Soul River runs wild in the Ochocos (4-7)
Oregon timber funding Trump’s agenda (8-9)
Creature Feature: Humboldt Marten (12)
If you’re like most of the American public these days, you’re about ready to throw your cell phone into the toilet, disconnect from social media, and avoid a CNN broadcast like the plague. The norm-demolishing ways of our current President have fed a news cycle that seems to spiral ever downward.

Personally, I haven’t been able to unplug. Whether unable to look away from the perpetual car-wreck of the last two years or insistent on standing watch lest the world lose interest and let them get away with their horrors ± I keep checking the news every morning. It makes it hard to feel optimistic.

But then I head to work at Oregon Wild and I can’t help to see the world differently.

With the help of thousands of members, tens of thousands of active supporters, and hundreds of thousands of Oregonians who share our values of protecting what is special about Oregon, we are making progress every single day.

With an incredible team of allies, we recently halted in court a massive OHV playground proposed in the Ochoco National Forest (read more about our campaign on the following pages).

We’re standing up to the Trump administration and the logging industry to keep the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument boundary intact (and royally pissing off some logging-industry backed county commissioners in the process).

Spurred on by Oregon Wild leadership, concerned citizens and small grassroots groups across the coast and Coast Range are building a chorus of opposition to business-as-usual industrial clearcutting.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the commission that oversees the agency are learning that Oregonians who believe native species have a right to thrive in our state are no longer going to sit idly by.

I see the momentum of change in ways small and large every day ± from the activist who slogs through an all-day meeting to make a 3-minute public comment to the legislator who picks up the torch and becomes a champion for safeguarding our forests.

Absolutely nothing will come easy. From elections to public hearings to convincing your skeptical neighbor ± we have to outwork and outsmart those who want the system to stay rigged in favor of exploitation.

But we are going to do it. Those who fought to pass on the natural legacy that we now enjoy never gave up. And we won’t either. Onward.

RHETT WILKINS A fierce focus and an internal fire will see us through these difficult times.

From the Director’s Desk

Not backing down

Sean Stevens, Executive Director
The best way to safeguard public lands, wild rivers, and wildlife has always been to connect people with them so that they become advocates for their protection. This has been a core part of Oregon Wild’s work dating back to our founding. The strongest defenders of Oregon’s wild places are those who love them.

But the reality is that while our National Forests, wildlife refuges, and other public lands belong to all Americans, access to these places is often far from equal. From the economic reality that not every family can afford nice outdoor gear or the expense of traveling to a remote National Park or Wilderness, to language barriers, to simply feeling welcome and safe in rural areas, getting outside is a lot harder for some Americans than it is for others. Yet unless we connect young people and in particular young people of color to our public lands, how will we nurture the next generation of conservation advocates?

That question is what led Oregon Wild to partner with Soul River Inc., an Oregon-based nonprofit that shares the healing powers of rivers and nature with veterans and inner city youth. Founded by Chad Brown, a U.S. Navy veteran who found the outdoors to be powerful medicine through the sport of fly fishing, Soul River uses the outdoors as a vehicle to tackle environmental and social justice issues through mission-driven, environmentally focused, educationally rich experiences they call deployments. Veterans serve as mentors, teaching the youth life skills, conservation education, and leadership development in threatened wild spaces. Combining these two demographics creates rich, powerful opportunities for authentic healing while investing in and developing emerging environmental leaders.

Over the summer of 2018, Soul River Inc. youth and veterans explored some of the wildest country in America, from the threatened Bears Ears National Monument in Utah to rafting down a wild river in the Arctic.
National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. Oregon Wild was privileged to partner with Soul River on the final trip of their 2018 season, a week-long exploration of the proposed Ochoco Mountains National Recreation Area.

Connecting to the wild

“Going to urban parks is simply not enough for me to find myself,” said Yanett Garcia, a fourteen-year-old from Portland, in a letter about the Ochocos that she composed while camping at the top of Lookout Mountain, deep in the heart of the Ochoco National Forest. She shared it with other youth and veterans gathered in a circle at the top of the mountain, surrounded by yipping coyotes and a smoky sunset. Her thoughts, and those of other youth and veterans who spent the week exploring the Ochocos, expressed love and appreciation for wild places and the need to protect them.

