.

This project is supported with generous private donations from local organizations, businesses, and individuals. The pandemic and supply-chain problems brought the project to an abrupt halt, but in 2022, the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council (APWC) stepped in to help. They found a local contractor for locally milled lumber who could also provide a basic kit for assemblage. They offered a technical person to help with design factors if needed and other planning and labor assistance for the project.

We are truly grateful for the initial donors who supported this new campground feature, and for their patience. We would also appreciate any businesses who might be able to provide a discount on materials, including brackets, bolts, cabinet materials, etc. Because of the recent increase in material costs, we could still use donations to finish the design and make this an amazing campsite upgrade. If you wish to join in supporting this project, go to applegatepartnership.org or contact Janis Mohr-Tipton at janis.agapark@gmail.com.

We are also going to be asking for volunteers to help erect this shelter

after the campground closes for the season, and construction can begin. Contact Janis at 541-846-7501 if you are interested in helping.

Coming fall volunteer opportunity

We are planning the Fall Riverside Cleanup with SOLVE, APWC, and AGA from 9 am-noon September 23—depending on good temperatures and air quality. We will notify you if plans change. Please check the APWC news and events website at applegatepartnership.org/upcoming-events, along with the Applegate Connect website at applegateconnect.org.

Join PEC members as we continue removing invasive species at the Dragonfly Place and picking up trash on the riverfront. The event will be posted on the SOLVE website (solveoregon.org), where you can register for the event. You can also check for more information and a registration link on the APWC website or contact Janelle at contact@apwc.info or Janis at janis.agapark@gmail.com or 541-846-7501.

The APWC and AGA volunteer park committees hope to see you at Cantrall Buckley Park, located off Highway 238 in Ruch. We highly value the community



Mosaic artist Jeremy Criswell is happy to finally be in production creating the rest of the panels for the donor mural at Cantrall Buckley in his newly developed studio at his residence in Phoenix. Photo: Jeremy Criswell.



The new hiker-biker site for Cantrall Buckley Campground is modeled after this unit at Champoeg State Park in the Salem, Oregon, area. A partial wall will be added behind the counter for weather protection, as well as a pitched roof for better wind-resistance in our area. Photo: Janis Mohr-Tipton.

members who volunteer to help with our enhancement projects. Thank you again for your service at our Jackson County park.

Janis Mohr-Tipton
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Prepare your family and home for a wildfire emergency

KS Wild's recently published *Forest & Fire Toolkit* is a one-stop shop for all the resources you need to acquaint yourself with the forests in the Siskiyou region and, most importantly, how to prepare your family, your home, and your community for a wildfire emergency, including:

- How-to guide on preparing your property for wildfire
- Funding opportunities for home defense
- Steps to plan and be ready for a wildfire emergency and evacuation
- Resource directory of national forest districts, fire districts, and more!

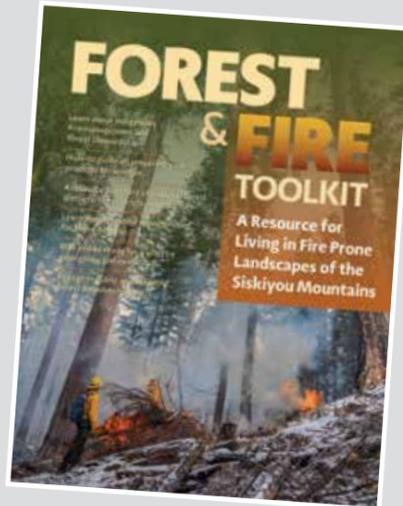
Why is this important?

Rural communities are surrounded by public and private industrial forestland, and the decisions made in these forests affect everyone living in the watershed. Forest practices, like thinning near homes and prescribed fire, can help protect communities. Other forest

practices, like clear-cut logging, can damage watersheds and increase fire hazard. The Siskiyou region is experiencing warmer temperatures, with longer periods of dry weather and drought. Increasing residential development into forestlands places more homes and communities at risk from wildfire. There is no future free from wildfire, but there are actions we can take to help prepare for the next one.

The toolkit is geared toward people who are affected by forest management and who have a desire to become involved in the decision-making process for our forests. This includes, for example, rural residents, forest workers, landowners, recreationists, and nature-based businesses.

The *Forest & Fire Toolkit* is part of KS Wild's ongoing efforts to support community adaptation to wildfires and a changing climate. Many partner organizations contributed to the creation of the toolkit, including Lomakatsi



Restoration Project, Smith River Alliance, Firebrand Resiliency Collective, Illinois Valley Community Development Organization, and A Greater Applegate.

To learn more about the *Forest & Fire Toolkit* and to download a free copy, visit kswild.org and scroll down the home page. If you would like to purchase a hard copy, click Merch or contact alexi@kswild.org.

ROCS hosts EE Summit

BY RYAN KING

In collaboration with Oregon State University (OSU), Ruch Outdoor Community School (ROCS) hosted a free, one-day, professional development and community-building event focused on environmental education (EE). The EE Summit invited local educators and organizations to enrich and enhance outdoor learning experiences for K-12 students in southern Oregon.

The keynote program was delivered by Jeanine Moy from Vesper Meadow (vespermeadow.org). She shared the new fire ecology and human relationship curriculum, aligned to SB13 Tribal History/Shared History, produced by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and written by the Vesper Meadow Education Program.

Breakout sessions included an outdoor school information panel featuring OSU
See ROCS, page 11.

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