



Students study in the park

BY JANIS MOHR-TIPTON

The park this fall was buzzing with the joyful sounds of eager students studying the outdoors through the Rogue Basin Salmon Watch Program. Students in the third to fifth grades came from the Medford, Talent-Phoenix, and Central Point school districts, and a class of

eighth graders came from Ruch Outdoor Community School. A total of 248 students and 38 adults participated in the outdoor studies at Cantrall Buckley Park. The program had a total of 1,240 students ranging from third grade through high school participating from Jackson and



At Cantrall Buckley Park, Dick Barbara, with the Salmon Watch Program, instructs students on the life cycle of the salmon.

Josephine counties at Valley of the Rogue State Park, McGregor Park, Lynn Newbry Park, TouVelle State Park, and Cantrall Buckley Park. Frances Oyong from Rogue Valley Sewer Services and Greg Stabach from Rogue Valley Council of Governments co-coordinated the entire program.

Oregon Trout created the Salmon Watch Program in 1993 with the mission to connect students with



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BIG Thank-yous!

Members of A Greater Applegate's Park Enhancement Program are very grateful for the special relationship that it has with the community and Jackson County Parks staff, hosts, and rangers.

- The Park Enhancement Program team thanks everyone who has been involved in supporting and improving our community park. Cantrall Buckley Park would not be the beautiful park it is today without the tremendous, caring donors, many of whom have helped with multiple projects over the years. The latest artistic features in several areas of the park are the proof of this community's commitment to our park.
- Another thank-you goes to the many community members who have volunteered their time to continue the park's restoration by removing invasive species, planting native and drought-tolerant species, and participating in organized cleanups. Students are also helping by providing service days as part of their outdoor school studies. Collectively the Park Enhancement Team and community volunteers contributed 645 hours from January through September this year.
- Thanks, too, to visitors who have stopped to talk about their appreciation of the "new look" of the park and shared great ideas to consider for improvements.

Together we had a productive and successful year, with a beautiful county park for everyone to enjoy, any day or any season.

local streams and rivers through a focus on activities about salmon. The program includes in-class curriculum and service-learning projects and culminates in a field day with hands-on activities that focus on salmon biology, salmon life cycles, water quality, riparian systems, and macro invertebrates.

Instructors were local experts, including fish biologists, hydrologists, botanists, environmental educators, school personnel, and retired community volunteers from related fields who participate in the program to share their knowledge and experience with the students.

Partners in this growing program that provide in-kind support, funding, and other assistance include communities, watershed councils, nongovernmental organizations, Council of Governments, local utilities (water commission and Rogue

Valley Services), educational organizations, and local, state, and federal agencies.

Art in the park

Changes continue on the Art Sculpture Walk. Interpretive signage is being installed in stages, and, by December, valuable information will accompany all currently installed sculptures. The remaining three sculptures and accompanying signs will be installed by May 2020.

Restoration

Depending on weather conditions during the rest of fall and into winter, there will be more small work parties to continue restoration and cleanup of landscaped beds along with more transplanting. Call me at 541-846-7501 if you are interested in participating.

I hope to see you at the park!
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Janis Mohr-Tipton (center group) with student group discussing macro invertebrates found in the river. Liz Landreth (right group) helps students identify macro invertebrates. Jennifer Payne (back group) works with students doing water quality testing of the river.

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