The circle of youth and veterans gathered on the mountain was a small step in that direction, but it was an important one. Less than a year earlier, local politicians on the Crook County Commission adopted a “natural resources plan” drafted by an anti-government militia group. The plan aims to pressure the U.S. Forest Service to elevate logging and cattle above other uses of this spectacular landscape, and to give local militia backers more power over the future of the land.

An Ochoco adventure

Deployment began with 11 people tumbling out of a van in Prineville, Oregon on a very, very hot August day. All of us were full of nervous excitement and energy. After a picnic lunch in a local park and a short introduction to the Ochoco Mountains and Ponderosa pine forests, we loaded up and headed to Walton Lake for the first leg of our trip. The next few days were filled with learning exercises ranging from fly fishing, camping, hiking, horse packing, education and conservation. For me, as a native of the region who has dedicated a good chunk of my life to protecting this area, sharing the Ochocos with the youth and veterans was an honor I will never forget.
public lands to public speaking, fly fishing to kayaking on the lake, and how to let the pressures of city life go in the shade of towering Ponderosas.

Leg two was spent on the Wild and Scenic Crooked River, with more fly fishing, education, and an intense summer thunderstorm. Yanett, the youngest person on the trip, caught (and released) the most fish in one day on a Soul River trip—an impressive 11 rainbow trout! The largest fish wasn’t caught by a human, however. That title was won by an osprey performing a spectacular dive into the river while we all huddled together watching dark storm clouds roll up the canyon.

“Go, Go, Go!” everyone cheered as the osprey caught a fish that seemed too big for it to lift. We watched it struggle not once, but twice, to hoist itself and its dinner out of the river. The cheers of our group filled the canyon as the bird finally took flight, with a huge rainbow gripped in its talons.

Later that evening, the storm clouds broke the heat of the day. The youth seemed energized by the storm; dancing and playing frisbee under the desert rain and breathing in deeply the unique and intoxicating scent of juniper and sage after a summer soak. We later huddled around the campfire making s’mores, while thunder echoed and rattled through the canyon walls.

After spending a few silent and reflective moments on the banks of the Crooked the next morning, we loaded up for our third and final leg of the deployment—hiking up the trail.

A few hours later we crested the summit of Lookout Mountain, and the sweeping 360-degree view made everyone shout with excitement. We paused at the top and took in the scenery, while the string of horses we’d left at the trailhead caught up. Everyone enjoyed another round of nuzzles standing on the highest peak in the forest before setting up camp for the evening.

We were at the peak of the Ochoco Deployment. In addition to camping out on the summit of a mountain in one of the wildest corners of the Ochocos, this evening would see the youth take center stage and deliver their final speeches to sum up their experiences and thoughts about the future of the Ochocos to their peers.

Each had given hours of thought and preparation for their moment, with coaching and support from a veteran mentor. I sat listening to each youth describe what the Ochocos meant to them and what they wanted to see the future of the forest look like, and I was struck by the power of the outdoor classroom. Sometimes adults like me don’t have to say anything; nature says it all for us.

“These wild places are not just an
escape for us, but an escape for wildlife,” declared Sofina, a seasoned Soul River participant with a long list of deployments under her belt. “How sad it would be to see these trees cut, making it less natural and taking away from the beauty of this place. Wilderness is a sanctuary.”

We broke camp the next morning, and after taking in the spectacular views from the top of Lookout Mountain one last time, we headed back down the trail. Back at the trailhead, youth and vets unloaded horses, snuck in a final scratch, pat and nuzzle with the animals, then said our final goodbyes. The youth and veterans loaded up for the long drive back to Portland - fatigued and full of memories.

Turning love into action

The Ochoco Deployment didn't end when we parted ways at the trailhead.

This fall, Oregon Wild and Soul River Inc. will partner up again to take a small group of participating veterans and youth back to Washington, DC. We aim to meet with U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley and other elected officials so that youth and veterans can share their experiences in the Ochocos and other public lands, and advocate for their protection.

The goal of our partnership wasn't just to help youth and veterans experience the Ochocos. It was also to help them find their voice and provide an opportunity for leadership and advocacy for wildlands, wild rivers, and wildlife.

