

Friends of Fox Creek ~ March, 2011

Established in 1991, Friends of Fox Creek (FFC), works towards the restoring of community streams within the Rainier, Oregon area including Fox and Nice Creeks.

Founded by Darrel Whipple, a current CCCC Board Member and coordinator for Friends of Fox Creek volunteers, and led by current president Bob Burnham, the group encourages stream-related recreation and education, bringing together community members in an effort to preserve local resources, improve spawning conditions for fish and build beautiful locations everyone can appreciate and enjoy.

Through the organization, volunteers have built the Fox Creek Trail, an approximately one-third mile long trail, near its name-sake creek. Additional enhancement and restoration projects include the Fox Creek large wood placement project, trash rack modification, and daylighting Fox Creek city park and old elementary school segments. The group's accomplishments include the removal of 300 feet of culvert pipe from the old elementary school playground; removal of 550 feet of culvert in the city park, conducting salmon spawning surveys on Fox Creek and teaching watershed lessons to elementary and high school students on the school site.

On Saturday, March 19, 2011, Friends of Fox Creek held their annual banquet at the Old Hall in Rainier. Their guest speaker was Bob Pyle, author of *Mariposa Road: The First Butterfly Big Year*. The banquet was open to the public and allowed volunteers and board members to come together in celebration of their achievements this past year.

If you are interested in volunteering or helping with any of the FFC's restoration and enhancement projects, you can make contact through the Friends of Fox Creek website at <http://www.friendsoffoxcreek.org/restoration/index.html> or email info@friendsoffoxcreek.org



Bob Pyle, guest speaker at the Friends of Fox Creek Banquet held on Saturday, March 19, 2011 (picture contributed by Darrel Whipple).

Submitted by Andrew Demko, Member of the Columbia County Cultural Coalition Board

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