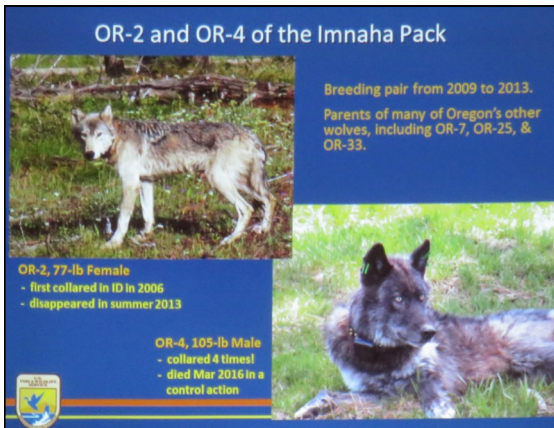


Wolves in Oregon

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Writer



The status of gray wolves has been a hot news topic lately as they continue to expand their range into our state. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist, John Stephenson, gave an interesting talk about gray wolves at McMenasins on October 11.

Once common in North America, wolves were eradicated by pioneers as they moved across the continent. By the 1970's, they could only be found in northern Minnesota, Alaska, and parts of Canada. When the Endangered Species Act was created in 1973, the gray wolf was listed as an endangered species. The Environmental Impact Statement for the reintroduction received more input - both for and against - than any other project. Recovery was planned in the northern Great Lakes area, the Northern Rocky Mountains, and in parts of the Southwest.

Wolf packs were captured in Alberta and British Columbia, Canada and 162 were reintroduced into the selected areas in 1995 and 1996. In Yellowstone, the wolves were carefully acclimated and slowly introduced; in Idaho the process was much quicker but both ways seemed to work. Within twelve years, the population had grown "like gangbusters" and the project was considered a success.

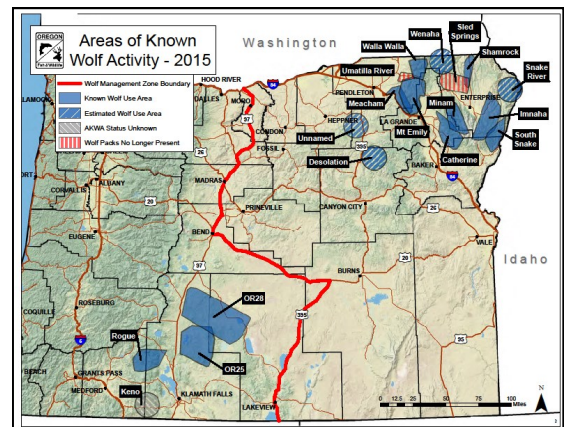
By 2012 the Northern Rocky population had grown to 1,600 animals but not without some problems. Wolves were preying on livestock and, as a result, many wolves were killed. Even though quite a few were removed, the population recovered. Larger packs tended to feed on more prey. Gray wolves were delisted at the state level in 2007 in Idaho and Montana and are now hunted there. Their status is under review in Wyoming.

Much of the depredation occurs on private land. Landowners are taught to take action such as using special fencing with flagging on it, using range riders, and picking up bone piles to deter wolves. If livestock is determined to have been killed by wolves, the landowner is reimbursed for an agreed upon value.

In 1999 the first wolf was spotted in Oregon. The two-year old female was seen in the John Day Basin area. She was quickly captured and taken back to Idaho. Oregon was not "ready" for wolves yet so this was a wake up call for them. Committees were formed in 2004 that covered the interests of diverse groups such as ranchers, hunters, and environmentalists.

Wolves began to disperse into Oregon from Idaho. The first pack was identified in northeastern Oregon in 2008 and was referred to as the Imnaha Pack. Other packs established themselves there and as the area became saturated, individuals dispersed and moved much further away. Many sought out southcentral Oregon.

The most well known long-distance disperser is named OR7. There are at least four books about him and he made national and international news. The wolf was tracked from the Idaho border, where he was radio collared, to Baker City then west towards Bend and south to the Klamath Lake area. He also went into California for a while. OR7 paired up with a dark-colored uncollared female in the Rogue River National Forest. They had a litter of pups in June of 2014. Their pack was up to 8 or 9 animals in 2016. That could be the end of a happy story but, in early October, they were suspected in the depredation of cattle in the Wood River Valley near Klamath Falls. The investigation into those incidents continues.