It won't end with the Ochocos. We are already planning several 2019 trips to other threatened wild areas in Oregon, as well as film screenings and forums with veterans and public lands advocates. Building a bigger, stronger, and more diverse conservation movement will take time, but we are laying the foundation.

Protecting the Ochoco Mountains

Erik Fernandez, Wilderness Program Manager

On a very clear day from the top of Lookout Mountain, the jaw-dropping views stretch from Mount Rainier in the north to Mount Shasta in the south. The Ochoco Mountains are the next frontier for outdoor recreation in central Oregon. Home to amazing stands of old-growth Ponderosa pine forests, wildflower meadows, and elk herds, the Ochocos are one of Oregon’s natural treasures.

Unfortunately, the Ochoco Mountains are threatened by several recent proposals, including old-growth logging and an off-road-vehicle (OHV) proposal that would have added 135 miles of motorized trails through the heart of key habitats.

Thankfully, good news came for the Ochoco Mountains in late August when the courts rejected the proposed OHV plan. It was a preliminary ruling, but as of print time it appears the biggest threat to the Ochocos has been held off. Our diverse coalition in court included the Oregon Hunters Association and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Ultimately, the Ochocos will need leadership from Oregon Senators Wyden, Merkley and Rep. Walden to craft a plan that better balances wildlife, clean water, recreation, and fire management. A coalition of mountain bikers, hikers, hunters, wildlife advocates, and others are working to engage them and encourage introduction of legislation to protect the Ochoco Mountains National Recreation Area. The proposal would include protections for old-growth forests, clean water, Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers, and a sustainable recreational trail vision.
If you live in western Oregon, chances are that your county government is helping fund a lawsuit to overturn the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.

Most counties in western Oregon are members of the Association of O&C Counties (AOCC), a timber industry front group behind a controversial lawsuit to log the Cascade-Siskiyou, as well as a wide variety of other efforts to roll back our environmental laws and dramatically increase logging in our public forests. The AOCC claims to represent the interests of the county governments. However, the Association, at the behest of the timber industry, has increasingly advocated for extreme logging policies. In combination with timber-aligned groups like the American Forest Resource Council (AFRC) and Oregon Forest Resource Institute (OFRI), vast sums of money (public money in the case of OFRI and AOCC) are spent on lobbying and communications campaigns to "greenwash" industrial logging on public lands. Sometimes these groups even bring lawsuits to up-the-cut in our public forests or undermine protections for public lands. In fact, the AFRC is pursuing its own lawsuit separate from the AOCC's lawsuit to open the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument to logging.

But the Association of O&C Counties has gone a step further in its efforts to log protected public forests in Oregon. For example, over the past year, the Association has used county funds to lobby the Trump administration to shrink the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument by executive order. The Trump administration is now targeting four monuments nationwide and, largely due to the efforts of the AOCC, Oregon's monument is among them. President Trump has already shrunk the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments in Utah by 85% and 45% respectively, which constitutes the largest elimination of protected public land in American history.

Originally designated by President Clinton in 2000 and expanded by President Obama in 2017, the Cascade-Siskiyou is the first and only National Monument specifically established to protect biological diversity. It's also home to a section of the Pacific Crest Trail and many other outdoor opportunities such as hiking, horseback riding, skiing, and more.

The Cascade-Siskiyou is also an important wildlife corridor supporting wildlife migration between the Cascades, the Klamath/Siskiyou mountain ranges, and the Great Basin. If the president takes executive action to reduce the protective boundaries, however, this cherished landscape would be opened to logging, mining, and other types of destructive development.

In addition to lobbying the Trump administration to attack the Cascade-Siskiyou, the AOCC has testified before Congress and endorsed various logging bills that would...
dramatically alter forest management in the Pacific Northwest. One such bill, the Resilient Federal Forests Act (HR 2936), would create numerous logging loopholes to our environmental laws and require that millions of acres of public forestland throughout Oregon be managed for the sole purpose of logging.

Recently, Oregon Wild published a report that highlights the specific, protected public lands throughout Oregon that would have been stripped of their protective status and logged if the original version of HR 2936, which the AOCC supported, became law. These areas include:

- The Wild Rogue Wilderness
- Table Rock Wilderness
- Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument
- Parts of Silver Falls State Park
- Several designated Wild & Scenic River corridors, including the Salmon and Clackamas rivers.

