

VOLUNTEERS: Land Trust honored two Sisters residents

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bird surveys, and shepherding hikes, Stella donated 105 hours to the Land Trust last year and continues to lend a hand whenever help is needed.”

“I think it’s an incredible organization,” said Dean of DLT. “I’ve gotten so much from their hikes ... it’s an education on the hoof.”

Long-time Sisters Country resident Kris Kristovich often works double-time when he is volunteering for the Land

Trust. He uses his keen bird identification skills to complete bird surveys and his photographer’s eye to capture wildlife and the magical scenes that unfold at Land Trust preserves.

Kristovich has been a member of the Land Trust since 1999, and has donated more than 140 hours to the Land Trust this year. Kris was presented with one of three 2016 Volunteer of the Year awards.

“I just enjoy doing nature photography,” Kristovich told *The Nugget*. “It gives me an opportunity to help them out, and it’s something I enjoy.”

Kristovich enjoys his average two-days-a-week work

at the Camp Polk Preserve, where he soaks up the early history of the area, and revels in the changes that are returning Whychus Creek to a natural state.

“To see this stream back in its original channel was, to me, kind of a hallelujah moment,” he said. “Just to be out there is, for me, a real treat.”

Daniele McKay of Bend was honored for her work as a hike leader.

“Her hikes are always full because participants know they will come away with a better understanding of the ground beneath their feet,” DLT noted.

“These three outstanding volunteers really exemplify the depth and breadth of the Land Trust volunteer family. We are so fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers who donate their time year after year for the projects they love. It is these exceptional people who make it possible for the Land Trust to conserve and protect the best of Central Oregon,” said Sarah Mowry, the Land Trust’s outreach director.

Volunteers donated more than 4,500 hours to the Deschutes Land Trust during the past year. In the process, they’ve improved wildlife habitat, sunk roots in the community and made a commitment to helping others experience the best of Central



PHOTO PROVIDED

Stella Dean shepherds hikes for Deschutes Land Trust.



PHOTO COURTESY KRIS KRISTOVICH

Kris Kristovich is a volunteer photographer and bird surveyor.



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