Several other wolves made long journeys and eventually established packs. Some remain lone wolves and they are occasionally seen on game cameras. More have moved into northern California and there is a pack that had five or six pups there. California is now making their own wolf management plans.

Tracking the wolves is easier than in the past since the collars are tracked by GPS through satellites. It is a difficult process to capture the wolves and only about 10-15% of the population is collared. The collars can fall off or quit working. Sometimes what you find is not what you expect. When a wolf's signal was temporarily lost, researchers were happy to suddenly find a signal near Mt. Jefferson.

The only problem was that it was really a mountain goat that happened to have the same exact radio frequency on its radio collar.

In Oregon the population is estimated to be at 110 animals and it is growing at a rate of 20-30% per year. Gray wolves have been delisted at the state level. They are protected at the federal level in the western 2/3 of the state. They prefer to live in more isolated areas and people living there are making an effort to find the right balance between the wolves' needs and their own. To see a great short film about how their reintroduction has affected the balance of the Yellowstone ecosystem, click [here](#).

Photos by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

Many seniors visited the Museum on Senior Day



Photos by Lee Schaefer

Introducing Daniel Wyllie, Facilities Technician

by Dave Gilbert, Newsletter Writer



Clamp your thumb on a bottle of carbonated beverage and shake hard. When you remove your thumb, you will have some idea of the enthusiasm Daniel Wyllie has for the High Desert Museum.

Since May of last year, Daniel has been a facilities technician here, and he says with the excitement of a kid on his birthday, “I absolutely love it!”

Part of that might be because he has spent much of his adult life slithering around in tiny, dirty crawl spaces installing sheet metal ducting under buildings. At the Museum, he lives in the caretaker’s house and “I never know what I’m going to get my hands on.”

He has a way of sliding his glasses down his nose when he’s talking, making clear eye contact. It feels real and personal.

Daniel’s Bend roots run deep. His mother, Diana Beall, was born here. Her uncle was Jack Dempsey, twice elected mayor of Bend. But Daniel was actually born near Dubuque, Iowa, on July 20, 1964, when his mother was married to a Norwegian who built power lines that Daniel describes as “the big stuff.”

The marriage was not a happy one, however, and Diana moved back to her hometown, bringing 3-year-old Daniel with her. She married Gary

Wyllie, a logger all his life, as was his father before him.

Daniel attended public schools and after graduating from Bend High, he moved to Florida and began looking for work. After a couple of false starts cleaning swimming pools and bending electrical conduit, he found work in sheet metal fabrication in the HVAC (heating, ventilating, and air conditioning) industry.

By his own account, he traveled widely in the south and to every corner of Florida installing ducting in hospitals, restaurants, and other large buildings. When he moved back west, he brought a souvenir: “an alligator scar.”

In June of 1989, he returned to Bend and continued working in the HVAC industry until he injured his back, and he was “thrown away like an old tool.”

He was self-employed for seven years and says “it was horrible.”

“People never call when things are going well,” he says. “I got very good at solving problems.”

In 2001 he took his problem-solving skills to Summerville, Oregon, bought a 100-year-old house, and was elected to the city council “by a landslide.” After six years of playing and working in the mountains and forests of northeast Oregon, he moved back to Bend to be near his mother, who had lost her husband.

For a time, he fell into his old profession, not very happily. “If there’s a hell,” he says, “it is a crawl space that goes on forever.”

He came to the High Desert Museum in May of 2015. He still works on sheet metal ducts when necessary, but what he does is “far, far more than that.”

“It’s morphed into something” much more pleasing and rewarding.

“I’ve always loved history,” he says. “This place just sucked me in.”

Daniel says he is proud of Bend’s logging history, and he was able to help get the Museum’s sawmill up and running again.

He has a deep love for wildlife, and he helped renovate the Museum’s otter habitat. He even solved a problem of escaping otters by figuring out how to weigh down a door with eight cartons of BBs.