At a time when such a small fraction of Oregon’s old-growth forests and pristine wildlands remain, we can’t afford attacks on our protected public lands; and yet, over a dozen Oregon counties continue to fund and support the AOCC, which attempts to do just that. Put simply, to continue supporting this radical organization is to be complicit in these attacks on public lands.

A recent poll found that 74% of Oregonians want our members of Congress to show more leadership to expand protections for public lands, not eliminate them. County Commissioners representing a diverse population that largely supports public land protections and the quality of life these lands support should not be devoting county funds to advance Trump’s public lands agenda.

Benton and Multnomah Counties have already pulled out of the Association and other counties can do the same. Is your county supporting and funding this radical Association? If so, contact your Commissioners today and urge them to withdraw from the Association of O&C Counties once and for all!

The following counties are current members of the AOCC:

Clackamas, Columbia, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Josephine, Jackson, Klamath, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, Tillamook, Washington, and Yamhill.

Our National Forests, Monuments, and other public lands are facing mounting threats from Congress and the Trump administration. Over the past year and a half, we’ve seen proposals to dramatically increase logging on our public forestlands, bills to gut our bedrock environmental laws, and attempts to sell public lands to extractive corporations. But we’ve also seen record participation in rallies, town halls, hearings, and other grassroots efforts to protect our public lands from these attacks.

Now is the time to get more involved in the movement to #ProtectPublicLands! Did you know that Oregon Wild has grassroots activist teams (“Wild Ones”) that meet just about every month in Eugene, Portland, and Bend? Our Wild Ones meetings help train activists to improve their advocacy skills, and offer in-depth information about important conservation issues. Learn more about how to get involved here:

WWW.OREGONWILD.ORG/WILDONES
Illegal off-road vehicle trails stopped in the Ochocos

Noisy, polluting, and dangerous off-road vehicles do not belong in wild areas on America’s public lands. Unfortunately, in 2017 the Forest Service proposed ripping 137 miles of motorized trails through the heart of the Ochoco National Forest, including winter range and calving areas for elk. Oregon Wild, together with a coalition of conservation and hunting groups, took the agency to court over its failure to consider the damage their plan would do.

On August 27, U.S. Magistrate Judge Patricia Sullivan agreed with us in a ruling that puts a major roadblock in front of the plan. It must be affirmed by a higher court, but for now those elk can rest a little easier.

Wild Rogue, Devil’s Staircase Wilderness re-introduced

Protecting wildlands as Wilderness takes time, especially with opposition from Republican leaders in Congress and the Trump administration. The good news is that protection for some of Oregon’s worthiest areas has once again been introduced in Congress.

Earlier this year, Senators Wyden and Merkley re-introduced legislation to protect the Wild Rogue and Devil’s Staircase Wilderness areas in the Senate, and on July 24 Rep. Peter DeFazio re-introduced a Devil’s Staircase measure in the House. The bills have a long way to go before becoming law, but re-introduction is an important step forward.

Marbled Murrelet meltdown

The marbled murrelet is a critically endangered seabird that nests in old-growth forests. Earlier this year, conservation groups celebrated the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission decision to strengthen protections for the species by up-listing them from “threatened” to “endangered” under Oregon’s state Endangered Species Act. It was short lived, however. Under intense pressure from logging interests, the commission reversed itself in early June.

That set the stage for a bizarre Commission meeting on August 3, where Commission Chair Michael Finley went on a tirade over criticism of the decision. Faced with citizens who wished to testify and express their opposition to the reversal, Finley threatened to have State Police officers forcibly remove anyone from the hearing room who tried to speak about it. His actions drew even more
attention to the controversy, and have led to calls for a public apology from a number of Oregon’s largest environmental organizations. Oregon Wild and other groups have challenged the Commission’s flip-flop in court.

**Defending the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument**

The legal battle over the fate of the Cascade-Siskiyou (and other National Monuments around the country) continues. Last year, Oregon Wild, Soda Mountain Wilderness Council, and other groups intervened in lawsuits brought by logging interests and anti-public lands county politicians that seek to overturn protections for large areas of the monument. Briefs were filed in the case over the summer, but a decision is not expected for at least several months.

