

Mt. Hood National Forest

Wanted: Friends of Bonney Butte . . .

. . . in your national forest!



The Opportunity

Bonney Butte is a popular Mt. Hood National Forest site for enjoying and studying eagles, hawks, and falcons.

This is a special place for people who love the Forest, and for researchers working to understand the life histories, ecology, and conservation needs of North American raptors.

Visitors and researchers visit Bonney Butte to view and count raptors, and to band them during migrations. It's a great place to learn about raptor life cycles, behavior, migration, health, demographics, and more. That information tells us a lot about the biological health of our ecosystems.



We Want to Share Bonney Butte

A 'Friends' group would build community awareness and stewardship of this spectacular environmental education and research site. There is a desire to continue managing this site as an attraction, but also a need to do so in a way that does not change its uniqueness.

Why Here?

It's a place birders love. Since its designation on Oregon Cascades Birding Trail and as a North American Important Bird Area, visitor numbers here double each year.

It's a hotspot for raptor research. August to October each year, HawkWatch International conducts one of fourteen migration counts here — and one of seven migration banding studies — for up to 17 species.

Migration counts are cost-effective and an efficient way to monitor the regional status and trends of multiple raptor species.

Two cutting-edge additions to raptor studies here are satellite tracking of bird movements, and analysis of stable-isotope ratios in feathers to track the birth origins of birds we monitor at migration sites.

The Next Step

Strengthening a quality partnership with a 'Friends of Bonney Butte' group!



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