He loves rubbing shoulders with the Museum’s volunteers, so much so that, between jobs, he even goes along on Museum tours through living history and other exhibits. “I appreciate them a lot,” he says, “I learn a lot from them.”

Photo by Dave Gilbert

High Desert Voices

Editor: Siobhan Sullivan

Team Leader: Siobhan Sullivan

Contributing Writers: Dave Gilbert & Siobhan Sullivan

Proofreading/Editing: Phil Meurer

Computer: Ralph Berry & Siobhan Sullivan

Photographs: Dave Gilbert, Lee Schaefer, Abbott Schindler, & Siobhan Sullivan

Printing: Ralph Berry & Siobhan Sullivan

High Desert Museum Area Updates from October 2016

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

By Hand Through Memory – They now have volunteers for every day of the week. The book *Edible and Medicinal Plants of the Rockies* was shown. It is a valuable source of information for the BHTM team. The basket making display is set up in the small room at the end of the BHTM hall. Be sure to check it out and see some of the beautiful basketry by Pat Courtney Gold.

Collections –Volunteers took conservation classes put on by Oregon Heritage. The classes covered conservation of textiles, photographs, and documents. It turns out that we are doing everything right in our preservation efforts. The new manager of exhibitions and collections, Laureta Huit, is a great asset to the Museum. She is very particular about wearing gloves when handling artifacts. The new Ansel Adams exhibit is almost all up. There are 49 photographs.

Birds of Prey - Staff and volunteers from the Museum recently met with Sunriver Nature Center personnel to exchange information. Sunriver staff visited the Museum and Museum personnel visited Sunriver. Both organizations will benefit from this relationship.

Mammals - They are in the process of developing a new talk entitled *High Desert Hooves*. It will cover some of the hooved animals that live here including deer, elk, and pronghorn. The new talks will start on December 1. Porcupine talks and fish talks will not take place over the winter and spring months. They recently received a donation of a bear skin and now have skins from all of the major carnivores to use in the carnivore talks.

Living History - They are looking forward to the *Tales of Hallow's Eve* event on October 29. They have all the help they need for the night.

Photography - There are now three vests that have the following embroidered on the back *Volunteer Photographer - Your camera or mine?* Visitors can now easily identify the photographers and ask for their assistance in getting the perfect shot of themselves at the Museum. Photographers have been taking portrait pictures of some of the Museum's animals and they may be used in the *Adopt an Animal* program.

Silver Sage Trading Center – A 20% discount for volunteers will be available for a limited time - November 25 to December 4. They have cute “two pair and a spare” sets of socks for people that tend to lose socks. They are available in a variety of sizes. Christmas cards with a black-and-white image of a homestead in the snow are for sale. There are two books and a calendar with images by Ansel Adams to go along with the new exhibit. There are t-shirts with the “Walk Softly and Carry a Big Fish” drawing by Ray Troll available. There is a colorful children's book called *I'm Not Scared*. There is a soft little crow finger puppet for sale. There is also an old-fashioned wooden toy where chickens peck when you make a swirling motion that's popular. Beautiful women's knit gloves will keep you warm in the cold weather. Goat milk lotion from Bend Soap would make a great gift.

Admissions/Greeters – Though we are now affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution, there is no reciprocal membership agreement. Visitors to the High Desert Museum must still pay admission even if they are Smithsonian members.

Kudos Korner

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

Staff members and volunteers were thanked for their contributions in October. **Ralph Berry** was thanked for his work on the volunteer newsletter. There were several challenges this summer and he helped make sure the issues got out on time while keeping a good sense of humor. **Louise Shirley** was thanked for her role in procuring the \$250,000 Institute of Museum and Library Services STEMx grant recently awarded to the Museum. The Museum will be partnering with Oregon State University-Cascades and Deschutes Public Library in the research related to this grant. Thanks to the person that donated the bear skin rug to the Mammal Team. They now have representative skins from all of the animals they cover in their carnivore talks. Kudos to all of you!