**Trump attacks endangered wildlife**

The Trump administration has already racked up the worst environmental record of any Presidency in history, but the attacks on America’s lands, waters, and wildlife continue. In July, the administration proposed a major revision of how it would enforce the Endangered Species Act, downgrading protections for threatened species and elevating economic considerations in decision making. If finalized, the proposal could set back science-based wildlife conservation by decades.

**Elliott public land clawed back**

Before the State of Oregon attempted to sell off 80,000 acres of public land in the Elliott State Forest to logging companies, they first conducted several “test” sales to see if they even had the legal authority to do so. According to the Lane County Circuit Court of Appeals, the answer to that question is “no.” The court invalidated a 2014 sale of 800 acres known as East Hakki Ridge to Seneca Jones Timber Company. It’s a major victory for public lands (and our friends at Cascadia Wildlands) and should throw cold water on any future plans to privatize state public lands.

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**What about Oregon Wild’s work most resonates with you?**

I appreciate Oregon Wild’s holistic approach to environmental protection and conservation. Their approach recognizes the ways in which clean water, biodiversity of plants and animals, and sustainable, low-impact human exploration are all key components in promoting and maintaining healthy ecosystems and wilderness areas.

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**What’s your favorite wild place in Oregon?**

My favorite wild place in Oregon is Devil’s Caldron, just south of Oswald West on the Oregon Coast. I find the torrent of water swirling in the cove far below the lookout point to be mesmerizing. I have yet to find a Wilderness Area I do not love. Most recently, I’ve been reacquainting myself with the Mount Hood Wilderness. Having strayed to the far corners of the state and the world over the past 20 years, the mountain is beckoning me home!

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**Has the current political climate inspired you to get more involved in the issues that matter to you?**

Yes! As a geographer and educator, I have always considered teaching and training the next generation of environmental protection and conservation leaders to be my form of activism; however, under our current administration I felt I needed to do more and wanted to reach outside my classrooms.

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**Why do you support Oregon Wild with a monthly gift as part of our Evergreen Society?**

I find a monthly contribution to be an easy way to make a more substantial contribution over the course of the year. I give up two lattes a month, a second glass of wine with dinner once a month, or pack a lunch on a day I would have otherwise eaten out.
The Humboldt marten, otherwise known as the coastal or pacific marten, is one of the 14 recognized subspecies of the American marten. This tiny carnivore can be found only on the west coast and, similar to many native species in Oregon, faces challenges to recovery.

In 2001, scientists speculated that the coastal marten was abundant, due to the number of road kills they retrieved along Highway 101. After further research however, they determined it was in fact extremely rare: only about 71 Humboldt martens exist in central coastal Oregon, separated into two smaller populations by the Umpqua River.

Humboldt martens prefer forests with multiple canopy layers, but will use shore pine dune forests with dense shrub cover, like they do in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. One thing is certain: they need diverse and abundant prey. Habitat loss due to logging, fragmentation, decline in prey, and predation account for the decline in coastal marten populations. Recent studies reveal that just one or two human-caused mortalities within these distinct population segments could put this species at risk of extinction.

What’s even more shocking?

In Oregon, because the marten is listed as a ‘fur-bearing mammal’ and there is no distinction between marten and the imperiled ‘Humboldt marten’ subspecies ‘s legal to trap them. That’s why Oregon Wild and our partners in conservation filed a petition with the Fish and Wildlife Commission, asking them to ban trapping. At the August hearing, the Commission accepted our petition and have begun rulemaking to determine the specifics of the trapping ban. A final decision will be made later this year.

Conservation groups also filed a petition to get the coastal marten listed as ‘endangered’ under the state Endangered Species Act. Unfortunately as this was going to print, the Commission voted against giving the coastal marten state protections. However, we’re hopeful the Commission will approve a strong trapping ban to help protect the marten in the coming months. See sidebar for actions you can take.

Who’s heard of the Humboldt marten?

