

Neighbor News

Your Connection to Paulina Creek Preserve



DESCHUTES
LAND
TRUST

DOUGLAS VINCENT

Meet Paulina Creek Preserve

Welcome to your Paulina Creek Preserve neighbor newsletter! You may have heard that the Land Trust purchased and protected the former Kelldano Ranch in 2022. Located on Highway 97 just north of La Pine, the new Paulina Creek Preserve protects 1,100 acres of land for wildlife and the local community. As a neighbor of the Preserve, we want to share with you all the amazing features of Paulina Creek Preserve and keep you in the loop on future plans.



Paulina Creek winds through Paulina Creek Preserve. Photo: Rick Dingus.

With more than three miles of Paulina Creek, wet and dry meadows, and ponderosa and lodgepole pine forest, the Preserve is home to a wide range of wildlife from frogs and fish to native bees and monarch butterflies, songbirds and bats. The Preserve also conserves winter range for deer and elk and enhances migration corridors with the nearby public lands.

The Land Trust will work to restore Paulina Creek and its surrounding meadows and forests, improving habitat for fish and wildlife and improving water quality and quantity. We also plan to transfer primary irrigation water rights associated with the property to instream use, benefiting fish and wildlife in and along the creek.

In addition, the Land Trust will cancel the supplemental Paulina Lake water associated with the property, increasing Paulina Lake levels up to 2.75 feet.

In terms of community connections, Paulina Creek Preserve helps protect the scenic character of the region, while also offering accessible recreation for the communities of southern Deschutes County. Once the Land Trust can establish trails and access points, we hope to connect these trails with Newberry National Volcanic Monument trails and other local access points. The Land Trust is currently developing management plans to guide the future stewardship of Paulina Creek Preserve. As part of the planning process, we are holding a series of community conversations to discuss community values around the Preserve (learn more on the backside of this newsletter). **During the planning phase, the Preserve will remain closed to the public, but the Land Trust will be offering guided tours; details at right!**

Stay up-to-date on Paulina Creek Preserve: deschuteslandtrust.org/neighbor-news



LAUREN THOMAS

Visit Paulina Creek Preserve!

Join the Land Trust on a guided tour of Paulina Creek Preserve! Each year volunteers lead free walks and hikes at Land Trust Preserves, including our new Paulina Creek Preserve. Land Trust Walks + Hikes are offered through October.

Whether it's a bird walk, geology hike, or general tour, you are guaranteed to learn a little more about your backyard!

Details:

deschuteslandtrust.org/hikes

Share Your Thoughts on Paulina Creek Preserve

The Land Trust conserved Paulina Creek Preserve in 2022 and is in the process of developing management plans to guide the future stewardship of the land. As part of the planning process, we are holding a series of community conversations to discuss community values around the Preserve this spring and collecting feedback via an online survey. Here's how you can get involved:

- **What?** Join us for community conversations about Paulina Creek Preserve! Help the Land Trust create a shared vision for Paulina Creek Preserve.
- **Who?** You! Community members, neighbors, local organizations, businesses, public agencies, Tribes, and others who have a desire to help us shape the future of Paulina Creek Preserve.
- **When?** May 31, 2023 from 4:30-6:00pm (presentation begins at 5pm). Drop in and share your thoughts on what you feel is most important for the future of Paulina Creek Preserve. RSVP and find more details: deschuteslandtrust.org/paulina-visioning

Can't make the sessions in person, or want to share your thoughts another way?



Fill out our Paulina Creek Preserve online survey:
deschuteslandtrust.org/pc-survey



You're Invited!

Join us at our fall Paulina Creek Preserve Open House on October 14, 2023 from 1-3pm! Learn more about Paulina Creek Preserve, meet Land Trust staff, and pick up some free milkweed plants to help monarch butterflies!

Learn more and RSVP:

deschuteslandtrust.org/paulina-open-house



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