Ansel Adams Exhibit

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

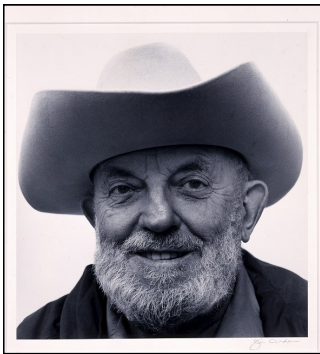


Photo by Jim Alinder ©

This new exhibit features forty-seven works by well-known photographer, Ansel Adams. Ansel Adams lived from 1902-1984 and he had a profound influence on photography in the 20th century. Though most well known for his black and white landscape images, he also used his skills as an artist, educator, writer, and innovator to advance the field of photography and to help preserve some of earth's wild places.



Photo by Ansel Adams ©

At first glance, this exhibit may not seem to fill the gallery in the traditional way. However, if you take the time to look at his work, you will see “his deeply held conviction that place matters and that the world around us is a marvel to behold and to respect and honor.” This exhibit contains some of Adams’ famous landscape images and also contains portraits, architectural studies, and close ups of nature. He considered this collection to represent his best work.



Additional photos by Abbott Schindler & Siobhan Sullivan

Ray Troll, creator of the Buzzshark Exhibit, hosted workshops at the Museum



Photos by Abbott Schindler





*High Desert
Museum, Inc.*
59800 S. Highway 97
Bend, OR 97702

2016



2016

Kitchen Patrol: Desertarium/School & Kids Programs

November	November - continued
1 Winter Hours Begin. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.	29 Annual Meeting. No-host bar 5:00 pm. Meeting 5:30-6:00. Members free. RSVP.
2 Museum & Me. 4:00 - 7:00 pm. Free. RSVP.	29 Member Appreciation Night. 6:00-7:30 pm. Take photos with Father Christmas & enjoy holiday crafts & story telling. Light refreshments. Members free, member guest \$5. RSVP by November 28.
5 Wasco Sally Bag-making class w/Pat Courtney. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Members \$50, Non-members \$55 (includes materials fee). Registration and pre-payment required.	December - Save the Date!
5 Thorn Hollow String Band. 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.	10 Thorn Hollow String Band with special guest Father Christmas. 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.
5-6 Photography Workshop. Saturday: 12:00 - 5:00 pm at the Museum. Sunday: 6:00 am - 12:00 pm at the Oregon Badlands Wilderness Area. Provide own equipment & transportation. \$40. RSVP.	25 Museum Closed.
8 Off-site Event: Natural History Pub: Wildfires in the West. McMenamins. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Program starts at 7:00 pm. RSVP.	To RSVP: www.highdesertmuseum.org/rsvp or 541-382-4754
8 Hatfield Sustainable Resource Lecture. <i>Sage Grouse and Cattle: A Cooperative Ranching Effort.</i> 5:00 pm BBQ; 7:00 pm Panel discussion. Free. RSVP: dallend@countrynaturalbeef.com	To pre-register: www.highdesertmuseum.org/program
10 Lecture: Mic Crenshaw: Global Hip-Hop and Cultural Activism. 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Free. RSVP.	
11 Artist Talk: DJ Spooky and "Heart of a Forest". 6:00 pm. No-host bar. Members \$3, Non-members \$7. RSVP.	
12 Exhibit opens: From the Vault: Pat Courtney Gold Baskets.	
12 Off-site Field Trip: Mule Deer Migration. Meet at the Museum for trip to Camp Sherman. 7:00 am - 12:00 pm. Members \$10, Non-members \$15. Transportation provided from the Museum. Registration and pre-payment required.	
12 Weekend Workshop: Photography. 10:30 am - 12:00 pm. Paired pricing for one adult and one child; Members \$10, Non-members \$15. Each additional \$5. Registration and pre-payment required.	
19 Off-site Field Trip: Mule Deer Migration. Meet at the Museum for a trip to Pine Mountain. 7:00 am - 12:00 pm. Members \$10, Non-members \$15. Transportation provided from the Museum. Registration and pre-payment required.	
19 Mining Day. 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Museum admission plus \$2 per miner.	
24 Museum Closed.	