Danielle Moser, Wildlife Coordinator

**PACIFIC COASTAL MARTEN FACTOIDS**

**Binomial Nomenclature**

Martes caurina humboldentis

**Status**

Under consideration for Endangered Species Act protections (both state and federal)

**Size**

20-24 inches in length

1.2-3.4 lbs

**Population**

About 71 individuals on the central coast

**Diet**

Carnivore generalists: birds, eggs, rodents, insects

**Interesting Fact**

Estimated to consume 17-29% of their body weight daily

**TAKE ACTION FOR THE COASTAL MARTEN**

Email the Commission at odfw.commission@state.or.us and tell them coastal martens deserve better protections.
Regardless of the date, the weather has decided it’s time for fall, which means it’s the best time to get outside in Oregon. With the cool breezes and rain comes the crisp air, the smell of the earth, the crackle of the leaves, and the shimmering of the evergreens. The wildlands of our state come alive more than ever. One of the best and easiest ways to get out and experience this seasonal magic is with Oregon Wild.

Join Oregon Wild on a fall hike or at one of the events at right and connect with the special, wild places in your backyard and beyond. You may find your new favorite spot to explore or rekindle your love of a familiar place. Learn something new about fire ecology or native fungi, soak in the sounds of waterfalls and pristine creeks, but no matter what, you’ll be a part of the efforts to protect these incredible landscapes for future generations.

Oregon Wild hikes and events are free and open to all, and we can’t wait to see you at one of the gatherings below. RSVP on our website by visiting www.oregonwild.org for a full listing of our hikes and events coming up statewide. ☞

OREGON WILD FALL EVENTS

Wednesday, October 10
Oregon Wild Wednesday: The Oregon Dunes, a living landscape (EUG)
Claim 52 Brewing, Eugene

Friday, October 12
Call of the Wild - a camp-inspired benefit for Oregon Wild (PDX)
Leftbank Annex, Portland

Sunday, October 14
Fall Creek Fire Ecology Hike (EUG)
Leader: Chandra LeGue (Moderate, 4 miles)

Saturday, October 20
Kentucky Falls Hike (EUG)
Leader: Jason Gonzales (Moderate, 4.4 miles)

Sunday, November 11
Eugene-area Mushroom Hike (EUG)
Leader: Bruce Newhouse (Easy, 2 miles)

Wednesday, November 7
Wild & Scenic Rivers: An American Legacy - OWW with Tim Palmer (PDX)
Hopworks Urban Brewery, Portland

Wednesday, November 14
Wild & Scenic Rivers: An American Legacy - OWW with Tim Palmer (COR)
Mazama Brewing, Corvallis

Monday, November 19
Wild & Scenic Rivers: An American Legacy - OWW with Tim Palmer (EUG)
Claim 52 Brewing, Eugene

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REGISTER AT WWW.OREGONWILD.ORG

REGISTER AT WWW.OREGONWILD.ORG

Marielle Cowdin, Outreach & Marketing Coordinator
Back in early 2015, when the Oregon Brewshed Alliance (OBA) initiative was just launching, it seemed like a no-brainer to approach Claim 52 Brewing about joining as a charter member. We had just started holding Oregon Wild Wednesday events at their west Eugene taproom that winter, and co-owners Mercy McDonald and Jeannine Parisi were highly enthusiastic about hosting our supporters.

Since then, early adopters like Claim 52 have been joined by almost 60 more brewery partners, but the dedication Mercy and Jeannine have to hosting events, donating brews, and generally supporting our work to protect Oregon’s forested watersheds has been exemplary.

I asked them a little bit about why they’re dedicated to keeping it wild...

**Why did you decide to join the Oregon Brewshed Alliance?**

C52: We are a small company, even smaller back in 2015, but with deep roots in Oregon. Joining the OBA gave us a chance to unite with like-minded companies who share our values around protecting watersheds and Oregon’s wild places and provided a broader platform to connect our brand to things we care deeply about.

**What have you experienced as an OBA partner?**

C52: Hosting events at the taproom, like hiking presentations by William Sullivan, is such a great way to invite new customers to the space and connect with them not just as business owners but as people who care about the same things. It’s a bonus that for some reason a good number of outdoor enthusiasts and environmental activists seem to have an affinity for a good pint of beer now and again!

**What do you look forward to in the future with OBA?**

C52: With forest fires surrounding us and algal blooms threatening drinking water systems, it seems that protecting clean water might be an issue that unites us all at a time when finding common ground is pretty rare. I see the beer business as a community-building opportunity and if we can help build a coalition to support efforts to keep our watersheds pristine and resilient to future threats, that would be a very good thing.
Well...she’s leaving on a high note. Just weeks after hearing the news that Oregon Wild and our partners had prevailed in halting the Ochoco Summit OHV proposal in court, Sarah Cuddy headed off to new adventures with her husband in Baker City. Working out of the Bend office for the last three and a half years, Sarah built our Ochoco Mountains campaign from the ground up. Working with landowners, recreation allies, and concerned local citizens, she helped to breathe life into efforts to protect this secluded gem of Central Oregon. We will miss Sarah but wish her well as she heads (not too far!) east.

Stepping into Sarah’s big shoes is Oregon Wild’s Jamie Dawson. Jamie has been spearheading our membership program for just over a year and takes her passion for Oregon Wild and advocacy experience in Alaska and Montana to her new role. Congratulations Jamie! And in another internal shift, Gaby Diaz will take over the membership role from Jamie. Gaby has been an integral member of the Oregon Wild team for over two years, and has excelled in connecting with potential Oregon Wild supporters at community events, wrangling volunteers, and spearheading Call of the Wild. Congratulations Gaby!

Intern-ally wild
We were also fortunate to have help from some stellar interns this year. Learn more about them at right...

Megan Cahill from the University of Portland was part of the Communications team this spring. She helped chase a Portland lightrail train to get footage for our Clearcut Express campaign and developed a short film on protecting the Lostine Wild and Scenic River corridor from industrial logging.

Heather Lewis, also from UP, joined us as our summer Marketing and Graphic Design intern. During her internship, she was instrumental in creating and designing materials for Call of the Wild and our annual Outdoor Photo Contest. We wish her the best of luck as she continues her studies in Italy. Thanks Heather and Megan!

Oregon Wild’s Eugene office welcomed two Community Outreach interns this summer. Cameron Brown’s time with us was cut short due to a job offer in his field of public health in Trinity County, CA, but we appreciate his help shepherding hikes, writing letters to the editor, and tabling at community events. Emma Land, a Master’s student at the University of Oregon in Public Administration, was essential in planning our annual Middle Fork Willamette River Cleanup, coordinating other community outreach efforts, and developing talking points for local advocates. We wish her well in completing her studies!

SARAH CUDDY

A risky, misleading, and unnecessary tax break that would benefit large, out of state corporations. Along with Measure 104, these Constitutional Amendments would make it even harder to fund wildlife recovery, parks, and clean air initiatives.

Measure 104 expands the use of the legislative supermajority requirement – creating more gridlock and making it harder to close tax loopholes.

An anti-immigrant measure that repeals a 30-year-old law requiring local police agencies to not spend resources on immigration enforcement, Measure 105 was drafted by Oregonians for Immigration Reform, an extreme organization with ties to white nationalism, that has used environmental fear-mongering to support their campaign.
It’s that time of year again – join your friends and loved ones around the “campfire” for Oregon Wild’s biggest benefit of the year, Call of the Wild!

This event to support conservation work across the state is unlike any other and will feature: the unveiling of the winning photographs from our 14th annual Outdoor Photo Contest, a silent auction filled with outdoor gear and adventures, tasty local food, drinks from Oregon Brewshed® Alliance partners, live music, an interactive photo booth, and more!

For just $45 a ticket, you’ll help us continue to protect places like Mount Hood, the Ochoco National Forest, the proposed Wild and Scenic Nehalem River, and all the wildlife found in those special places. Join us as we look forward to another year of advocating for our wildlands, wildlife, and waters.

At this year’s event, you’ll have a chance to bid on a romantic Italian getaway for two, outdoor adventures including kayaking, rafting, lava cave tours, and gear from top brands such as Yakima, Cascadia Vehicle Tents, and KEEN!

Find your wild side on Friday, October 12th at Leftbank Annex in Portland from 5:30–9:30 p.m. To purchase tickets, become a Tent Sponsor, or see a complete list of auction items visit: www.oregonwild.org.

See you at the campfire!